

**College of Design**  
**Dsn S 490E**  
**DESIGN ENTREPRENEURSHIP INDEPENDENT STUDY AGREEMENT**  
Entrepreneurial Studies Minor  
Iowa State University

## **Policy & Procedures**

The pedagogical intent of the Entrepreneurship Independent Study Dsn S 490E is to provide an experiential learning activity for entrepreneurship studies minor students, supported by a faculty member from the student's home college, the College of Design.

1. The independent study must include a significant experiential learning activity (e.g., starting a business, writing a business plan for a business concept, an internship or co-op that incorporates entrepreneurial processes, etc.), and include some of the entrepreneurial processes as described below:
  - Opportunity Recognition: Ability to perceive and to act upon opportunities in the environment that others don't see; developing a set of skills that can be used to differentiate between an idea and an opportunity.
  - Opportunity evaluation = ability to use processes to evaluate an opportunity (e.g., feasibility analysis, market analysis) for the purpose of deciding whether or not to pursue the opportunity.
  - Innovation = creating new or novel ideas, offerings, processes, unique combinations
  - Creative problem solving = the ability to examine standard situations or problems in new ways
  - Mitigating risk = Being a calculated risk-taker; managing risk
  - Thinking and acting as a guerilla = Taking unconventional approaches to examining problems and developing solutions
  - Resource leveraging = the ability to assess and acquire necessary resources
  - Managing ambiguity and uncertainty = being able and comfortable to address problems in loose and ambiguous contexts
  - Implementation of change = the ability to create and manage change
  - Building a plan for an innovative concept = the capacity to create and build something from practically nothing
  - Entrepreneurial process = identify an opportunity; develop a business concept; assess the required resources; acquire the necessary resources; implement and manage; harvest the venture
2. The Dsn S 490E is used towards completion of the entrepreneurial studies minor.
3. All tenure/tenure track faculty in the College are authorized as Dsn S 490E faculty advisors. It is up to the faculty member to agree to or to decline to serve as a faculty advisor.
4. Students must complete the Entrepreneurship Independent Study Agreement, (attached), and return the signed copy to the Student Services Office, 297 Design. The office will make and distribute duplicate copies of the agreement. You may then register for the course with an add slip. It is expected that you register for the course the term the independent study is completed.
5. Employment and internships do not constitute, in and of themselves, a sufficient basis for 490E credit. The internship must be experiential in nature and incorporate entrepreneurial processes to earn credit towards the entrepreneurial studies minor.

# DESIGN ENTREPRENEURSHIP INDEPENDENT STUDY AGREEMENT

Entrepreneurial Studies Minor  
Iowa State University

Term  Year

Student Name  ID Number

Major

Course Number: DSN S 490E (Independent Study) Number of Credits:

Course Title:

Provide a short statement of two or three paragraphs (attach additional page if necessary) describing (1) the nature and scope of the project, emphasizing the experiential learning component; and (2) what the learning outcomes or products of this activity will be (e.g., written report, company presentation, etc.). In addition, please check below which entrepreneurial processes will be emphasized in this independent study (definitions of processes are on previous page).

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thinking & acting as a guerilla  | <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Leveraging      | <input type="checkbox"/> Innovation                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Problem Solving         | <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurial process  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigating risk                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunity Recognition          | <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunity evaluation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Building a plan for an innovative concept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Managing ambiguity & uncertainty | <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation of change |  |

**Signatures required for approval:**

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**Student** **Date**

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**Instructor** **Date**

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**Advisor** **Date**

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**Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, 134 Design** **Date**

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**Entrepreneurship Supervisory Committee Chair, 1200 Gerdin Business Building** **Date**

\* cc: Student  
Instructor  
Student file in Design  
Student file in Gerdin

\* Design Student Services Office, 297 Design, will make copies.

After approval, the student registers for the course by submitting a *Request for Schedule Change* form to the ISU Scheduling Office, 10 Alumni Hall.