

Independent Study Contracts

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors who wish to engage in independent study for Exploration Term may do so through an independent study contract. Any student wishing to pursue independent study should formulate a contract, working in close consultation with a faculty sponsor. Once the contract is approved by the project sponsor, the student's advisor, and the department chair, the student submits the contract to the Office of Exploration Term and Contract Learning. After contracts are reviewed, the Exploration Term and Contract Learning Committee notifies the student of any changes required for the contract to receive approval and be registered. If the contract is not approved, the student should register for an Exploration Term project published in the Bulletin.

Independent study contracts should meet the academic standards of all Exploration Term projects. The student is expected to engage in 150 clock hours of focused academic activity and to meet the terms of the study contract: follow the project's methodology as stated in the study contract, attend all required meetings with the faculty sponsor, and submit the final academic product as indicated in the contract.

Contracts for independent study and internships are due to Office of Exploration Term and Contract Learning by Friday, October 21, 2016.

The contract form may be found online at <http://www.bsc.edu/academics/krulak/exp-con/contract.cfm>. All contracts that include activities off-campus require a release form as well. These may be obtained at the Office of Exploration Term and Contract Learning (Norton 262) or at <http://www.bsc.edu/academics/krulak/exp-con/release.cfm>. Students engaged in contracts for Exploration Term 2017 will be registered automatically by the Office of Exploration Term and Contract Learning; students pursuing Exploration Term contracts do not register on TheSIS, nor do they need to attend an orientation meeting on November 17. Examples of completed individualized study contracts may be reviewed at the above contract website.

Note: Students who wish to complete internships which fall under the purview of established faculty-directed projects (e.g. Student Teaching Internship, Pre-Health, or Pre-Law) simply register for the project and do not complete an independent study contract.

Senior Exploration Term Projects

Many academic disciplines require students to complete a Senior Exploration Term Project in their major. This project is usually carried out in the senior year, but occasionally students are given permission to complete the senior project in their junior year. To fulfill this requirement, a student may either register for an Exploration Term senior project offered in her or his major or contract an independent project with a faculty member in that major.

Requirements for Off-Campus Study and Travel

Any student traveling off-campus during Exploration Term, whether for a BSC study-travel project, an independent study project, or an internship, must complete and sign a release form. For students under 19 years of age, a parent or guardian must sign the release. Release forms are located on the Exploration Term/Contract Learning section of the BSC website, under "Release Forms" (<http://www.bsc.edu/academics/exp-con/release.cfm>).

Students traveling internationally will be required to read the State Department's Consular Information Sheets and Travel Advisories at <http://travel.state.gov/>. Students are required to purchase BSC's travel health insurance plan (approximately \$18 per week of travel), which will be automatically billed to each student. Students should be aware that, given the international safety and health concerns, there is always the possibility that certain study-travel projects may be modified, canceled, or postponed.