Course Description: Independent study courses are integral elements of a student’s doctoral education program. These are doctoral-level courses designed by a student with the advice of an instructor. It is a planned study to supplement preparation in area of specialization. To be applied to the student’s program of study, it must be approved in advance by your advisor, the program’s director and finally the chair of the department.

Instructions: Students registering for an independent study must have an electronic authorization from the faculty of record, director and chair of the department in which the course is offered. To attain electronic authorization, you first will meet with your advisor to see if the independent study is a good fit for you, then to identify a faculty of record. You may work with your advisor and/or faculty of record to help you with completion of the PLOs and CLOs and proposal. Once these two are completed, fill out this proposal form and submit it to the faculty of record for approval and sign off and then, to the director for approval. The director will carry it forward to the Office of the School of Education for Chair approval and processing by the Academic Department Associate (ADA). The ADA will notify the Office to contact you to let you know you are ready to enroll. It is recommended you complete this process early in the term prior the independent study being offered.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO) and Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

PLO 1: Students will be able to utilize systems thinking and sustainable practices in the development and delivery of education programs.
   a. CLO - articulate systems thinking concepts and global sustainability practices
   b. CLO - develop a plan implementing sustainable practices within their personal and professional practice

PLO 2: Students will be able to interpret and explore how global environmental change affects the lives of future generations
   a. CLO - articulate and integrate concepts of global environmental change and its influence related to sustainable systems into their personal and professional practice
   b. CLO - explain to the public the effects of global environmental change and needed intervention required to create sustainable systems

PLO 3: Students will be able to identify the social, cultural, economic, and political human systems that create a sustainable society
   a. CLO - discern the key characteristics of the social, cultural, economic, and political influences
   b. CLO - use knowledge to develop a meaningful and long-term plan

PLO 4: Students will be able to consider diverse audiences and integrate inclusive practice into sustainable environments
   a. CLO - articulate an inclusive vision that addresses all people in society
   b. CLO - differentiate inclusive practices in order to address the needs of multiple constituents

PLO 5: Students will be able to implement practices that enhance sustainable education and community environments through shared vision
   a. CLO - gather information from multiple sources in order to formulate a shared vision among constituents
   b. CLO - develop a framework for implementation of the shared vision, including action steps to achieve that vision

PLO 6: Students will be able to demonstrate leadership to challenge existing norms, and create a holistic and ecological model for decision making as it relates to educational and community systems
   a. CLO - challenge current structure and practice and extend current thinking in order to envision and implement a new structure for education and community sustainability
   b. CLO - implement a decision-making model that garners input from stakeholders and develops sustainable systems

PLO 7: Students will be able to develop a research study that supports the principles of sustainability
   a. CLO - identify gaps or horizons in research and practice as part of developing a research study that advances the field of sustainability through education, community, and business systems
   b. CLO - conduct a quantitative and/or qualitative study that explores the topic identified in their study

PLO 8: Students will be able to use and analyze data for informed decision making in professional practice
   a. CLO - interpret data, draw conclusions, and disseminate data in a way that can be understood by the general public
   b. CLO - interpret data to infer conclusions about current sustainability practices as they relate to professional practice.
### EDSU 996 Independent Study Proposal

#### Identify 1 to 3 PLO’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcome #</th>
<th>Program Learning Outcome Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLO #: 8</td>
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#### Proposal Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name:</th>
<th>Faculty of Record:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student ID:</td>
<td>Email Address:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Location(s): n/a</td>
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<td>Term (Summer, Fall, Spring)</td>
<td>Year: 2020</td>
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Write an abstract. This overview of the independent study should include the general theme/topic; relevance to the student’s program of study & sustainability, main objectives, activities, procedures to be followed. (No more than 3 to 4 sentences)

Tentative reading list and/or authors if known.

What is your reason for completing this independent study?

What is your expected timeline for the independent study? Include a start date and end date.

Describe the type of commitment that you are making to the independent study. For example, a good rule of thumb is for you to think about your commitment for 35 -40 hours of work not including homework. Please explain your plan at this time.

Nature and frequency of contact with the faculty of record.

How do you plan to communicate with your faculty of record? Do you have any expected challenges and how will you address these challenges?

What are the intended deliverables and/or any stakeholders that may be impacted this independent study?

What are the Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)? (see above and list 2 to 5) The learning outcomes are (bullet point a cut and paste from CLOS)
Explain how you will connect this independent study to your research and/or how will you reflect or move your learning forward as part of your doctorate program. Expect some journaling in Edublog to help you with this reflection piece.

Identify assignments and/or tasks that will be required as part of this independent study that meet the SLOs and CLOs. Include paper or other products that will be prepared. Explain how each task will be graded holistically or collaboratively.

**APPROVAL SIGNATURES** – signature authorizes approval and indicates understanding and commitment to comply with and complete all items as outlined on this agreement.

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*Please feel free to reach out to the Director of your EdD program or advisor at any time. We are looking forward to the exciting work you are doing and welcome any feedback or ways we can support you in your efforts!* 😊