Contract for Undergraduate Independent Study

Check off the appropriate box:

□ GEOG 39100, Ind. Study in Geography (1 cr)  □ GEOL 39300, Ind. Study in Geology (3 cr)
□ GEOG 39200, Ind. Study in Geography (2 cr)  □ PGEOG 39100, Ind. Study in Environmental Studies (1 cr)
□ GEOG 39300, Ind. Study in Geography (3 cr)  □ PGEOG 39200, Ind. Study in Environmental Studies (2 cr)
□ GEOG 49803, Internship (3 cr)  □ PGEOG 39300, Ind. Study in Environmental Studies (3 cr)
□ GEOL 39100, Ind. Study in Geology (1 cr)  □ PGEOG 49803, Internship* (3 cr)
□ GEOG 39200, Ind. Study in Geology (2 cr)

Student’s Name: ___________________________  EMPL ID: ___________________________
Faculty Mentor’s Name: ___________________________  Semester ___________
and Year: ___________________________

TITLE or TOPIC of project: __________________________________________________________

STATEMENT OF INTENT: The independent study is an in-depth look at a specific topic that you are interested in researching and that will advance your knowledge in your major course of study. Be specific in your description of the project detailing what you would like to do, why you would like to do it, and how you will go about achieving your goal. Please type the statement of and attach it to this contract as a second page. Your statement should be between 250 and 500 words.

A statement of intent needs to be drafted by YOU in consultation with the full-time Department of Geography faculty member who will act as your mentor and supervise your work. This statement needs to include the following information:

1) The research question: As you can best articulate it.
2) The research claim (hypothesis): State what might be your best guess as to the answer to the question(s) you pose.
3) The rationale: Why would the answer to this question be important?
4) A brief outline of the methods to be used to collect and analyze data.

Your final research report will include the following sections: introduction, background and theory, research design (methods), findings (results), discussion, conclusions and references (bibliography). It is suggested that your paper follow the format used in the journal articles you list in your bibliography.

Once you and your mentor agree to the terms of the project, which may include regular meetings, both of you must sign the document and present the original document to the undergraduate Geography adviser who will only then enter permission for you to register. Keep a copy for yourself and your mentor.

I agree to supervise this student’s work as described. I will complete the work within the time constraints and parameters imposed by my faculty mentor.

Faculty member’s signature and date ___________________________  Student’s signature and date ___________________________

*In addition to this contract a completed Internship Packet is required prior to registration.