

Peterfy: Independent Studies in *English Studies (MA)*: Some Guidelines for Students

Within the English Studies Master's curriculum, the Independent Studies Requirement was introduced for the purpose of providing students with the opportunity to pursue their own research and academic interests. During each of two Independent Studies projects, students are expected to conduct research into a topic of their choice. Both in the selection of a suitable topic, and in the execution of the research, they are guided and supervised individually by senior academic staff, **with possible deviations from the guidelines below**.(!)

Independent Studies in Your Major (English Literary Studies or Linguistics)

Independent Studies I 7 CP = 210 hours	You agree with a senior member of the academic staff upon a research area and a reading list related to this field. (Depending on your topic and the genre you start with appr. 700-1500 pages of reading material.) After your reading, you create an annotated bibliography and include some research hypotheses. You should develop at least three hypotheses. The Independent Studies I project cannot be <i>identical</i> with the topic of your MA thesis. However, at the discretion of the supervisor of your project, contacts and overlaps are possible. Please note that no grade is awarded for an Independent Studies project undertaken as part of the MA course.
Independent Studies II 7 CP = 210 hours	Your second Independent Studies Unit follows the guidelines of the first; in addition, it will be also a preparation for the final (oral) exam. (I or II can be exchanged later.) In your oral exam, you are expected to be able to present and discuss your theses at an advanced level. The topic of this project has to be different from the topic of the MA Thesis. (Independent Studies I and II do not have to be completed in chronological order.)

Independent Studies in Your Minor (English Literary Studies or Linguistics)

Independent Studies III 2 CP = 60 hours	You agree with a senior member of the academic staff upon a research area and a reading list related to this field. (Depending on your topic, you start with appr. 400-700 pages of reading material.) After your reading, you create an annotated bibliography and develop some research hypotheses. You should develop at least one or two hypotheses. There is, in general, no grade given.
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- Reminder: 1 CP is "worth" 30 hours of your time (reading, listening, thinking, writing, etc.)