

S.J. QUINNEY COLLEGE OF  
LAW Law 7971 DIRECTED  
RESEARCH

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

Student ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

Professor: \_\_\_\_\_ Research Proposal:

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Credit Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Grading Basis: Pass/Fail \_\_\_\_\_ Graded: \_\_\_\_\_

Professor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Dean Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Directed Research

### a. Objectives of Directed Research

Directed research enables the student to pursue a depth of knowledge in a discrete subject tailored to the professional and intellectual interests of the student. Students who desire to explore a particular aspect of a subject regularly offered as a course in greater depth than course coverage would ordinarily permit or pursue a subject that is not available in a regularly offered course may do so through a directed research program. Supervision by a full-time member of the College of Law faculty is required, or by a full-time faculty member in cooperation with (1) an auxiliary faculty member, (2) a faculty member from another college at the University of Utah, or (3) a faculty member of another university.

### b. Requirements and Criteria

(1) No single semester directed research project may be undertaken for less than 1 credit hour, nor for more than 3 credits hours. However, a student may register for a two-semester directed research project of up to 6 credit hours with a single project proposal. No student may count more than 6 credit hours of directed research toward satisfaction of the J.D. requirements. (A student wishing to pursue directed research in excess of the maximum limits is free to do so; however, only the first 6 credit hours will be counted toward graduation. The grade and credit in the excess hours will be indicated on the student's transcript and will be used for the purpose of computing grade-point average.)

(2) Directed research may not be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course that the student has not taken, even if the regularly scheduled course is full, nor may it be used as a mechanism for teaching assistance or for research assistance absent independent educational value otherwise consistent with this policy. A directed research project cannot fulfill the College of Law skills requirement, or consist primarily of skills-based rather than scholarly work product.

(3) No student may undertake more than one directed research project in a single semester.

(4) Prior to registration for a directed research project, the following requirements must be met:

(i) The student shall submit a written statement of thesis to the supervising faculty member that describes the scope and content of the project and the criteria to justify the credit to be granted.

(ii) The supervising faculty member shall sign the statement of thesis to indicate approval of the project described and the credit to be awarded on completion.

(iii) The statement of thesis with signed approval of the faculty member shall be submitted to the Registrar and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for approval. Approved projects shall be submitted to the Register and placed in the permanent file of the student at the College of Law.

(5) While no absolute criteria for directed research projects are possible or desirable, faculty and students shall comply with the following guidelines in formulating and approving directed research projects:

(i) A substantial and scholarly paper reflecting approximately 50 hours of research or study, writing and consultation with faculty for each credit hour of directed research is expected.

(ii) Several written analyses of specific problems may be an appropriate substitute for a single paper. Legal research need not be confined to library research, but may include empirical research or study. Where appropriate, the supervising faculty member may use substantial tutorial discussion in lieu of research, but may not dispense with the requirement of a scholarly written product.

(6) Directed research may be either graded or on a credit/no credit basis, as determined at the outset by the supervising faculty member.