

**ROANOKE COLLEGE  
INDEPENDENT STUDY REQUIREMENTS  
FINE ARTS – MUSIC**

MUSC 405 - Independent Study ½ unit  
MUSC 406 - Independent Study 1 unit  
MUSC 407- Independent Study ½ unit

MUSC 420 – Senior Project ½ unit  
MUSC 421 – Senior Project 1 unit  
MUSC 422 – Senior Project ½ unit

Goals of the Independent Study

The purpose of independent studies is to provide students with in-depth studio and research experiences that go beyond the work possible in a normal music course. Independent study projects will involve a study of music that is more focused, researched, and explored than those studies created in other music courses. In some cases, they also provide students with training in an area or sub-discipline that is not offered in the department, widening students' exposure to a variety of views and approaches to making music. All music majors are expected to complete Senior Project in Music as part of their graduation requirements. Students must consult the music faculty during their junior year as part of the process of developing a suitable project. All projects must be presented to the public. See the Roanoke College catalog for more information (under Music).

General Independent Study Requirements

Independent studies are **reserved for advanced course work**. In order to qualify for the independent study, a student must have made significant progress toward the major or minor in Music. The student should have at least junior standing and must have departmental permission. A minimum GPA of 2.5 in the major at the time of application for the independent study is required.

Application Procedures

Student proposals must be carefully designed, in consultation with the proposed advising professor, early in the semester prior to that term in which the work is to be done. The first step in developing an independent study is to speak with your advisor about possible ideas for an independent study and advice on writing the proposal.

Proposals are generally one to two pages in length (300-500 words, double-spaced) and should be an edited, polished final draft. Proposals must be signed by the student, approved by the directing professor, and signed by the Fine Arts Chair before Final Examination Week of the semester prior to the term in which the work is to be done. Independent studies to be undertaken in the fall semester must be approved in the preceding spring; those in spring semester must be approved the preceding fall; those during summer terms must be approved the preceding spring.

## Guidelines for the Proposal

Format: All pertinent information should be included as shown below. Logical paragraphs should be used. A tentative bibliography should be included if the work requires research of this type. Carefully delineate the work and show expected results. Include any materials that might be helpful to the faculty, such as previous studies in music.

Suggested outline:

Proposal for a Music Independent Study/Senior Project in Music

Name

Term (in which work will be done)

ID #

Campus Box #

Title of Independent Study/Senior Project

Course number

MUSC 405 (½ credit), MUSC 406 (1 credit), or MUSC 407 (½ credit)

MUSC 420 (½ unit), MUSC 421 (1 unit), MUSC 422 (½ unit)

Paragraph 1: List courses (# & title) already taken in the Music Major

Paragraph 2: Outline or describe the project

Paragraph 3: Describe the expected final results; the skills and knowledge you expect to gain from the independent study

Paragraph 4: Provide a timetable or schedule of proposed contact hours with the professor, studio hours, and research time for the semester

Signature of Student/Date

Signature of Supervising Professor/Date

Signature of Department Chair/Date

Final Approval: clearance for registration will be given by the Chair of the Fine Arts Department.

### Project Deadlines and Evaluation

Completed projects must be submitted no later than the first day of Final Examination Week during the semester of the project. For creative work, a final written report must accompany the project. Where appropriate, documentation should be included. For a research project, papers are due at this time.

Final grading will be accomplished in the following manner:

- a. The directing professor will assign the Final Grade. At the directing professor's discretion, he/she may seek input from area colleagues in the determination of the Final Grade.
- b. Where appropriate, independent study projects may be performed or presented for the College community; students must present their senior projects.