

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

The form will be submitted electronically. The form below provides a summary of the questions on the electronic form. To receive the electronic form email chem-dus@duke.edu.

To the student: Please read the attached policies and procedures, and consult with your supervising faculty member about the goals and objectives of the research and the required assessment(s) for the semester. The electronic form must be approved and digitally signed by the supervising faculty member and the Director of Undergraduate Studies; Charlie Cox, before the end of the drop/add period. Once the form has been signed, students will receive a permission number to register for the appropriate independent study section. **This form is required for students prior to starting their first independent study project and should only be resubmitted if they change PIs.**

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Student ID (not unique ID): _____

Major(s)/Minor(s)/Certificate(s): _____

Course Subject/Number: CHEM 393 CHEM 394 CHEM 493 CHEM 494

Term/Year _____

Supervising Faculty Member (PI) _____

Academic Title _____

Affiliation (dept or program) _____

PI email address: _____

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.)

Expectations of the Chemistry Department Regarding 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 is assigned for both courses at the end of the second course in the sequence.
4. 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.
5. 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 _____

Director of Undergraduate Studies (print name) Signature Date _____