**Information on FA 418 Independent Study**

The nature of independent study classes is student-motivated, with students taking the initiative. The students are to initiate their own projects, determine what research needs to be done, and carry out the projects independently. **Projects should consist of scholarly rather than commercial pursuits.** Roski faculty mentor and give feedback, but do not teach as they do in regular structured classes. The independent nature of FA 418 is very valuable to art students; however, because it requires self-discipline, self-motivation, and a firm basis of knowledge, it is not appropriate for every student.

**What are the requirements for an Independent Study?**

1. 3.0 grade point average for all USC coursework.
2. Firm basis of knowledge: Independent Study should be about executing a specific project. It cannot be exclusively about learning a specific skill. You need to have successfully completed at least one upper division class in the media in which you want to pursue an independent study. For example, if you want to pursue a FA 418 in Drawing, you need to have completed at least FA 301/FADW 301. Design: FA 302/FADN 302; Painting: FA 305/FAPT 305; Sculpture: FA 306/FASC 306; Photography: FA 309/FAPH 309B; Digital Photo: FA 310/FAIN 310; Printmaking: FA 311/FAPR 311; Ceramics: FA 312/FACE 312; Video: FA 320/FAIN 320.
3. Because group critique is so very valuable to the development of an artist, it is highly recommended that students enroll in regularly scheduled classes instead of FA 418. Know that most 4–unit 400-level advanced studio classes can be taken up to 3 times, for a total of 12 units.
4. You must have an established working relationship with your faculty mentor. Your faculty mentor must be a full-time faculty and must not be on leave or sabbatical the semester you wish to work with him/her:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bob Alderette</th>
<th>Jud Fine</th>
<th>Karen Koblitz</th>
<th>Julia Paull</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Cain</td>
<td>Robbert Flick</td>
<td>Margaret Lazzari</td>
<td>Ruth Weisberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Child</td>
<td>Jennifer Greisz-West</td>
<td>Haven Lin-Kirk</td>
<td>Charlie White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caroline Clerc</td>
<td>Sherin Guirguis</td>
<td>Sharon Lockhart</td>
<td>Ewa Wojciak</td>
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<td>Shannon Ebner</td>
<td>Andrew Kutchera</td>
<td>Ann Page</td>
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*This list may change from semester to semester; contact Margaret Lazzari at Lazzari@usc.edu for the faculty’s sabbatical schedule*.

Faculty need ample time and resources to work with students on an independent basis. If you have met all the above requirements, determine the project(s) you want to do for your independent study, and ask the faculty if he or she is willing and able to supervise you in an independent study. Taking on a student for independent study is always at the faculty’s discretion. Part-time adjunct faculty members can be considered as mentors; however, this must be approved in advance by both Dean Erica Muhl and Margaret Lazzari, Vice Dean of Art.

5. Fill out the contract on reverse with your faculty mentor. Attach a clear description of your proposed project(s). **Think of this as your syllabus for this course.** Please be clear about the following: Media you will be working in, subject matter, concept, number and size of finished piece(s), weekly timeline – deadlines for different aspects or sections of your project, as well as a bibliography list of research and readings for your project.

6. You must include the EXACT times that you and your faculty mentor have both set aside each week to meet and talk about your independent projects. Include days of the week and times of day (i.e. MW 12-2pm). The time should be outside of your faculty mentor’s regularly scheduled classes.

7. Meetings for 4 units of independent study should be scheduled for a minimum of one hour each week. Meeting times will be reduced proportionately for fewer units (e.g. for 2 units, meetings should be scheduled for a minimum of one hour every other week). Students are expected to devote 2-3 hours per week of studio work for each independent study unit taken.

8. A maximum of 10 units of FA 418 credit may be applied towards a USC degree.

9. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:** Friday of the second week of the semester, by 5:00pm.
USC Roski School of Art and Design
Contract for Independent Study - FA 418

Please read information and course requirements on reverse.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Friday of the second week of the semester, by 5:00pm.

Name: ___________________________________ Current USC GPA: ____________________________

ID#: ___________________________________ Class Standing: _________________________________

Phone: _________________________________ E-mail: _________________________________________

Major: _________________________________ Semester/Year: ________________________________

Which 300/400-level Roski Studio course(s) have you completed? ________________________________

Your mentor must be a full-time Roski faculty (listed on reverse) unless approved by the Dean.

Full-time Faculty Mentor ________________________________

FA-418 Faculty Mentor 5-digit section (from Schedule of Classes): ______________ Proposed Units (circle): 1 2 3 4

Adjunct Faculty Mentor ________________________________

Please attach your project proposal. This will be your syllabus and contract for the course. It should be 3-5 pages long, and must include specific details about the following:

1. Media you will be working in

2. Subject matter, concept, and theoretical considerations of your project

3. Quantifiable size and number of your finished project(s). *(for example: 5 paintings, approx 18” x 24”)*

4. Weekly timeline and due dates: Which projects and research components will you work on during each week of term? What are the deadlines for various stages of the project(s), and final project completion?

5. Bibliography: Provide a detailed list of at least five specific books and/or journals that you will read as part of the research for this project. Visit Ruth Wallach in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library for assistance.

6. How does this project contribute towards your understanding of art or your development as an artist?

7. Faculty meetings: Note the exact times you and your faculty mentor have set aside each week to meet and talk about your FA 418 projects: *(Must be outside of your faculty’s scheduled classes)*

Days: ___________ Hours: ___________ Frequency: ___________ (i.e. every Monday from 5:00 – 6:00pm)

1. Student Signature + Date: ______________________________________________________________

2. Full-time Faculty Mentor Approval Signature + Date: _______________________________________

3. (optional) Adjunct Faculty Mentor Approval Signature + Date: ______________________________

4. Vice Dean Approval Signature + Date: Haven Lin-Kirk for all Design-related requests. Margaret Lazzari for all others.

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Once your proposed contract is approved and signed off by all above, submit this form to HSH 101, Attention: Christina Aumann.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Friday of the second week of the semester, by 5:00pm.

We will contact you once you can register.

D-Clearance _______ Student Notified _______ Copy to faculty person(s) ___ Copy to Student ___ Filed in Semester Binder ___