



### Policy on Independent Study Courses (SASS 390/598) and Independent Research Practicum (SASS 536)

SASS 390/598 and SASS 536 courses are intended to allow students to study topics not covered or covered briefly in established courses or provide students with applied research experience. SASS 390/598 and SASS 536 cannot be used to substitute for courses already in the Mandel curriculum. The proposed policy is intended to provide a guideline for faculty and students interested in pursuing SASS 390/598 and SASS 536.

Students who enter into an independent study agreement with an Mandel School faculty are expected to invest effort comparable to that which would be involved in a regularly scheduled class. Please refer to the student and faculty handbook for specific breakdown of hours required.

1. Students interested in pursuing SASS 390/598 or SASS 536 will enlist the cooperation of a full-time faculty member at the Mandel School.
2. Students interested in pursuing SASS 390/598 or SASS 536 will develop a brief proposal which includes the following:

**A. Purpose of the Course**

The student should provide a statement of the overall purpose and a rationale supporting the fact that the content to be studied is not available in the curriculum.

**B. Educational Objectives**

What are the educational objectives of the course? What CSWE/Mandel Leadership competencies will this course address?

**C. Educational Activities**

What will be the activities of the course? How will the educational objectives be met?  
For SASS 536, which of the following research activities will you be engaged in?

- Participate in the development of data collection instruments
- Assist in data collection
- Develop coding categories or code data
- Manage a dataset (e.g., clean, merge and check the accuracy of a dataset)
- Conduct statistical analyses
- Conduct/review/summarize literature
- Assist in writing grant applications
- Assist in writing project reports
- Co-author manuscript to be submitted for publication as journal article or book chapter
- Review and provide feedback on manuscripts in preparation
- Submit an abstract for presentation at a conference
- Co-present a paper or poster at a research conference
- Attend a research conference
- Participate in research team meetings or meetings with research collaborators
- Prepare materials for conference and/or community presentations
- Other (please describe)

**D. Products of the course**

What will be the product(s) of the course?

**E. Resources**

What educational resources will be needed?

**F. Timeline**

What is the time line of the activities outlined in the educational plan?

3. The student and the faculty member will both review and revise the proposal.
4. The student and the faculty member will both sign the proposal.
5. The student will email the signed proposal to the Registrar ([msassreg@case.edu](mailto:msassreg@case.edu)) prior to registration.