

INDEPENDENT STUDY LEARNING CONTRACT J396

University of Massachusetts Amherst Journalism Department

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This document is considered a contract between the instructor and the student. Students are expected to devote at least three hours of independent work per week for each unit of credit awarded. As a three-credit hour independent study, this course requires students to complete approximately nine hours of independent work per week. JOURN 300 must be completed prior to enrolling in an independent study.

An independent study in journalism requires independent reading, research, and some type of substantive final project, which may be academic or journalistic in nature. Examples include, but are not limited to, academic essays; research papers; a series of journalistic articles on a common topic; a digital visual storytelling project; a short-form documentary.

This contract must be submitted to and approved by your faculty sponsor one week before the last day of the add/drop period. The contract must then be approved by Rodrigo Zamith, undergraduate program director, and Brian McDermott, department chair.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Date	
Name	
Spire #	
Email	
Telephone #	
Major	
Expected date of graduation	
Current GPA	
Semester and year of Ind. Study	

FACULTY INFORMATION

Faculty Name	
E-mail	

ASSIGNMENTS

Please provide the following information on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Meeting requirements with the instructor. Include day/time of weekly or bi-weekly meetings
2. Reading assignments and due dates
3. Written assignments and due dates
4. Other assignments

ASSESSMENTS

Please provide the following information on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Percentage of course grade based on each assignment
2. Student, faculty and administrative signatures

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

I have read the requirements expected of the instructor, and I agree to undertake these responsibilities.

Instructor: _____ **Date:** _____

I have read the requirements expected of students, and I agree to undertake these responsibilities.

Student: _____ **Date:** _____

Undergrad Program Director: _____ **Date:** _____

JOURNALISM DEPT. CHAIR

This application for Independent Study has been reviewed.

The proposal is:

- Approved as is**
- Requires more information**
- Not approved, for the following reasons:** _____

Journalism Dept. Chair: _____ **Date:** _____