Student Guidelines for Directed Studies

Purpose of Directed Studies

A directed study course offers a student, with the direction of a faculty member, the opportunity to engage in an independent, self-directed study in a special topic area not otherwise available through scheduled classes.

Directed studies are recommended for highly motivated, self-directed students.

In general, there are three cases in which a directed study may be applicable:

1: A student wishes to pursue additional learning in an area not normally covered in a regular course.

2: A student’s regularly scheduled course is cancelled due to low enrollment.

3: A student needs to complete an elective and no other elective course is available.

Note: A directed study may not be used to complete, or substitute, a required core course, or to complete program requirements when other similar courses are reasonably available.
Directed Studies: Approval and Student Responsibility

1: The student develops the preliminary written outline, defining the course description, objectives, procedures, evaluation, grading, bibliography, and assignment due dates.

2: The student approaches the division chair or faculty member to begin the process of finding an available and willing faculty supervisor.

3: Once the faculty member agrees to supervise the directed study, the student and faculty member work together to finalize the directed study outline, course requirements and due dates.

4: The student and faculty member complete the directed study form and add/drop card. Signatures are required by the student, faculty member and dean of the school. (The directed study form and add/drop card are available in the Gore administrative office or the registrar's office).

5: Students are responsible for the successful completion of a directed study.