DESCRIPTION: This course is for adequately prepared students doing their own independent research or assisting a faculty member in all aspects (design, data collection and data analysis) of a research project. Course content, assignments, meeting times and grade requirements are arranged with a U of M psychology faculty member “advisor.” For each credit hour received, the student will complete 45 hours of work (approx. 3 hours per credit, per week for 15 weeks). This course counts toward the Upper-Level Writing Requirement and Methods-Based Lab Requirement for Psychology and BCN majors taken for 3-4 credits. Course credit is not retroactive and must be prearranged.

APPROVAL STEPS:

1. Student Arranges Research, Credit, Hours, Expectations with Psych Faculty member

2. Create a proposal (1-2 pages), including:
   a. Student’s previous research experience
   b. Describe the research and its purpose.
   c. Explain the student’s role in this lab and how he/she plans to integrate the data.
   d. Describe the final paper – must include introduction, lit review, methods, results, discussion and
      Conclusion: 5-7 pages per credit is required.
   e. Summarize the timeline for the project and include deadlines.
   f. Note how often, when and where the student will meet with the faculty member.

3. Submit the proposal to the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Chair and the Committee for
   Student Academic Affairs for approval via the Independent Study Application.

   Note: Once the proposal has been reviewed, approval or request for revisions will be emailed to the
   student and faculty member. If any comments or suggestions are made by the Chair and/or Committee,
   they will be communicated to the student.

4. Register for the course (the Psych SAA will process a permission once the proposal has been
   accepted).

DEADLINES: All proposals must be submitted to the SAA at least one week prior to the regular add/drop
deadline (this deadline is the first add/drop deadline and usually occurs within three weeks of the first day of
classes).

GRADE: A letter grade (A-E) will be issued for this course. A passing grade will not be posted until the
student has submitted a copy of the final project to the SAA Office (psych.saa@umich.edu). This copy
should be submitted no later than the last day of scheduled classes.

NOTES: We request that students check with a Psychology Advisor to determine if/how this course will
count for their major plan. This course may be repeated for a total of 6 credits. Only one section of this
course may be taken within a single term.