Independent Study and Practicum Experience

Independent study is available to students in nearly all departments. For dietetics students, the course number is HNF 490, or it can be taken as an honors option under HNF 490H. Independent study allows students to explore interests in a particular area outside of a normal classroom setting. The professor helps with the exploration by guiding and offering expertise to the student. Overall, this experience can enhance an undergraduate program, experiences and references.

Students wanting to obtain professional experience in selected settings and organizations under faculty supervision may enroll in a 494 Practicum course. Students receive a pass/fail in 494 courses rather than a specific grade. For example, in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, students would enroll in HNF 494 and would work with specific faculty.

Meeting with a faculty member is the first step in the process of establishing an independent study or practicum experience. Once the student decides what area to explore and the faculty member agrees to sponsor, the independent study or practicum experience contract is made.