



Approved Online Course Provider

BYU Independent Study

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NCAA High School Code: 450312

Student information privacy policy: <http://is.byu.edu/site/about/ferpa.cfm>

OSPI Approval

Approved as an Online Course Provider since 2012-2013.

Student Performance and Demographics

Data for school year: 2014-2015

Teacher-to-student ratio: 1:59

Course completion rate: 93%

Course pass rate: 87%

Overview

BYU Independent Study is a nonprofit online educational program that offers more than 550 online affordable courses—university, high school, middle school, and free noncredit—to students throughout the United States and in over 90 foreign countries. Enrollment is open to anyone, anytime of the year, with a full year to complete most courses with a high level of service and support for student success.

Our courses are designed to be a blend of teacher interaction, interactivity and student-paced instruction. They include one-on-one mentoring; teacher-led activities; course orientations provided by the teachers; and meet certain state/organizational requirements for instructor interaction and student guidance. Our world language courses allow students to practice their language with students, teaching assistants, and the instructor. Our courses provide virtual learning supported by the use of diverse videos, computerized labs, interactive activities, instructor tutorials, and animated clips. They also include advanced features and productivity tools, including a student homepage, access to student grades, and a student progress calendar.

BYU Independent Study students register online or by phone for a course and can start immediately. After submitting all course assignments, students take a final exam with a certified proctor or testing center in their area.

All of our online courses are taught by certified instructors and have the quality and rigor needed to prepare students to meet your school's graduation requirements. A course-reading packet is also available for students that wish to have a paper version of the content.

Course Offerings

Subjects:

- AP Courses
- Business
- Character Education
- Communications
- Computer Science
- Language Arts – English
- Life Skills / Student Development
- Mathematics
- Social Science –History, Government, Contemporary Issues, Self-Guidance
- World Languages

Levels:

- Advanced Placement
- College
- Credit Recovery
- CTE and Elective Credit
- Honors
- Remedial
- Standard

Students

BYU Independent Study's courses include both teacher interaction and self-paced instruction. Students access course materials online and submit all assignments electronically. The course's readings are also available in a PDF format, but students can order a hard copy from BYU Independent Study if they want an all-inclusive readings packet. All courses offer active mentoring of each student's progress, and most provide free tutoring. A certified proctor at the local school or in a testing center administers the final exam. Student and technical support are available by phone, email, live chat, or mail.

These courses are for students who:

- •Need to take a course from an OSPI-approved provider.
- •Want interactive mentoring, instruction, and guidance.
- •Can benefit from increased structure, monitoring, and motivation.
- •Want to be able to set a target completion date with assignment due dates.
- •Have an observer, for example, like a counselor or parent that will closely monitor their progress through the course.

Student-Teacher Contact Requirements

BYU Independent Study teachers are available to students throughout their entire course experience. The teachers have weekly office hours where the student can set up an appointment for one on one discussion and mentoring online. Teachers also respond to students' emails on a daily basis, and grade any teacher-graded assignments within three days. The courses also have teacher led activities and course orientations at the beginning of each course. Free tutoring is also available for students in most subject areas. Students set up appointments online and are tutored online or by phone. In

addition, student support is available Monday – Friday from 7am until 4 pm PST/PDT, by phone, email, live chat and mail.

Courseware Platform

BYU Independent Study uses a learning management system called BrainHoney. This system is web-based and works on all major browsers and operating systems without any installation. The student-teacher activities take place via a web-based video conferencing tool that requires no installation. While we don't require students to use webcams in all courses, our teachers do use webcams, and we highly encourage students to use them. Some courses also include streaming audio and video. We recommend broadband Internet access. Other features vary by course; unique system requirements are rare, but are listed in the course catalog description when applicable.