

Online Campus Independent Study Guidelines

Rationale

It may be necessary or preferable, due to low enrollment or unique program or student needs, to conduct Independent Study for an existing online course and following the established curriculum with the flexibility to modify expectations.

The course will be delivered as designed with potential modifications as deemed necessary by the instructor.

An Independent Study is defined as a course with up to two students. In order to maximize the student experience, unique expectations apply to the Independent Study experience in order to assure engagement and reduce potential feelings of isolation. Also, the Independent Study typically requires less faculty time than a typical cohort.

The Program Director or their designee will communicate the parameters and expectations of the Independent Study to the student(s) and faculty, along with the reason for the Independent Study format, prior to the beginning of the term.

Faculty Expectations

In addition to adhering to the Online Campus Faculty Standards for Effective Practice, faculty should:

- Schedule at least four regular live (Skype or phone) sessions with the student(s) to review progress, further explore course concepts and materials, and review and reinforce the relationship between weekly Learning Aims and Program Objectives.
- If applicable and available, invite and coordinate the contributions of the Program Director to the Discussion Board.
- Other expectations as identified by the Program Director.

Student Expectations

In addition to adhering to Online Graduate Student Work Expectations, students should:

- Participate in at least four regular live (Skype or phone) sessions with the instructor to review progress, further explore course concepts and materials, and increase understanding of the relationship between weekly Learning Aims and Program Objectives.