Board Policy 4228 Independent Study

It is the policy of El Camino College to provide enhanced educational opportunities for students wishing to explore a subject area more fully by establishing an Independent Study program. Under the guidance of a supervising instructor qualified to teach in the specific subject area, students in Independent Study courses will complete projects that reflect scholarly or creative efforts of an advanced nature that go beyond the scope of a regular course.

Independent study projects must be approved by the supervising instructor and will require the student to meet regularly with the instructor. Academic standards applicable to Independent Study courses will be the same as those applied to other credit courses.

To be eligible for Independent Study, a student must be in good academic standing and

- Have completed at least 12 degree-applicable units at El Camino College with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and
- Have demonstrated competence in the discipline in which the Independent Study course is being attempted by completing at least two courses in this discipline with a grade of B or higher, and
- Be concurrently enrolled in at least one other course at El Camino College

Procedures for implementing this policy will be developed by the Superintendent/President in collegial consultation with the Academic Senate.

Reference: CCR, Title 5, Section 55300 et seq.
ECCFT Contract Article X Section 19
The supervising instructor will scrutinize proposed projects for appropriate depth and rigor. Such projects might, for example, include a lengthy research study, an original production, or a comprehensive exam. The supervising instructor will provide appropriate orientation, guidance, and information regarding course content materials and services and will document progress toward project completion. Projects will be evaluated by the supervising instructor, and the basis for evaluation will be kept on file for at least one semester.

Independent Study projects will normally be for one unit of credit, with a maximum of three units per semester; one unit of credit will be granted for 60 hours of work devoted toward the project. A student may earn a maximum of six units of Independent Study at El Camino College.

To promote an individualized educational experience for each student, an instructor will supervise a limited number of Independent Study students in one semester or session, as determined by the terms of the Agreement between the District and the ECC Federation of Teachers in effect at that time. In accordance with the Agreement, the Dean of the division in which the Independent Study will be offered shall approve or disapprove each course to be offered.

Academic standards applicable to Independent Study courses will be the same as those applied to other credit courses. Independent Study courses will be accepted by the college toward completion of an associate degree and shall be eligible for transfer credit by an institution of the University of California or California State University.