



MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL PREP SCHOOL



INDEPENDENT STUDY

Michigan Department of Education Definition from 5-O-A-1 of the Pupil Accounting Manual – Independent study courses, as defined in Administrative Rule 340.12, are learning experiences that are academic in nature that allow a pupil enrolled in grades 9-12 the opportunity for self-directed learning. An independent study course appears on the pupil's class schedule and the teacher of record is identified. The pupil is concurrently enrolled in and attending at least one course offered by the district in which credit is earned and regular daily attendance is required. The pupil is enrolled in the course on the pupil membership count day or the supplemental count day. The course is counted in the same manner as any other in-district course. A pupil is limited to two independent study courses per count. Independent study is a type of learning experience that is academic in nature that allows the pupil an opportunity for self-directed learning.

Independent Study courses at MIPS are considered a distance learning course and therefore there are three main components of the course that every student must complete in order to earn a 0.5 general elective credit per course taken. These are pass/fail courses.

- Two-way communication between the student and teacher once per week for the semester.
- Weekly journaling of activities being performed
- A final capstone product/project turned into the teacher prior to the end of the semester.

Selecting a Topic

Approved Subject Areas

ART

ATHLETICS

COSMETOLOGY

CULINARY ARTS

FAMILY/CONSUMER SCIENCE

GLOBAL STUDIES

HEALTHY LIVING

ONLINE APPLICATIONS

Choose a topic for your independent study course that you have a great interest in within the above subject areas.

For example, if you don't find enjoyment in writing please don't select a topic of writing a book for your independent study. If you are a competitive figure skater and want your independent study topic to involve figure skating please select a topic within figure skating community; (the following are sample questions to help you get started, but these are just examples. Please find the direction that best interests you).

- Skate Design and Manufacturing – What construction and design increase the effectiveness of professional figure skates?
- What is involved in the life of a full-time competition skater?
- What struggles does a competition skater face throughout a season?

Timeline

1. Submit an Independent Study course proposal to your mentor teacher during course registration in either August or January.
2. Submit the proposed timeline
3. Submit the proposed end project (this can and typically will change throughout the semester)
4. Each weekly two-way communication between student and mentor must occur on either Wednesday or Thursday of each week.
5. Submit the weekly journaling of the student work completed by Monday of each week.
6. Submit the final product before the last day of the semester to earn credit in the class.