

Academic Regulations

4.5 *Independent Research (B706)*

A student may enroll in independent research that results in a substantial original written product under the supervision of a faculty member. The faculty member shall determine, after consultation with the student, the subject matter of the research, the scope of the project, the maximum number of credit hours that may be allowed, and the final date for submitting the final written product. A student may not register for a B706 credit research project without the written approval of a faculty supervisor.

Independent research will normally be awarded 2 credit hours and will require substantial written product of equivalent length and quality as is expected in a 3-credit seminar. With the written permission of a faculty member, a student may pursue independent research for 1-4 credits hours, with the expectation for the length and quality of the final written product adjusted accordingly.

Independent research for more than 4 credit hours is possible in unusual situations for third-year students for whom the research serves as a capstone experience. Such research should result in a substantial final written product of publishable quality or its equivalent. Students interested in pursuing independent research for more than 4 credit hours should prepare a written research proposal addressing:

- - The nature, scope, and objective of the proposed research;
 - A plan for completing the research;
 - The intended outcome of the research, including publication plans;
 - Features of the research that would warrant additional credit (such as interviews, surveys, access to archives or other material, or other components that may require more time and effort or work outside of the Bloomington area);
 - Relevant coursework or other experiences that have prepared the student to conduct the research;
 - How the research will provide a capstone experience; and
 - Compliance with any IRB or other applicable research requirements.

Independent research for more than 4 credit hours will require the approval of the supervising faculty member, the Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

Regardless of the number of credit hours, a student engaged in independent research shall consult with the faculty supervisor with sufficient frequency to assure that the research is progressing satisfactorily and that it will be completed by the scheduled date. Independent research credit may not be used to compensate a student for work as a research assistant.

J.D. candidates may not receive more than six credit hours total from enrollments in B706 and/or B707, absent prior permission from the Dean of Students based on exceptional circumstances related to academic or professional goals.

4.6 *Directed Research (B707)*

A student may engage in collaborative research with a faculty member under the faculty member's supervision. Such research may facilitate a faculty member's work and may be on a topic identified by the faculty member, but must both involve independent research by the student and convey the fruits of that research through one or more papers, memos, or other written products prepared by the student. The intent is to provide an opportunity for substantive collaborative research with faculty. The faculty member shall determine and clearly convey to the student the subject matter of the research; the scope of the collaboration; the type, number, length, and due dates of written work; the number of credit hours; and the intended duration of the collaboration. A student may not register for a B707 directed research project without the written approval of a faculty supervisor. A student may complete Directed Research for 1-3 credit hours during or between semesters. Directed Research shall not satisfy any writing credit.

J.D. candidates may not receive more than six credit hours total from enrollments in B706 and/or B707, absent prior permission from the Dean of Students based on exceptional circumstances related to academic or professional goals.

4.7 *Directed Reading (B600)*

(1) A directed reading is an independent project in which a student, in consultation with a supervising faculty member, reads a collection of materials in an area of interest. The list of materials will be generated by the student in consultation with and subject to the approval of the supervising faculty member;

(2) J.D. candidates will be permitted to enroll for a directed reading only once for a maximum of one credit;

(3) A directed reading will require no substantial writing nor generate any writing credit; and

(4) A directed reading will be graded on a "Pass/Fail (F or C-)" basis.