

# UCSB Department of English

## Undergraduate Independent Studies, English 199

**An English 199 Independent Studies Course** offers qualified students an opportunity to pursue a directed and advanced study of a particular subject in British or American literature. English 199 may *not* be used for internships, general interest reading, fulfillment of any part of the Option 2 language requirement, the exclusive study of any foreign literature in translation, or subject study normally available in regular classes. In special cases a creative writing project may be accepted usually under the direction of a department creative writing instructor.

An English 199 is likely to be the closest experience to individual, original research at the graduate level an undergraduate can have. Because this is partly a directed-reading course, it is recommended that applicants first complete an upper-division course relevant to the subject to be studied. Before applying students should focus on an area of study, problems to solve within it, and a methodology to solve them. For a 4-unit course, the departmental norm for the writing requirement is 15 pages (approximately 4,000 words) of sustained writing.

### **The requirements for enrolling in the English 199:**

1. Overall Grade Point Average (GPA) must be at least 3.0 for the preceding three quarters.
2. At least 84 units must have been completed overall.
3. At least two upper-division English courses must have been completed, one of which should be relevant to the subject to be studied.

Exceptions to the above requirements to be made only with faculty sponsor, undergraduate chair, and College of Letters & Science approval.

**Approval for a 199 cannot be rushed  
and is to be completed in the quarter  
before the project is begun.**

**Do not start the project without full approval  
and an add-code so you can register for the course!!!**

Students are limited to five (5) units per quarter and 30 units total for 98/99 and 198/199/199RA courses combined. A maximum of eight (8) units of 199/199RA may apply toward the English major.

To find faculty areas of specialization, visit the staff undergraduate adviser, or the faculty information sites on the department pages at [www.english.ucsb.edu](http://www.english.ucsb.edu). Talk to instructors whose interests correspond with the proposed project and, upon agreement, discuss pertinent readings and writing requirements. During the quarter for which the 199 is undertaken, meetings with the instructor meetings will be once a week for 1-2 hours to direct the research, reading, and writing.

UCSB DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
PETITION FOR ENGLISH 199: INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Perm. number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email/local telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Units to be applied: \_\_\_\_\_ (Dept norm is 4.0)

**To be filled out by the Undergraduate Staff Adviser:**

What is the overall GPA for preceding 3 quarters? (3.0 needed) \_\_\_\_\_

Is the minimum number of units completed? (84 needed) \_\_\_\_\_

Have at least 2 upper division English courses been completed? \_\_\_\_\_

*Exceptions to the above requirements to be made only with faculty sponsor, undergraduate chair, and/or College of Letters & Science approval.*

**To be filled out by Instructor and Student:**

a) What is the title of project? \_\_\_\_\_

b) Please provide a description of the program of study. List projected readings, bibliography, and writing assignments. (Continue on reverse side of this page if needed.)

- The Department norm for the required writing is 15 pages (approximately 4,000 words) for a 3-4 unit 199 courses. According to the standards set by the College of Letters and Science, "the 199 project is to be the student's closest experience to individual, original research at the graduate level." Inasmuch as this study is to be directed reading at an advanced level, it is reasonable to expect that the student will come to a coherent view of the material. Writing, therefore, should be more than a series of short papers. (See also Departmental Undergraduate Handbook)

c) Justification:

1) Does this course duplicate material available in a regularly scheduled course? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What programmatic purpose does this 199 course help the student achieve? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours per week which instructor gives to the direction of this project: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please note that there is a minimum of ten hours per week for a 4-unit course, and that this weekly workload should include at least one weekly hour-long meeting with the instructor.

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate Staff Adviser's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate Chair's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_