

SHHS Language Arts Independent Study Contract

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Title of Course _____ Supervising Teacher _____

In order to obtain approval for an English independent study, students must be juniors or seniors and submit a thoughtful, detailed proposal to the administration. The supervising teacher is expected to provide guidance on the proposal with the student. The following components of the proposal should be typed on a separate piece of paper. This form should be attached with appropriate signatures below.

- 1. In 400-500 words, identify the learning goals of this independent study.** What prompts your interest in this topic? What kind of prior knowledge do you have of the subject? What essential question(s) does this study seek to answer? What themes (NOT topics) of interest does this study propose to explore? What works will be read and evaluated? How does this study go beyond the scope of the conventional curriculum?
- 2. With an independent study, you are expected to complete an electronically accessible portfolio of assessments (e.g. Google docs), which is to include no fewer than four assignments per quarter, and a final presentation to staff members that will represent a final exam score (20% of grade).** Define the proposed assessments and due dates, your teacher's expectations for those assessments, and how they will be graded. The teacher should attach any additional assessment information, including assignments, rubrics, and grading policies. All written materials must be submitted to Turnitin.com, and you agree to share access of written work via Google docs with your cooperating teacher throughout the writing process.
- 3. Students taking an independent study are expected to report to the library during the assigned class period every day, unless given express permission from the administration and a parent/guardian.** Students may be required to receive direct instruction from the librarian regarding plagiarism as well as research and presentation strategies. Students are encouraged to use the librarian as a resource continuously. A log of student teacher interactions should be kept. These may include direct and electronic encounters.
- 4. All students will receive a letter grade based upon two marking periods and a final presentation.** Students will uphold the standards of integrity and honesty as outlined in the student handbook throughout all phases of the independent study. Student presentations will occur at the culmination of the semester to a team of five faculty members that may include the department chair, guidance counselor, the librarian, the supervising teacher, and an administrator.
- 5. What class are you dropping to accommodate this course?**

6. What semester / block is this to occur?

Supervising Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Guidance Counselor _____

Department Chair _____

Independent Study is:

Approved

Returned for modifications

Denied

Signature _____