Guidelines for Undergraduate Special Topics taken as an Independent Study (Soc 498, Ant 498)

Some guidelines about the use of SOC and ANT 498 for independent study may help clarify the purposes and procedures for such courses.

1. These courses should provide the opportunity to pursue study either unavailable or only briefly dealt with in regularly scheduled courses. Clearly, the theoretical grounding and empirical content of a 498 course should reflect the 400-level designation.

2. The student's workload should be comparable to that in a regular course, that is approximately three hours of work per week (including contact with the instructor) for each credit hour earned. From one to six credit hours may be earned.

3. The instructor should state on the attached form the specific topic and the basis of evaluation. This statement should be filed for review with the Undergraduate Administrator by the end of the second week of the semester.

4. If and only if the instructor and student agree, the course may be graded S/U. This should be noted on the form.

5. At the start of the semester, the instructor and student should agree in writing on the course topic, assignments, requirements for written work, and evaluation methods.

6. Where original research is involved or where the goal of the independent study is to teach research skills beyond those taught in Soc 300 or Ant 416, the student should write a paper that grows out of the research experience.

7. Independent study course are not intended to: (1) provide “free” research assistance to the instructor, or (2) give an “easy A” to the student.

8. A sociology major should not fulfill more than three hours of the nine hour, 400 level requirement with independent study.
PLAN FOR SOC 498 / ANT 498
Independent Study

This form should be submitted to the Undergraduate Administrator no later than the end of the second week of the semester you plan to take the course.

Student’s name: _______________________________________________________________

Student’s ID number: ______________ Student’s major: ___________________________

Instructor’s name: _____________________________________________________________

Year 20____ Fall___ Spring___ Summer Session I___ Summer Session II___

Course topic & content (form must be accompanied w/ a course description & reference to scholarly sources and/or sociological framework):
____________________________________________________________________________

Basis of evaluation:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Grading method:         Letter Grade (A-F) _____                  Credits (0-6 hrs) ____

Offered at SOC 200, 300 or 400-level: ______

Any additional comments: ___________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

The signatures below indicate we agree to the independent study plan described above.

____________________________________________________________________________
Instructor’s signature & date                                      Student’s signature

____________________________________________________________________________
Undergraduate Coordinator for Undergraduate Committee
Signature & date