References:
Title 5 Sections 55230 et seq.

Independent Study
Independent studies are courses designed for independent motivated students to pursue intellectual inquiry outside of regularly scheduled course offerings. These are to be supervised by instructors, generally involving substantial, student-instructor interaction. Each course shall be initiated on an individual basis via an agreement between the student and an instructor.

These courses are not designed to substitute for other courses offered by the academic departments.

Enrollment shall be through courses numbered 249A (1 semester unit), 249B (2 semester units), and 249C (3 semester units). One unit of credit requires a minimum of 48 hours of lecture, study, or laboratory work.

Academic Standards
Academic standards applicable to courses of independent study shall be the same as those applied to other credit courses as appropriate at the District.

Procedures for Evaluation
Procedures for evaluation of student progress shall be in accordance with regulations established by the District. A grade report by an instructor on appropriate records bearing the student’s name for purposes of state apportionment shall certify the adequate and proper progress toward accomplishment of the course objectives is being maintained by the student.

Availability of Instructor
Independent study students shall have access to the instructor equivalent to access given to students enrolled in courses conducted by other instructional methods, including office hours.

Instructors are responsible for assisting the student in developing the proposal, granting instructor approval of the proposal, assisting the student in the independent study as necessary, evaluating the results of the study, and submitting the final grade to the Office of Admissions and Records.

Independent study courses may be repeated more than once for credit provided the same topic is not repeated. An independent study course cannot be used to satisfy core requirements unless specified by the department to a maximum of three (3) units.
Procedures for Approval of Independent Study

- Students must have completed 12 degree applicable credit units.
- Students must be in good academic and progress standing and have earned a cumulative GPA of 2.0.
- The Independent Study Contract must be completed by the student and approved by the instructor and signed by the department chairperson.
- Independent Study Contracts must be submitted to the Admissions and Records Office by the add deadline.

Students are limited to one independent study course per semester, six (6) units of independent study per discipline, to a maximum of twelve units overall unless specified by a department to obtain a local certificate.

Office of Primary Responsibility:  Office of Admissions and Records

Date Approved:  March 16, 2010
(Replaces portions of current College of Marin Procedure 4.0003 DP.10)