

## IMI-M: Independent Coursework Guide

The IMI-Master program includes two modules named Independent Coursework (IC). Each module consists of 6 ECTS credits, which represent 180 hours of work. According to the plan, one course is completed during the second semester and one during the third semester of the program. If you are extending your studies, you may take both in the same semester, and it is possible (but not advisable) to complete one in parallel with your master's thesis.

The learning goals for the module are:

- The students learn how to independently explore a topic area, either by participating in a self-study program or by conducting a research project or by producing a prototype or product of some nature.
- The students extend their competence in the area of self-organized learning.

What does this mean?

It means that you come up with an idea for what you want to do as a project, and find an IMI professor willing to mentor you. All of the IMI professors are available for mentoring these projects. You should contact them as early as possible, at best the semester before starting your project in order to discuss what goals are acceptable. The professors will explain what work products such as reports or time sheets will be expected for you to produce by the normal grading deadline, which is the first day of the second grading period of the semester. Each professor may have individual requirements.

Once you agree with the professor on a topic, you must register with LSF for the appropriate IC that you need, either IC1 or IC2. Don't panic: All registrations will be rejected at first. When the registration period is over, the professors will accept for grading all registered students who have a topic approved with them. It is not possible to register for an IC after the registration period is over. If you register and don't hand in any work products, you will be graded as failing the course.

Don't lose sight of your project during the semester just because there is no regular class! You should expect to spend 10 hours a week on your project, if you are working during the semester, or 4 ½ weeks full-time if you are conducting the project during the semester break. You can attend the office hours of your professor, or make extra appointments, to present the progress of your work. You will present one of your ICs during the Master's Seminar that you attend parallel to writing your thesis.

You can use your ICs to explore subject areas that might end up being part of your final thesis. Or you can complete a project that you always wanted to do: if it is in any way IMI-compatible, you may be able to obtain credit for your work. If you wish to take an E-Learning unit or a course at another university that is otherwise not offered as part of the IMI program, it is possible if a professor agrees that this is appropriate

If you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to contact an IMI professor!