

Auburn University adopted a Directed Studies Policy in 2006. Each student who wishes to take a Directed Readings/ Special Problems/Directed Studies course and each Instructor who wishes teach such a course must jointly complete the Auburn University Approval for Independent Study/Directed Readings Form. This form serves as a contract between the instructor and student. Attached to the form must be a course syllabus. The syllabus must address:

- a. The objective of the course
- b. The nature of the teaching-learning process and proposed schedule of meetings
- c. The proposed work products
- d. The criteria that will be used to assess the work product and the grade options that will be available

The form and syllabus must be approved by the appropriate Department Head, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs and Dean.

Other provisions in the policy are:

- a. Instructors who wish to offer directed studies coursework to more than three students in any given semester must receive written approval from the Department Head and Dean.
- b. Students must have Dean and Provost approval to take more than 9 hours of Directed Readings/Special Problems/Directed Studies coursework for credit over the course of his/her degree program.

Students will no longer be allowed to register for these courses without the required documentation and approvals; after the required approvals have been obtained, the Office of the Associate Dean for Research will register the student for the approved course. For this reason, these documents must be received by the Associate Dean for Research Office at least two weeks prior to the first day of class for the semester.