



1. Will this new course affect a current program?
If "yes", has a Program Revision Form been submitted concurrently?

Yes No
 Yes No

2. Teaching Department:

McGill School of Environment

4. Campus
(Downtown, Macdonald,
Off Campus, Distance
Ed, Other – specify)

Downtown, Macdonald

5. Effective Term of Implementation
(Ex. Sept. 2004 = 200409)

Term: 200509

3. Administering
Faculty/Unit:

Science

6. Course Title (Limit 30 Characters) - required for all courses:

Independ. Study - Environment

7. Course Number(s)
Indicate course number & the number of terms spanned:
(tick all that apply)

Subject/course number: ENVR 490

Course(s) Span:
 1 term
 2 consecutive terms (D1, D2)
 2 non-consecutive terms (N1, N2)
 3 terms (J1, J2, J3)

8. Course Title to Appear in the Calendar (optional)
(Limit 59 characters):
Note: This can ONLY be an expansion of word(s) abbreviated in the
30 character course title above.

Independent Study in Environment

9. Credit Weight
(or CEU's for non-credit CE courses):

3 credits

10. Schedule Type(s): Not Scheduled
(Enter all that apply – see form, STVSCHD in Banner for a complete list.)
(i.e. Lecture, Labs, Tutorial)

	Hours per Week	Hours per Week	Hours per Week
E Research Course	3		
Total Hours per Week:			3
Total Number of Weeks:			13

11. Projected Enrolment:

Less than 5 per semester.

12. Prerequisite(s) (Courses or Tests)

Specify course number(s) or name(s) of test(s):

Permission of instructor. Restricted to U3 MSE students.

If the student does not have a prerequisite should web registration be blocked?

Yes No

If "Yes" complete A and B:

A. Indicate minimum grade or test score(s) the student must attain in prerequisite course(s) or test(s):

B. Can the prerequisite course(s) or test(s) be taken in the same term as this course?

Yes No

13. Corequisite(s) Course Number(s):

Specify course number(s) and title(s):

If the student does not register for the corequisite in the same term should web registration be blocked?

Yes No

14. Consultation Reports Attached

Yes N/A

15. Additional Course Charges (must be approved by the Fee Policy Committee)

Description of Fee
(e.g. screening fee)

Amount

16. Requires Teaching, Physical, or Financial Resources Not Currently Available (attach explanation)

Yes No

17. Other Information (specify):

18. Course Description

(as it will appear in the Calendar [maximum 50 words]):

(N.B. Faculty of Medicine must append complete course outline)

Interdisciplinary research projects related to environment, enabling independent study under guidance of qualified MSE staff in areas outside the scope of individual departments.

19. Supplementary information to appear in the Calendar in addition to the course description.

Such as: registration restriction(s), prerequisite(s), corequisite(s), equivalent course(s), contact hours, enrolment limitations, language of instruction etc.

Please enter the information as it should appear in the calendar notes.

Normally open only to U3 MSE students. Proposed topic and method of evaluation must be approved by the Director one month before the beginning of term. Contact the Program Coordinator for information.

20. Rationale

MSE students often wish to undertake independent research projects in their final year. The MSE Core course ENVR 401 Environmental Research involves group work and generally a project not of the student's choosing. The existing reading courses ENVR 485 and ENVR 585 Readings in Environment do not accurately reflect the nature of many of these projects, particularly those with a large field component. This course will also enable MSE students to receive credit for internship work, where appropriate.

(Note, although the administration of the MSE rotates between the Faculties of Arts, Science, and Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, all MSE courses are offered by the Faculty of Science.)

INFORMATION FOR ADMISSIONS, RECRUITMENT & REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

To be completed by the Faculty

Slot Course: Yes No

Thesis Component: Yes No

To be completed by ARR

CIP Code

For Continuing Education Use

CE Admin. Unit :

CE Non-Grant Courses:

Flat Rate: CdnFlat Rate: Yes N/A

21. Approvals:

Routing Sequence	Departmental Meeting	Departmental Chair	Other Faculty	Curric/Academic Committee	Faculty	SCTP
Name	Colin Chapman	Nigel Roulet				
Signature						
Date						

Departmental Contact Person (name/phone/email)

Pete Barry, Program Coordinator; Tel 4306; Fax 1643; pete.barry@mcgill.ca

AC-04-95

ENVR 490 Independent Study in Environment

3 credits

Course Outline

Calendar Description

Interdisciplinary project related to environment, enabling independent study under the guidance of qualified MSE staff in areas outside the scope of individual departments. Proposed topic and method of evaluation must be approved by the Director one month before the beginning of term. Contact the Program Coordinator for information.

Normally open only to U3 MSE students, or students in the Diploma in Environment

Guidelines

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

If you are unsure how to cite your research sources, please see your supervisor for guidance.

This course is intended to allow students the opportunity to undertake an independent research project under the supervision of a McGill Faculty member. This research should be of an interdisciplinary nature, and should not be something that could be carried out in any one department at McGill. Disciplinary research should instead be undertaken as independent studies within the relevant department.

Since this is a 3 credit course, you are expected to do approximately 117 hours of work, including work in the field, lab, and/or library, and writing.

You are expected to have a strong base of knowledge in your chosen research area before you undertake the Independent Study course, therefore normally only U3 students are eligible. You are expected to work independently but with strong direction from a supervisor who has agreed to participate before the research or study begins.

Projects must have a gradable product at the end. There must be a written report that can be evaluated by the supervisor. This is in addition to any other requirements agreed upon by you and your supervisor. **A copy of the final report must be submitted to the MSE Program Coordinator at the end of the project.**

Remember that Faculty members are busy people. Before you ask someone to supervise you, have a clear idea of your project, at least in principle. A one-page outline is recommended. If funding is required (e.g. for travel), be prepared to find your own source(s).

Instructions for the student

1. Identify a McGill Faculty member or Faculty Lecturer who is willing to supervise your project. This person does not have to be in the MSE. A good place to start your search is with the research interests and contact information for MSE and Associate Faculty Members, which is available at www.mcgill.ca/mse - click on "Research and Faculty". Even if you are working with a non-McGill organization, you still need someone from McGill as a supervisor.
2. Fill in and sign the Agreement below, and return it to the Program Coordinator, Pete Barry, at least four weeks before the beginning of term.
3. Attach any Ethical Review statements, if required. (See the Guidelines below.)
4. Ensure that your work is submitted to your instructor by the agreed upon date, or your grade will not be submitted in time (particularly important if you are graduating!)

Responsibility of the Supervisor

The MSE greatly appreciates the effort and time required to supervise a student in an independent project.

The supervisor must be a McGill Faculty Member or Faculty Lecturer. Depending on the nature of the work involved in the project (fieldwork, analysis of existing data, laboratory work, literature review and analysis) supervisors are responsible for providing or approving data sets, field protocols, access to laboratory facilities and guidance with relevant literature. Supervisors are also responsible for directing the progress of the project, commenting on first drafts of the project report and final evaluation of the completed project.

In the case where more than one student collaborates on a given project, each student must have an independent research question or set of objectives and each must submit an independent project for evaluation.

All projects must conform to the McGill Policy on the Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Human Subjects (See: <http://www.mcgill.ca/rgo/ethics/human/>). Research projects and/or research instruments which directly involve the participation of **human subjects** must be reviewed by the MSE and/or McGill University Ethics Committee. This includes survey questionnaires.

This course should only be used where the research project cannot be carried out as part of a departmental independent study (too interdisciplinary, no such departmental course, or the departmental course is restricted to departmental students).

The project supervisor is responsible for submitting the grade before the deadline for that semester.

ENVR 490 Independent Study in Environment – 3 credits
Supervisor-Student Agreement

To be submitted to the MSE Program Coordinator at least two weeks prior to the beginning of term.

Instructor Name:

Affiliation (department):

Instructor Signature:

Date:

Email:

Student Name:

ID number:

Program (and Domain):

Email:

@mail.mcgill.ca (McGill email address only)

Signature:

Term of Project (eg. Fall 2004):

Research Project Title:

Project description (approx. 50 - 100 words)

Please describe the research aims and the research methodology to be used, and the location where the project will take place. Include justification why this project cannot be undertaken in a departmental independent study course. Attach any ethical review statements, if needed.

Method of Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on the basis of excellence with regard to these areas:

1. methodology and analytical skills in empirical research
2. knowledge of research
3. literature regarding the specific topic
4. organization and presentation of research
5. findings and critical reasoning skills.

Depending on the nature of the project, more weight may be placed on one of the first two areas. Note that grades are due by the deadline set by the Faculty of **Science** for the semester this course is registered for.