

COMM 495 and MCOM 496 Independent Study
Department of Mass Communication & Communication Studies

These courses are designed to give you the opportunity to work one-on-one with a MCCS faculty member on a subject you choose in consultation with the professor. Students must choose a topic for investigation with the advice of an instructor prior to registration and the topic should be in an area in which we do not offer a course. The student must then submit a proposal including the independent study cover form, and a proposal that addresses the four questions listed below. Prior familiarity and work with the topic are recommended. **Hours arranged.**

In order to be considered for COMM 495 or MCOM 496, you must write a 2-3 page proposal as follows:

1. Topic/Purpose: What is the independent study/research project about? What question(s) will the project address? Why is the project worthwhile?
2. Existing Knowledge: What do you already know about this topic? Previous courses on this topic? This will require the specification of existing theory or concepts that are relevant or it might include relevant practical knowledge that the student has acquired through experience.
3. Method: What is the process for the project? In other words, how will you attempt to answer the questions articulated for number one above? NOTE: If the project requires the approval of the Towson University Committee on Human Research, be sure to acknowledge that in this section. Also include a description of the final outcome (paper-including length; project – include how/when this will be presented; research presentation at conference, etc)
4. Timeline: Draft a timeline for completion of the paper/project by end of the semester that includes due dates for each section/part.

Attach your proposal to this form with appropriate signatures and submit it to the Department Chair.

NAME _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____@students.towson.edu
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Student ID#: 0 _____ Permit Number: _____ Date issued: _____

COMM 495- _____ Independent Study _____ or MCOM 496- _____ Independent Study _____ (check one)

YEAR: 20 _____ SEMESTER: Fall Mini Spring Summer UNITS (1-6): _____
(Circle one)

TITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT: _____

PROJECT ADVISOR SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

PROJECT ADVISOR NAME _____ APPROVED _____ NOT APPROVED _____
(Please Print Clearly)

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON SIGNATURE _____

DATE: _____ APPROVED _____ NOT APPROVED _____