Regulations for Independent Studies Courses

1. No student may take PHIL 399 to study subject matter already covered in a regularly offered course in Philosophy.

2. No faculty member may offer more than 9 credits’ worth combined of PHIL 399, PHIL 498, and PHIL 499 in any term. Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the Department Chair upon petition of the faculty member. The petition will explain how many students and how many credits the instructor plans to supervise, and how the workload will be handled. Documentation of the petition and the Chair’s approval of an exception must be forwarded to the LSA Curriculum Office.

3. Each independent study offering to each student must include a signed statement committing the student and faculty member jointly to reading, writing, or problem set assignments comparable on a per-credit basis to what is required in a typical 400-level philosophy course, plus 20 minutes per week per credit of individual contact time with the supervising faculty member, on average. (Students and faculty may jointly decide to distribute contact time unevenly across the term, as needs require.) The statement should attach a syllabus documenting required work and meeting expectations. Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the chair of Undergraduate Studies upon petition.

4. The signed statement, syllabus of required work, and all written work completed for credit must be retained in the Philosophy Department office for 7 years.