



## VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

### REQUEST BY STUDENT TO TAKE LAW 490 INDEPENDENT READING & RESEARCH

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_

**4 cr. hrs. maximum during one's law career with a maximum of 3 cr. hrs. in any one semester.**

I request approval of the following project: (describe briefly)

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of credit hours: (1.0/2.0/3.0) \_\_\_\_\_  
(4 cr. hr. limit during one's law career) (circle one)

Fall/Spring/Summer 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Letter grade: \_\_\_\_\_

S/U grade: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Faculty Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_ **Print Name of Faculty Sponsor**

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Associate Dean

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

**According to Bulletin regulations, a student on academic probation may not take Course 490 for a letter grade.**

**This approval form must be completed and submitted to the Registrar at the time the student registers for the course.**

# Independent Reading & Research Policy

(Adopted by the Faculty on 10/28/98)

1. Independent Research and Writing, from one to three credit hours, is to be a scholarly writing experience for our students.
2. Both the writing and research is to be done independently.
3. The project will be chosen by the student and will be proposed to and approved by the supervising faculty member before registration.
4. There will be an initial draft and a final version. The initial draft will be submitted to the supervising faculty and will be subject to heavy commenting. This will aid the student in improving research and writing skills — the goal of the course.
5. The guidelines for paper length are intended to be flexible but should reflect adequately the credit hours sought by the student.
6. The following are suggested:
  - a. For 1 hour credit —  
Paper length: 15-25 pp., including appropriate footnotes
  - b. For 2 hours credit —  
Paper length 25-35 pp., including appropriate footnotes
  - c. For 3 hours credit —  
Paper length 35-45 pp., including appropriate footnotes