

Independent Research Policy

This policy applies to LDST 490 Independent Study, LDST 491 Collaborative Study, LDST 492 Directed Study, LDST 495-496 Senior Thesis, LDST 497-498 Senior Honors Thesis.

- 1) Independent research for academic credit requires the approval of the associate dean for academic affairs.
- 2) Approval of independent research projects requires students to complete a request form.
- 3) This form includes a brief synopsis of the study, as well as instructor expectations for the course. For LDST 497-498 Senior Honors Thesis, documentation includes the honors application, work completed in LDST 399 Junior Honors Tutorial, and approval of the thesis supervisor.
- 4) Independent research must be supervised by a faculty member with a regular, rank appointment.
- 5) Independent research cannot duplicate available course offerings in the term taken, cannot be used as a substitute for required courses, cannot be used to solve routine scheduling problems, and cannot be used to provide low-level support for other projects.
- 6) Students may count no more than 1 unit of independent research toward the LDST major. Students may not count independent research toward the LDST minor.
- 7) In 1-unit courses, students are expected to confer with faculty supervisors at least once every two weeks during the regular semester and at least once a week for summer projects—with expectations adjusted accordingly for .5- and 2-unit courses.
- 8) In 1-unit courses, students are expected to spend an average of 10 hours per week on work related to the course—with expectations adjusted accordingly for .5- and 2-unit courses.
- 9) Students carrying out independent research, with the exception of those enrolled in LDST 492, are expected to present at the Jepson Research Symposium.
- 10) Independent research projects, with the exception of LDST 492 Directed Study, must culminate in a final product. An alternate final assessment may be used for LDST 492.

Approved by the Jepson faculty on January 11, 2016