

Department of Geography  
GEOG 291: Independent Short Project in Geography  
1 credit  
Course Outline

**Calendar Description:** Project related to any geographical field, enabling independent study under the guidance of qualified Geography faculty. Students are responsible for identifying a supervisor for their project and acquiring approval for their project topic at the beginning of term.

**Guidelines**

This course permits students to pursue an independent research project under the guidance of a faculty member in the Department of Geography. Projects for GEOG 291 should involve *original research* rather than simply a review of published scholarship. (The department recognizes that the nature of original research varies by subfield.) As a 1-credit course, students are expected to devote 45 hours total to the course, including work in the field, lab, and/or library, meeting with the supervisor, and writing.

Projects must have a gradable product at the end, such as a written report that can be evaluated by the supervisor. Such a report is in addition to any other requirements agreed upon by the student and supervisor.

Students should be cognizant that faculty members have limited time, and that supervision of an independent project requires time and effort beyond their normal teaching duties. Consequently, only tenure-stream faculty and faculty lecturers should serve as supervisors. (If you are not sure about this, ask the Undergraduate Advisor or the UAC Chair.)

2. Complete and obtain the appropriate signatures on the GEOG 291 Student-Supervisor Agreement Form and return it to the Department of Geography.
3. Submit work to the supervisor by the agreed deadlines.

### **Responsibilities of the Supervisor**

Supervisors have general responsibility for guiding the research project, including guidance with relevant scholarly or scientific literature, guidance on methodology/techniques, provision or approval of data sets, field protocols, access to laboratory facilities, and the like. Supervisors are responsible for:

1. Directing the research project and ensuring that it meets departmental standards. e /P A/CID 11BDC Sp
2. Ensuring appropriate Research Ethics Board (REB) compliance. *Please note that students may not submit REB applications directly; they must come from the supervisor. If the*