

**CENTER FOR MEDICINE, HEALTH, AND SOCIETY**  
**INDEPENDENT STUDY (MHS 3850) APPLICATION FORM**

Why do an Independent Study?	Provides an opportunity for a student to develop a topic and to pursue a subject in depth. Research may include an analysis of primary sources, an analysis of secondary sources, literature review, clinical research, laboratory research, or community engagement.
Required Academic Product	A typical academic product is a research paper of <b>5 written pages per 1 credit hour</b> . (double-spaced and 12-point Times New Roman) The content of the product should be negotiated with the instructor. <b>Final product should be submitted to instructor and emailed to <a href="mailto:mhs@vanderbilt.edu">mhs@vanderbilt.edu</a>.</b>
Focus/Scope of Study	Even in the case of clinical or laboratory research, a substantial portion of the student's work <b>must</b> focus on the social and/or cultural dimensions of health and/or healthcare.
Eligibility	MHS major (has not already completed 6 hours of MHS 3850) MHS minor (has not already completed 3 hours of MHS 3850) JR or SR Standing Overall GPA greater than 3.0
Can MHS 3850 be repeated?	May be repeated for credit if there is no duplication in topic, but students may earn a maximum of 3 credit-hours per semester. Maximum of 6 credit hours total for majors and 3 credit hours total for minors.
Degree Application	MHS 3850 counts towards the electives requirement for the MHS major or minor. No AXLE credit for MHS 3850.
Faculty instructors	Only MHS and MHS-affiliated faculty may be instructors for MHS 3850. <i>In situations where the student is engaged in laboratory or clinical research, a non-MHS may serve as the student's day to day supervisor.</i> However, the MHS or MHS-affiliated instructor will assign the student's grade based on assessment of the agreed upon research product(s) and input from the day-to-day supervisor.
Deadline to apply	Completed/signed forms must be submitted to MHS, preferably <b>by the end of the registration period in the previous semester, but no later than the first day of class</b> . If you do not meet these deadlines, your request may not be processed in time for you to be enrolled for that semester.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ MHS GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

MHS 3850 credit hours previous earned: \_\_\_\_\_

MHS 3850 credit hours currently being requested: \_\_\_\_\_

MHS/MHS-Affiliated Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_

Other instructor (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Research Type:

\_\_\_ Basic Sciences

\_\_\_ Social Sciences

\_\_\_ Humanities

\_\_\_ Clinical Research

\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing below, you affirm that you have read and understand the requirements stated above.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return this form along with the [A&S Vanderbilt Independent study form](#) to Calhoun 300 or email both forms to [mhs@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:mhs@vanderbilt.edu).

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

Confirm Student Hours \_\_\_\_\_  
(Initial)

Revised Oct. 2017