

**Proposed Catalog Changes
Independent Study of Idaho
Effective Summer 2020**

B-4. Independent Study Courses

A student enrolled in the regular program is permitted to carry independent study courses for college credit only with the prior written approval of his or her academic ~~dean~~[advisor](#). Credit for correspondence-study courses will not be accepted without such approval.

Rationale: Deans already refer students back to their advisors, as advisors generally know the students' situations. Making this change will reduce approval time for students.

E-4. Computing Grade-Point Averages

Grades are converted by assigning the following number of points per credit for each grade: A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1, F-0. In computing the grade-point average, neither credits attempted nor grade points earned are considered for the following: courses graded I, IP, P, S, W, WU, N, CR, NC, ~~correspondence courses~~, continuing education units, credits earned under regulation I, or courses taken at another institution. Credit earned at non-U.S. institutions is recorded as pass (P) or fail (F), except for some courses taken through an approved study abroad program.

The UI considers only the *Institutional* grade-point average official. Although both institutional and overall grade-point averages are printed on transcripts, the overall grade-point average (which includes transfer courses) is informational only. To calculate a grade-point average divide the *Quality Points* (course credits times the points assigned for the grade earned) by the *GPA Hours* (course credits attempted *not* including grades of I, IP, P, W, WU, or N). *Earned Hours* indicate the total number of semester credits successfully completed (course grades of A, B, C, D, or P earned). Grades of P are included in *Earned Hours* but do not earn any quality points; grades of F are included in *GPA Hours*, but not in *Earned Hours*.

J-2. Residency Requirements

A student must earn a minimum of 30 upper-division credits in UI courses. No credits awarded for alternative credit opportunities (see regulation I) ~~or independent study~~ can be counted among these 30 UI credits. Study abroad and student exchange credits may be counted toward this requirement with prior approval by the student's academic department and dean.

J-9. Academic Minors

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J-9-c

Transfer credits may be applied to a minor, however, at least 9 credits of those completing the minor's requirements must be in UI courses. Similar to the residency requirements for a baccalaureate degree in J-2, no credits awarded for ~~independent study~~, bypassed courses (see I-2-d), credit by examination (see I-1-a, I-1-c, or I-2-a), College Level Examination Program (CLEP – see I-2-b), or experiential learning (see I-2-b) can be counted among these 9 UI credits. Study abroad and student exchange credits may be counted toward this requirement with prior approval by the student's academic department and dean.

Rationale: The proposal is that University of Idaho-sponsored ISI courses count as in-residence courses for the following purposes: meeting upper-division in-residence requirements, replacing a previously earned grade in the course, and providing quality points.

Removing the barriers to applying upper-division UI-sponsored ISI courses to UI degree completion will facilitate timely graduation. This change will also allow students to use UI-sponsored ISI courses to retake a course to improve their grade or GPA. Thus, it will provide students an additional option for achieving course success through UI-sponsored ISI courses and will facilitate the transfer of UI-sponsored ISI courses to other institutions. Certain institutions (e.g., Penn State University) view courses without quality points as not having been taken for credit.

Non-University of Idaho-sponsored courses should fall under transfer courses, thus automatically excluding them from similar consideration. If necessary, in-/exclusionary language could be included such as "non-UI sponsored independent study courses" in regulation J-2, for example.