

Instructions for Registering for Independent Study

Please read before submitting!

Please fill out this Independent Study Contract for SOC. Once approved, you will then need to fill out [AU's Independent Study Registration Form](#). Please also consult the [Academic Calendar](#) for registration deadlines.

Contact Jean McGee, Senior Graduate Academic Advisor, with any questions (jmcgee@american.edu).

Academic Regulation 3.1: American University uses the Carnegie Classification definition of a semester credit hour. A semester credit hour is defined as at least 12.5 hours of direct faculty instruction per semester (in class, online, remote site) with at least 25 hours of student work outside of that direct instruction, typically conducted over a 15-week semester, or an equivalent amount of faculty instruction and work over a different time period.

Courses are typically 3 semester credits hours each, meaning that students meet in an instructional venue (in class, online, remote site) for 2.5 hours each week and complete academic work outside the instructional venue at least 5 hours each week for a 15-week semester or an equivalent amount of work spread out over a different period of time.

Academic Regulation 3.9: With the approval of their Graduate Program Director, students in Good Academic Standing may register for an independent study. The independent study must be identified as a course in the Program of Study. Before registration, the student and the supervising faculty member must agree upon and document the title, objective, scope, credit value (1 to 6 credit hours), and method of evaluation for the independent study. The instructor must notify the Graduate Program Director of the agreement for the study. Students will not have more than 9 independent study credit hours in any graduate program. Individual programs may set lower limits.

More information on the Graduate Academic Regulations can be found [here](#).

SOC Independent Study Contract

Student:

Faculty Sponsor:

Academic Advisor: Jean McGee

Course Number: COMM-690

Title of Independent Study:

Grade Type: A/F only

Number of Credits:

Semester:

Objective (overview) of the Independent Study:

Learning outcomes, such as specific requirements/assignments for the independent study, **including specific due dates (please list all readings, papers, and journals to be used):**

Grade breakdown (indicate percentage breakdown, total must equal 100%):