

**COMMUNICATIONS 496**  
**Application for Independent Study**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Although not specifically designated an “honors” course, COMM 496 is planned primarily for the superior undergraduate student who has achieved 6<sup>th</sup> semester standing. It provides him/her an opportunity to broaden his/her background, conduct scholarly research, and carry out professional projects in communications that do not fit into conventional classroom programs. In all cases, the course will involve the preparation of a major report. The student project will not be as extensive as the production of a master’s thesis, but it will require more effort than an ordinary semester paper. The report may be either a “scholarly” production or a “journalistic” one – these descriptions need be considered mutually exclusive.

Two general types of projects will be acceptable:

1. The student may choose some phase of mass communications for study and examine and investigate it from the standpoint of a scholar. His/her written result might be in the nature of a monograph or article for a scholarly or professional publication.
2. The student may choose a problem or topic that he/she would like to address involving mass communication. His/her project might be a series of newspaper interpretive articles or features, a magazine article or articles, a radio or television documentary, or photographic series.

Before submitting this application, the student should discuss his/her proposed independent study project with his/her advisor and then with the faculty supervisor of his/her independent study project. The student may not register for 496 until an approved application is on file.

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student’s ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Present GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Semester of study: FA \_\_\_\_\_ SP \_\_\_\_\_ SU \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed # of credits (to be determined by student and Faculty Supervisor (1-3):** \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Department Head: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Approved by Department Head as:** Major Rqmt: \_\_\_\_\_ or Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
 (list rqmt) (check)

**Dean’s Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Approved for** \_\_\_\_\_ **credits**

**Grades in Communications Courses:**

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Grade</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Brief description of subject to be studied:**

(Attach one copy of a more detailed description of the project, explaining the purpose and giving an outline of the study program, including readings, sources, and methods to be used.)

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**Personal Statement:** Give reasons why you believe you are capable of successfully completing the independent study project (background courses, interest in the matter, etc.):

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**Additional comments:**