



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

OFFICE OF GRADUATE EDUCATION

**Proposal for Independent Research Credits**  
**October 29, 2019**

Independent Research Credit Titles:

- Effective fall 2019, registration for 3995, 4995, 5995, 6995 will be titled as Independent Research for all academic units. All academic units have been notified of this change
- Academic units do not need to submit the course proposal form for this change. The Office of the Registrar will update all course titles appropriately.

Registration for Independent Research Credits:

- While departments have the prerogative to advise or limit registration for independent research credits, the signature from the advisor on the [independent research form](#) will indicate that the student is approved to register for independent research credits (at whatever level is specified on the form) and requests to update transcripts to different independent research credit numbers will not be permitted.
- Units can further limit who can register for independent research credits by setting up prerequisite or college level restrictions that would need a department override for the student to register.
- For units who have an optional thesis, if a student register for independent research credits while working on a thesis and then later changes to the non-thesis option, requests to change the transcript to remove the independent research credits will not be permitted transcripts as it is an accurate reflection of what the student was working on at the time.

Grading:

- While academic units are permitted to leave independent research credits in-progress if they carry over in to subsequent terms per the [Grading Guidelines for Faculty](#), it is recommended that grades for independent research credits are entered at the conclusion of the quarter in which the student registered for the independent research credits. Waiting until the student graduates (typically when the student completes their thesis or dissertation) requires the Office of Graduate Education and Office of the Registrar to follow up with faculty to ensure all grades are entered and this often delay the student's certification for graduation.