

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER
DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY

INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR
INDEPENDENT STUDY
IPHY 5840 (1-6 CREDITS)

1. PURPOSE OF INDEPENDENT STUDY

Students electing to take independent study must first identify a research topic or area of research interest. The student must then seek out a faculty member in the Integrative Physiology Department who will agree to serve as the advisor for the project. In consultation with the advisor, a refined and detailed version of the study should be developed. Independent study cannot be used to replace a course currently being taught. Students are presumed to have had all the previous pertinent work in the subject matter leading up to the chosen topic. The student should meet with his or her advisor periodically during the semester. The advisor will determine and award the grade based on the quality of the final written paper.

2. LIMITATIONS IN WORK ACCEPTED FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY CREDIT

The following situations are not acceptable for independent study credit, as they are prohibited by College policy: internship activities, work in University departments or as substitute for regular course work. Volunteer work or work in a business setting may be acceptable if the work is part of, and germane to, the rest of the independent study project. Extra work performed in association with a regular class can be acceptable if all procedures in setting up the independent study are followed prior to the work being started. Library, field, or laboratory research is acceptable.

3. CONTRACT DESCRIPTION

To register for independent study, a contract (attached) is filled out by the student and signed by the faculty advisor and the Graduate Coordinator. In the contract, the student is expected to describe the nature of the project, explain the topic area, and describe what kind of outcome is required (presentation, paper, manuscript, etc.) A minimum of 25 hours (1500 minutes) is required for each semester hour of credit.

4. SEMESTER HOURS LIMITATION

Master's students may receive no more than 25% of their total credit hours in the form of independent study. There is no limit to the number of independent study credits that may be earned by doctoral students.

5. ELIGIBILITY

The contract for independent study is to be completed, signed, and approved prior to the initiation of the project, not after it has been completed. Independent study must be enrolled before the add deadline. Requests for late adds must go through the petition process like any other course and a copy of the signed contract must accompany the petition.

6. ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

To enroll for independent study, fill out the attached contract. Obtain the signature of your faculty advisor. Then obtain the signature of the Graduate Coordinator. When all signatures are obtained, turn in the contract to the Marsha in CLRE 113 who will enroll you in the course. Course will be entered on your schedule by 5pm on the date submitted. **Be sure to complete this process before the "Add Deadline."**