Individualized Studies Faculty Mentor Agreement

The Individualized Studies Program gives highly motivated, self-directed students the opportunity to pursue a course of study not offered in an existing UW program. Students in the program develop an Individualized Learning Plan outlining the rationale, goals, and courses that will allow them to meet their learning goals. They cannot meet those goals without meaningful mentorship from faculty with relevant expertise. You have been asked to be the mentor for the below student. This is a significant commitment, involving both ongoing advising over the course of study and supervision of the senior study project (see below). You should only agree to mentor the student if you have discussed the learning plan and are confident the goals can be met.

The Senior Study is the culmination of a student's Individualized Studies program. It should reflect a coherent, complete synthesis of what was learned over the entirety of the program, and demonstrate that all the learning goals outlined in the Learning Plan have been met. This is not a stand-alone project; it should follow and bring to conclusion the full program of study that has preceded it. It is analogous in many ways to a capstone course, and as such, should meet the academic standards you would expect a graduating senior in your department to demonstrate in such a project. Although most Senior Studies are written, this is not a requirement if a student’s learning is best demonstrated in a medium other than writing.

All Individualized Studies students register for the Senior Study, INDIV 493, in their final quarter. The senior study cannot be an internship, though we encourage the integration of internships into the Learning Plan.

Since the Senior Study is an integral part of the student’s degree, Individualized Studies as the degree-granting unit reserves the right to evaluate the student’s overall progress before granting the degree. Senior Studies are reviewed by the Individualized Studies Committee, although final approval is based primarily on the grade and evaluation that you submit.

I agree to serve as the faculty mentor for the above student. I have read the Learning Plan, find the learning goals to be reasonable and achievable, and I am willing to meet regularly and provide guidance and feedback as appropriate throughout the course of the program. I also agree to supervise the student's Senior Study in the final quarter before graduation.

Student name (please print)  Student number
Email address

Individualized Studies major title

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Sponsor’s signature  Date
Sponsor’s name (please print)  Department
Email address  UW Employee ID Number

Individualized Studies adviser’s signature

istudies@uw.edu  depts.washington.edu/istudies