

# *Independent Study*

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An independent study (I.S.) should involve in-depth inquiry, initiated by the student and/or teacher, that covers topics and/or a course not already offered in a structured classroom. This means that one cannot design a proposal to be used in lieu of an existing course at LJA. Independent Study will be an elective course approved by the **Curriculum Committee**. If the student successfully completes the course, the student will receive 1/2 credit for one semester of study or one credit for a full year of study. However, a student does not automatically receive credit for doing independent study.

Because independent study involves something one learns to do, it has to arise out of organized study. Its functional goal is one of working closely with teachers to develop skills necessary for independent research.

Independent study proposals must be submitted for approval to the Principal well in advance. The proposal for a first semester I.S. must have been approved by May 1 of the previous school year. The proposal for a second semester I.S. must have been approved by November 1 of the same school year.

## **The proposal should include:**

1. Introduction - a general statement about the study to be undertaken.
2. General purpose - state the general purpose of the research.
3. Topics - state the specific topics and/or areas to be studied.
4. Scope - list range of materials to be covered.
5. Method - state what method(s) will be used in carrying out the research, specific methods used for evaluating the program by the research, specific methods used for evaluating the Program by the teacher, amount of teacher supervision that will be involved (regular weekly communication must be spent in teacher-student consultation), and specific materials in bibliographic form that will be used in the study.

## **Addenda**

1. Independent study shall be the student's sixth or seventh class.
2. There shall be a reporting system set up with every approved Independent Study proposal. The teacher coordinating the independent study shall report the student's progress to the High School Counselor every nine weeks grading period.

Usually only LJA's faculty members may supervise independent study.