







Starting your Independent Study

<p>Bare necessities</p>  <p>Guide to I.S I.S proposal form Ethics checklist (On Sole Page or Registry Services) Extension request form (shouldn't need; but there is one) Be registered on 2 I.S. modules Book & attend Interim meeting with Supervisor</p>	<p>Time</p>  <p>10 hrs per week! (2 modules) Keep connected: do something each week Set tasks/actions by working backwards from deadline Allow extra time for unseen Know yourself Allow for some procrastination Be realistic: all day study usually means 3 or 4 hrs max.</p>	<p>What am I being asked to do?</p>  <p>Plan/conduct research Critically evaluate own and the work of others Communicate findings Form conclusions, make recommendations Work independently Work on a lengthy/sustained project Use academic writing style</p>	<p>Order/process</p>  <p>Introduction: state topic, question, methodology used, materials, outline of chapters. Literature review, (not always your work, findings, discussion (this is the main part of the study), conclusion, references, bibliography, appendices,</p>
<p>Literature reviews</p>  <p>Should demonstrate wide reading but crucially the <i>ability to apply it</i> Provide theoretical context for your work Enable a discussion of other relevant research, gaps, themes, similarities etc. Should demonstrate why your topic is important <i>Don't just describe the books/journals: it's their usefulness/significance that is important</i></p>	<p>Writing it up</p>  <p>Write a dissertation plan Write regularly Back your work up Ignore order: write each section as info. becomes available Just write: make corrections to spelling, grammar later Don't underestimate how much time it takes to create a final version Write references as you go not as a separate task at the end Use correct format: font, word count, line-space etc.</p>	<p>Problems</p>  <p>Topic too large: reduce by restricting topic e.g. by gender, location, time, etc. Lack of focus: stick to question Over-involvement: it's 10,000 words: restrict resources/ideas +++words: use appendices/bullet points, omit superfluous info ---words: get additional resources to enable a fuller discussion Waiting for resources/clients: order/contact early on in process Procrastination: allow for a bit; but do some work each week</p>	<p>Support and submission</p>  <p>Supervisor (max 4 hrs) Meetings with Supervisor are your responsibility, go prepared with what you want to discuss & follow their advice Academic Liaison Librarian (for sources/referencing advice) Writer in Residence (style/structure of writing) Study skills website 3pm Thur of wk 12 of last semester in which your 2nd I.S. module is registered 2 bound copies</p>

