Florida International University
College of Law

Independent Study - Guidelines Governing a Petition for Approval

Name of Student: _____

Panther I.D. _____

Supervising Professor: _____

Semester Independent Study credit is requested:

Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____ Number of Credits Requested: _____

The Independent Study: Provide a written prospectus explaining the topic and scope of study. Attach an initial outline of the study (which will become more focused and refined as you undertake your study). Topics specifically covered in a scheduled seminar or class, are not appropriate for Independent Study credit.

Method of Study: Describe the method you will employ to complete your project and the resources you plan to consult, e.g., empirical study, survey, legal research and writing, etc.

Work Product: Describe the final work product to be completed, e.g., model legislation, research paper, annotated bibliography, etc. A one-credit independent study should exceed 20 pages in length, including footnotes; a two-credit paper should exceed 40 pages, including footnotes.

Grading: Independent Studies are graded Pass/Fail. A study earning "Pass" should be equivalent in quality to a "B" grade or better. Grades are due the last day of the exam schedule.

Process: Address each aspect of these guidelines in crafting your petition for approval. You should have a sophisticated understanding of the project you seek to complete for Independent Study credit before contacting a supervising professor. Once you have obtained the approval from the supervising professor, you may then seek final approval from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Dates and Deadlines: (to be worked out with the supervising professor). **Research papers must undergo multiple drafts:**

First draft: _____ Subsequent drafts: _____

Final submittal (no later than the last day of classes of the semester): _____

Approvals:

_____ _____
Approval of Supervising Professor Date

_____ _____
Approval of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Date

cc: Student, Student File, Supervising Faculty