

## Government 494, Independent Study

### Guidelines

- a) Eligibility/Prerequisites: Government 494 allows a student to pursue in greater detail an interest developed in previous courses, provided the subject is distinct from that covered by an existing class. Only academic juniors or seniors may enroll; non-majors are eligible.
- b) Advisor: Students are responsible for contacting a full-time member of the Department faculty with appropriate expertise who is willing to serve as supervisor; the availability of a faculty supervisor is entirely dependent upon previous commitments. The student is required to meet regularly with the supervisor to discuss progress on the project and specifications for the paper.
- c) Project: In conjunction with the supervisor, the student should design a research project or a series of guided readings on the topic. It must be clear in advance whether this project is designed for the 3 credit or the 1 credit option. For the 3 credit option, reading and/or research must be equivalent to that required in other 400-level courses, and the paper(s) must be at least 25-30 double-spaced typewritten pages. For the 1 credit option, the paper must be at least 10 double-spaced typewritten pages.
- d) Approval: Students must complete the application form, obtain the faculty supervisor's signature, and attach a written project proposal of no more than one double-spaced typewritten page; these materials must be submitted to the Department's Associate Chair. Upon receiving Department approval, it is up to the student to enroll himself/herself in the appropriate section of Govt. 494.
- e) Credit/Grading: Independent Study is available for 1 credit or 3 credits and on a graded basis only (i.e. no pass/fail option is available). No more than six total credits of Govt. 494 and Govt. 498 may be counted toward a Government major. Also, no more than three credits of Govt. 494 may be counted for students also counting Govt. 495-96, Honors, to the major.
- f) Restrictions: Participation in an internship, or seminar/workshop alone does not qualify; a project based on such an experience must still conform to items (a) through (e).

### Application

- a) Application Form: Provide the following information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
ID Number (930xxxxxx) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Semester \_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Advisor \_\_\_\_\_  
Credits (1 or 3) \_\_\_\_\_

- b) Project Description: Attach a project description of no more than one type-written page to this form; it should mention the written assignment(s) to be completed.

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The project can be modified only with the advisor's approval. I recognize that it is my responsibility to plan and carry out the project in conjunction with the advisor.

Advisor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chair's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_