

How to Prepare a Directed Study Proposal

What is a Directed Study?

A Directed Study is the one-hour required course for each honor student to work one-on-one with a professor of choice in a subject not offered in the regular curriculum.

It is graded S or U. You and your professor actually create the course of study! Ditch the catalogue!

Must my Directed Study be connected to my Senior Thesis?

No, nor does it need to be connected to your Major or minor. You may study whatever you wish. You are under no obligation to connect the two endeavors of Directed Study and Senior Thesis. However, often, students use the Directed Study as a readings course to prepare for the final thesis, gaining either a wide overview of their subject or exploring a detailed part of the bigger project.

How Do I Start and Finish the Directed Study Proposal Process?

1. Meet face-to-face with a professor with whom you wish to study. The goal of your visit with the professor is to narrow the angle and approach you wish to take to your subject.
2. Fill out the Directed Study FORM from the Honors Website as your signature form.
3. Attach the following one-paragraph proposal, composed with these facts:
 - A centered title that is both NARROWED and also EXACT (No one-word titles)
 - A centered by-line with your name
 - A single paragraph that covers the following:
 - a) Focus what you are studying in the first sentence.
 - b) Explain your method (For example, how will you pace the project? Will you read one book over the whole semester? Will you read two books? What will happen each time you meet—will you turn in a chapter summary? Will you discuss the reading? Will you conduct an experiment, meeting in the lab? Etc.)
 - c) Mention when and where you will meet.
4. Propose what your final product will be (EXAMPLES: a report of an experiment, an annotated bibliography, a paper to submit to an undergraduate symposium, a presentation for Scholars Day, a grant application, an art project, a case study, an analysis of field work, a script, a field trip)
5. Include a bibliography of material covered (articles, books, films, scores, etc.)
6. Sign up for a 10-minute **Q&A with the Honors Council**, inviting your sponsoring professor to come with you to **Berry Bible 126**.

Bring a **HARD COPY** of your proposal to Dr. Pemberton's office (BBB 101) by the deadline stated.