

**INDEPENDENT STUDY PERMISSION FORM**  
**Trinity College of Arts & Sciences**  
**Chemistry Department**

**To the student:** Please read the attached policies and procedures, and consult with your instructor / supervising faculty member about course title, description, requirements and expectations. This form must be approved and signed by the supervising faculty member, the instructor (if different from supervising faculty member), and submitted to the DUS, Dr. Jiyong Hong, before the end of the drop/ add period.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID (not unique ID) \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s)/Minor(s)/Certificate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Undeclared \_\_\_\_\_

Course Subject / Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Research Independent Study)

Term/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Independent Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Short Title: \_\_\_\_\_

(to be listed on transcript; limit 30 characters, including spaces)

Supervising Faculty Member (PI) \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Title \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation (dept or program) \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor (if different from Supervising Faculty Member) \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Title and affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

On the following page (or attached sheet), please provide the following information:

**1. Title and Description of Proposed Study:**

*Provide a one to two paragraph description of the proposed study, making clear its connection with chemistry.*

**2. Grade to be based on:**

*Provide information on how your work in the course is to be evaluated. (See suggestions in item 3 in the next section.)*

**Description of Independent Study and Grade Basis:** (attach as a separate page if necessary)

## Expectations of the Chemistry Department with Regard to Research Independent Study

1. The project will have a significant emphasis on chemistry, i.e., will involve molecular interpretations of results.
2. The supervising faculty member and the major will establish a defined weekly schedule, totaling 10 hours devoted to "hands-on" research activities, plus no more than 5 additional hours per week of participation in related research activities such as group meetings, literature research, preparing posters, writing progress or final research reports, etc.
3. Suggestions for factors to be considered in assigning grade(s) in research independent study include: ability of the student to maintain the work schedule to which s/he committed, maintaining a research notebook in the style requested by the research director, ability to function as a productive member of a research group, ability of student to carry out research safely and ethically, progress toward becoming an independent researcher as demonstrated by ability to apply some variation of the scientific method to solve research problems systematically, and being able to locate, retrieve, evaluate, and apply information from the literature of the field that is relevant to the research problem, and overall progress toward resolving the assigned research problem. Note that in addition to the traditional letter grades (A, B, C, etc.) there is an option to assign a semester grade of Z = Satisfactory completion of 1st half of a two-semester course sequence; final grade for both courses is assigned at the end of the second course in the sequence.
4. Majors doing more than one semester of research independent study will submit a progress report to the Coordinator of Independent Study in Chemistry, Dr. Hong, at the end of each semester except the final semester.
5. At the conclusion of the research project, the major will prepare a poster on the research project and participate in a poster session usually held the final Friday of the spring semester.
6. A final written report on the research project using the format recommended by the supervising faculty member will be submitted to the Coordinator of Independent Study in Chemistry, Dr. Hong, in an electronic version and will usually be due the last Monday of a semester. The recommended formats are: the style of a journal publication in the field of study, or in the format described on the Chemistry web site.
7. Majors who are interested in pursuing Graduation with Distinction in Chemistry (GwD), must discuss this with their supervising faculty members to be sure that they are willing to nominate the major for this award.
8. Majors pursuing Graduation with Distinction in Chemistry (GwD) must enroll in Chemistry 295 (ideally concurrent with their first semester of research independent study) and must enroll in Chemistry 496 the spring semester of their junior or senior year.

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Approval Signatures:** *Please read attached policies and procedures on independent studies before signing.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervising Faculty Member (print name)      Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instructor (print name)      Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different from Supervising Faculty member)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies (print name)      Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
or the Coordinator of Independent Study in Chemistry