

**Common Course Outline**  
**MCOM 291-293**  
**Independent Study: Communication and Media Studies**  
**1-3 Credits**

**Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**MCOM 291-293 – Independent Study in Communication and Media Studies** is a course in which the advanced student engages in an individual research and/or action project in the field of communication and media studies, collaboratively planned with and supported by a supervising faculty advisor. Requires supervision by an appropriate faculty advisor including meeting at least once per week.

**1-3 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** Nine credits in the area of concentration and/or permission of program coordinator.

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to

1. create a project that aligns with interests related to future career goals in communication;
2. develop project timeline/plan in collaboration with faculty advisor;
3. use a project plan in the completion of the independent study; and
4. identify alternative opportunities for research in communications.

**Major Topics**

- I. Development of communication skills
  - A. Verbal and non-verbal communication skills
  - B. Collaborative professionalism
  - C. Ethical and professional behavior
  - D. Time management and organizational skills
  - E. Applied subject matter knowledge
- II. Cooperative learning environment
  - A. Educational responsibilities
  - B. Applied subject matter knowledge
- III. Collaboration in learning environment
  - A. Coordination with faculty advisor
  - B. Collaboration with faculty advisor
- IV. Documenting the independent study experience
  - A. Independent study portfolio

- i. Project submission for the student newspaper *The Connection* and/or comprehensive paper explaining independent study.
- ii. Professional resume and cover letter

### **Course Requirements**

Course requirements will be determined by the faculty advisor, but will include weekly meetings and the following:

### **Grading/exams**

- Portfolio of work completed, including project plan and timeline
- Completion of project components according to project plan timeline
- Final project posted on *The Connection*

Date revised: 2/22/2019