

SPECIAL STUDIES: PROCEDURE AND PROJECT STATEMENT

Philosophy: A special study is undertaken to further and deepen exploration in one area of the curriculum.

Graduate students who wish to undertake independent tutorials for advanced study in the area of theatre scholarship, acting, directing, playwriting, scenography, production, or voice and movement may do so by applying for Special Study with a faculty member who specializes in that area. A Special Studies project earns three credits and normally should be completed in a single term. Special Studies may be undertaken only after completing first-year required courses 7110 (Script Analysis), 7120 (Dramaturgy Classic), 7130 (Dramaturgy Modern); additional (elective) prerequisites for each area are listed on the Application for Special Studies.

All students wishing to register for Special Studies must do so according to the following procedure:

1. The student makes an appointment with the Department Chair well in advance of pre-registration to present orally his/her proposal for a Special Study.
2. If the project appears to be appropriate for Special Studies credit, the Chair determines and consults the faculty member most appropriate to supervise and grade the project and notifies the student of that faculty member's agreement to serve as advisor.
3. The student meets with the assigned faculty advisor to outline a plan of study following the Proposal for Special Studies.
4. The student independently prepares the Proposal according to the template and submits it to the faculty advisor for approval. The advisor may consult with the Department Chair and/or require revisions and resubmission as necessary.
5. Upon signatory approval of the faculty advisor, the student submits the Proposal to the Chair for final approval by the Faculty.

NOTES: The final application must be approved by the end of registration for the term in which the Special Studies project is to be undertaken. A student may not register for Special Studies until final approval from the Chair.

Villanova University Theatre Department

Application for Special Studies

This form should be attached to your Project Statement for Special Studies.

Name: _____

Project Title: _____ Year/Semester: _____

Indicated below are the areas for Special Studies and the prerequisites necessary for application.

Special Studies (select 1)

Prerequisites (Indicate semester and year completed)

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|
| All Special Studies | - | Script Analysis/7110 _____ | Dramaturgy/7120, 7130 |
| _____ Acting/9230 | - | Principles of Acting/7100 _____ | Characterization/8120 _____ |
| _____ Directing/9270 | - | Directing/8170 _____ | ASM* _____ SM* _____ |
| _____ Playwriting/8190 | - | Playwriting/8190 _____ | |
| _____ Production/9200 | - | Production Practicum/7200 _____/7210 _____/7220 _____ | |
| _____ Research/9210 | - | Dramatic Vision and Form/7140** _____ | |
| _____ Scenography/9260 | - | Scenography/8160 _____ | |

Summary Description:

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Faculty Advisor: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Chair: _____ Date: _____

* For Special Studies Directing, a student must have served as an Assistant Stage Manager in the first year of study and as a Stage Manager in the second year of study.

** 7140 is required only for Special Studies in Research.

Special Studies Proposal Template

Name

Date

One sentence statement summarizing the topic of the special study.

Example:

Independent Study Proposal with Dr. Valerie Joyce: An independent study exploring significant relationships between gender and performance, celebrating the topic of women in theatre through plays, scholarly writing and performances across cultures.

Independent Study Proposal with _____ (Professor's name):

Develop a concise but condensed paragraph explaining why you wish to engage in this special study. Propose a syllabus that includes a course description, course objectives, a working bibliography, required equipment, a course calendar and projects in which the special study will culminate, i.e., a paper, portfolio, a performance piece, etc.

For more information and examples please contact the Program Coordinator.