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| --- |
| Your Name: Email:  When will you do your independent study (approx. dates): Summary (In less than 40 words: What do you propose to do?): |
| Practicum Advisor: Justin Latici (jlatici@mines.edu) Independent Study Director: ***Independent Study Directors*** *(typically LAIS or McBride faculty) provide intellectual depth by identifying readings, topics, concepts, and issues for students to consider as they pursue their research. They also serve as instructors of record who grade the students’ work and monitor completion.* |

**HNRS 405: Practicum** is an independent, experiential learning program that seeks to develop student skills and broaden their understanding of the socio-cultural context in which scientists and engineers work. Students are expected to complete work (including academic exercises, laboratory research, internships, and/or experiential investigations) that is comparable to a three-credit Honors course.

The **HNRS 499** **Independent Study Pathway** focuses on developing the student’s knowledge in the humanities and social sciences (e.g. of public affairs, policy, or the interface between science, technology, and society) through a directed research project, conducted in the U.S. or abroad. This track is well suited for those wishing to develop in-depth understanding of an issue that advances their intellectual or professional goals.

This **Practicum Agreement** clarifies the process for completing the McBride Practicum requirement via HNRS 499. Students should develop their study and research plans by working closely with the Independent Study Director, but this agreement should also be provided to the Practicum Advisor so McBride can track your progress. Students may fulfill all the requirements for the McBride Practicum by completing “HNRS 499: Independent Study” and earning a grade of B or better. To do so the student and faculty member must complete the Independent Study form located in the Registrar’s Office A-Z online list at <http://inside.mines.edu/Independent-Study-Registration>

**Submit this agreement** via an email to Justin Latici (jlatici@mines.edu) *and* to your Independent Study Director.

**TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES:**

In the right-hand column, enter the date by which you will complete each task. These are now your deadlines, which you are expected to meet. (Enter “complete” in right-hand column for applicable tasks**. As you meet each deadline, notify Justin Latici, who will track your timely completion.**

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| **BEFORE PRACTICUM** |  |
| **Task** | **Target Date** | **DEADLINE** (mm/dd/yyyy) |
| Submit this Practicum Agreement, including preliminary bibliography\* (below) | Semester prior to departure |  |
| Apply for Honors Enrichment Scholarship, if applicable | Consult McBride website |  |
| Office of International Programs paperwork and approval (for projects abroad)\* | Consult OIP |  |
| Complete the Independent Study form and submit it to the Registrar’s Office.<http://inside.mines.edu/Independent-Study-Registration> | Prior to Census Day |  |
| **DURING PRACTICUM** |  |
| **Task** | **Target Date** | **DEADLINE** |
| Research\* | See below |  |
| **AFTER PRACTICUM** |  |
| **Task** | **Target Date** | **DEADLINE** |
| Submit final research paper\* | End of semester for which you are enrolled in HNRS 499  |  |
| Exit interview or presentation | Coordinate with McBride Director | TBA |

**\* See additional instructions below.**

**ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Paperwork:

* *For research abroad*: Work with the Office of International Programs (OIP) to complete the required paperwork, immunizations, health insurance verification, ISIC card, etc. For additional information, see: <http://oip.mines.edu/Individual-International-Travel>

Preliminary Bibliography:

* In concert with your independent study director, prepare a preliminary bibliography of books, articles, and/or primary sources that you will use to begin your research project. The goal of this assignment is to develop your understanding of the broader issues that will inform your research. In other words, this bibliography is meant to be the *starting point* of your research; additional readings and sources will typically be required.
* You should compile your preliminary bibliography before submitting this research agreement. **List your preliminary bibliography at the end of this document below.**

Research Paper:

* To pursue this pathway, you must work with a faculty member who is willing and able to serve as an academic advisor for your research project. In most cases, your research should be attentive to the methodologies, concepts, and stylistic requirements appropriate to the field of your research (typically that of the independent study director).
* Write a major research paper (4000-5000 words) that analyzes an issue from the humanities and social sciences. It may be related to public affairs, policy, history, literature, communication, the interface between science, technology, and society, or other approved topic. Work with your subject consultant to identify a suitable body of primary and secondary sources (or to develop an appropriate level of field work), to refine your topic, and to develop your thesis and argument. Think of this as a research paper suitable for publication in an undergraduate honors journal.
* You may wish to consider presenting your research at the annual conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council, for which McBride may be able to cover expenses. The conference is typically in November, but proposals are due the preceding spring (~March). Contact the McBride director for details.
* In some cases, you and your Independent Study Director may wish to customize your plan for completing the independent study (e.g. doing something other than as directed above). You should explain those plans below and delineating expected deadlines.

**PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Using APA style, list below the preliminary bibliography for your research project:

**[Insert bibliography here!]**