# <u>Application and Guidelines for Undergraduate Students to</u> <u>Register for Directed Studies</u>

# University of Detroit Mercy College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences



## **Purpose:**

A directed study (DS) is intended to provide a student the opportunity to conduct an in-depth examination of a topic that is not typically offered in a traditional course. A directed study is not intended to duplicate or act as a substitute for a required course. A DS course should demand a substantial project which is equivalent to an upper division course (3000-4000 level) in the department. The details of the work must be specified in the DS contract.

Students must **APPLY** for a DS by speaking to a professor and completing the forms including writing a justification of their interest and preparation. The application must be approved by the associate dean in the College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences. The dean's office will evaluate the application with no guarantee of approval.

## **Student Eligibility:**

- 1. Student has taken all regular courses offered that cover relevant background material for the project/topic.
- 2. Student has a minimum of a B (3.0) GPA.
- 3. Student must be in the major or minor in the department hosting the DS.
- 4. Student has accumulated at least 60 credits toward degree.
- 5. Transfer students must have at least 30 credits at Detroit Mercy before eligible.
- 6. Guest students are not eligible.

# **Time Obligation:**

- 1. Student should be prepared to spend a minimum of 30 hours for each credit hour registered.
- 2. A 3-credit hour course implies about 9 hours of work per week on the part of the student including time meeting with the instructor.
- 3. Student must meet with the instructor regularly with no less than one hour every other week.

#### **Limitations:**

- 1. May not be for Core Curriculum credit unless prior approval is obtained by dean's office.
- 2. May not be for a course offered in the same semester as the DS is requested.
- 3. Must be approved before the end of add/drop week which is the first week of courses for a full-term course.
- 4. If approved, students may not register themselves for DS courses. All DS courses require student, instructor, chairperson, student advisor, and dean's office approvals.
- 5. Student may take a maximum of 6 credit hours of DS with any one faculty member during their degree program
- 6. Students are limited to 3 credit hours of DS instruction in any one semester (Honor's thesis/projects are exempted)
- 7. Students are limited to 6 credit hours toward a minor.
- 8. Students are limited to a total of 9 credits of directed studies counted toward graduation.

# Circumstances where a DS course is not warranted:

- 1. Student doesn't meet the qualifications (above).
- 2. Student is unwilling to register for a regular course offering and therefore wishes to take the course under the guise of a DS course.
- 3. Student has not successfully completed all regular courses that cover the relevant background material.
- 4. The material in the DS course duplicates material covered in other CLAE courses.
- 5. Student chooses to lighten workload of a heavy course load.

# **Faculty Responsibilities:**

- 1. Faculty are limited to two independent DS per semester (excluding course conversions).
- 2. Faculty are required to regularly meet students taking a DS, at least ½ hour a week.
- 3. For administratively converted DS sections, faculty are required to meet per the originally scheduled time/day.
- 4. DS may not be granted when the course is already being offered in the same semester.

### **Policy Exclusions:**

- 1. Courses that were originally scheduled as traditional lecture courses but administratively converted to directed studies due to enrollment issues.
- 2. Research laboratories regularly offered as arranged by the department and dean's office.
- 3. In unusual situations (e.g., scheduling has not permitted a student to meet graduation requirements in a normal manner), the above circumstances may be waived by the dean's office).

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				ructor T0#	
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	DS R	<u>equireme</u>	nts and Du	ue Dates	
REQUIREMENTS**				DATE DUE	
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3)					
5)					
6)					
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Student's Signature				Date:	
_				Date:	
Instructor's Signature				Date:	
Department Chair's Signature					
Associate Dean's Signature				Date:	
-				1CV15CG 1U-2U-1/, 7/21/22, 1/27/24	



# **University of Detroit Mercy**Advising and Registration/Change in Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY TO ENSURE ACCURATE PROCESSING

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