

## **Graduate Directed Individual Research or Reading Courses**

TAMU-CC College of Education and Human Development

(Last revised July 1, 2020)

Generally, graduate students are expected to enroll in regularly scheduled classes. In special circumstances, a directed study course may be taken by a student with approval of the individual faculty member and the Associate Dean of COEHD. The directed study must also be approved by the Dean/Associate Dean of the College of Graduate Studies (CGS). CGS approval ensures course satisfies a student's filed degree plan for matriculation from the university. This approval is needed to get credit for the course and to ensure that the course does not duplicate other courses in the student's program. An approval from needs to be completed before registering for this class. The following guidelines should be followed:

The course is an advanced course to be used to satisfy elective requirements in an area where electives are not offered in a particular semester or where a regular course does not exist which covers this unique material. The underlying reason should be to provide the student a strong program and to expedite his/her graduation. Directed studies cannot be used to satisfy foundation course requirements or to avoid taking required classes.

The work expected from the student should be at least the equivalent to a regular graduate class and a paper of a meaningful project is required for the class. It should not be an easier substitute for a scheduled course.

To avoid any misunderstanding, expectations should be spelled out clearly to the student from the beginning. The student should be required to check periodically with the instructor to report progress on the project.

The instructor should be a full-time faculty member in the department who normally teaches advanced graduate classes.

To initiate the process, the student checks with one of the College's full-time faculty members to find his/her willingness to supervise the study and completes the form with the help of the faculty member. (A copy of the form can be obtained from the Director of Master's Programs or found in COEHD Handbook section 5.02 (Graduate Directed Individual Research or Reading Agreement). Then, the form is given to the Department Chair and forwarded the COEHD Associate Dean and then to the CGS Dean.