



EDAD 695 – Research Methodology Spring 2014

Instructor: Julia Ballenger, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Office Location: Young Education Building North #110
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-12:00, 1:00-3:00
Cell Phone: 936.554.9300 and ClassLive: Tuesday 7:30-8:30 pm; Google + Hangout, Tuesday 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Spring 2014 EDAD 695 Hangout)
University Email Address: julia.ballenger@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Required Texts:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC.

Babbie, E. (2013). *The practice of social research* (12th or 13th ed.). Wadsworth Cengage Learning: United States.

Creswell, J. W. (2009). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (3rd ed.). Los Angeles, CA: SAGE.

Optional Text

Lunenburg, F. C., & Irby, B. J. (2008). *Writing a successful thesis or dissertation: Tips and strategies for students in the social and behavioral sciences*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of research methodology to include basic concepts employed in quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research designs in addition to computer applications for research. This course meets the requirements for a Level I research tools course. Prerequisite: Doctoral status or consent of the instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Develop a knowledge based on research procedures.
2. Identify characteristics of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research design procedures.
3. Apply the principles and procedures related to standardized measurement.
4. Review ethical guidelines in conducting research and for the protection of human subjects of research projects.
5. Develop research questions based on previous research literature
6. Define research problems and structure appropriate purposes for the research study associated with such a problem.
7. Identify appropriate data collection instrument or protocol.
8. Select an appropriate research design for various research problems including experimental, quasi-experimental, non-experimental quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods designs.
9. Define the concepts for analysis of data in descriptive and inferential statistics and designs.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This is an online class. All instructional activities and assignments will be delivered and received online using the eCollege learning media platform.

Grading

- A = 113-125
- B = 100-112
- C = 88-99
- D = 75-87
- F = 74

Module Assignments: All assignments must be completed in order to earn an A for this course.

Module	Assignment/Points	Discussion Points
Module 1	Assignment 1 - 20	No Discussion
Module 2	Assignment 2 - 20	No Discussion
Module 3	Assignment 3 - 10	Discussion 3 - 5
Module 4	Assignment 4 - 20	Discussion 4 - 5
Module 5	Assignment 5 - 10	Discussion 5 - 5
Module 6	Assignment 6 - 15	Discussion 6 - 5
Module 7	Assignment 7 - 10	No Discussion
Total Points	105	20
Grand Total Points		125

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following technological resources will be required.

- Access to a computer with Internet access (high-speed preferred)
- Document Productivity Software (Microsoft Office preferred)

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with Internet Explorer and Google Chrome.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

eCollege Access and Log in Information (7.1)

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to:
<https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, please contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-12:00, 1:00-3:00

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library

Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Scholarly Expectations:

All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level.

Dropping the Class:

At times, we become overloaded or have unplanned events that demand our attention. If you need to adjust your schedule by dropping this course, please follow university procedures to officially drop the class. Please do not just disappear. If you fail to officially drop the class, a grade must be assigned at the end of the course.

Late Work:

Late work is not accepted, **unless prior approval received by the instructor**. Points may be deducted. You will have plenty of notification to complete course assignments. If you know you are going to be out of town and unable to access a computer, plan ahead. See course semester calendar at the bottom of the syllabus.

Incomplete Grades:

Per university policy, you must visit with the instructor, develop, and sign "A Plan for Completing the Grade of X" before you may receive an incomplete for the course. The reason for such requests is limited to "circumstances beyond student's control which prevented student from attending classes during Finals Week or the preceding three weeks." You are notified that the deadline date for all plans is not to exceed one

semester. Failure to fulfill plan requirements within the specified time will result in a course grade of F.

Academic Honesty:

Please see the TAMU-C Graduate Catalog and the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2010) for the discussion of academic honesty. Academic honesty is especially important when it comes to citing/quoting sources in research papers and assignments. Students are responsible for reading this material and becoming familiar with the conventions for acknowledging sources of information. Consequences for academic dishonesty range from failing a specific assignment to expulsion from the University.

"Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty, which includes, but is not limited to plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments) and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material."

(Texas A&M University –Commerce, Graduate Catalog)

EDAD 695 COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Module 1	Assignments	Due Date
1/30 – 2/16	1. Introduce yourself in the Student Lounge and upload a picture. See module 1 for information to discuss in the student lounge.	By Thursday, 2/06 Midnight
	1a. Begin searching the library for peer review articles to read and analyze in developing your Literature Review (Chapter 2 Outline) and in writing the literature review.	
	2. Submit Quantitative Design Report (Use peer reviewed articles (e.g., original source of author) to dropbox	By Sunday, 2/16 Midnight
Module 2	Assignments	Due Date
2/17 – 3/2	3. Submit Qualitative Research Design Report (Use peer reviewed articles (e.g., original source of author).	By Sunday, 3/2 Midnight
Module 3	Assignments	Due Date
3/3 – 3/16	4. Submit Literature Review (Chapter 2) Outline (include headings and subheadings) to the Discussion Thread.	By Thursday, 3/13 Midnight
	4b. Submit Literature Review (Chapter 2) Reference list with at least 10-12 primary source (original research) references and at least 2 secondary source (discussion of someone else's research) references to the Discussion Thread.	
	5. Discussion Thread - Provide constructive feedback to at least 2 of your classmates	By Saturday, 3/15 Midnight.
	6. Submit Literature Review (Chapter 2) Outline (including headings and subheadings), and the Reference list in the Dropbox	By Sunday, 3/16 Midnight
Module 4	Assignments	Due Date
3/17-4/6	7. Submit Literature Review (Chapter 2) Outline (including headings and subheadings) to Discussion Thread.	By Thursday, 4/3 Midnight
	7b. Submit Review of Literature (10-15 pages) and References (10-12) to the Discussion Thread.	
	8. Discussion Thread - Provide constructive feedback to at least 2 of your classmates	By Saturday, 4/5 Midnight
	9. Submit Final Literature Review (Chapter 2) Outline and Final Literature Review in Dropbox	By Sunday, 4/6 Midnight
Module 5	Assignments	Due Date
4/7-4/20	10. Submit Research Topic, Problem Statement, Research Questions and or Hypotheses Statements (if quantitative study) to Discussion	By Thursday, 4/17

		Midnight
	11. Provide constructive feedback to at least 2 of your classmates	By Saturday, 4/19 Midnight
	12. Submit Final Paper to Dropbox	By Sunday, 4/20 Midnight
Module 6	Assignments	Due Date
4/21 – 5/4	13. Submit Method of Procedure, Selection of Sample Design, Data Analysis(Treatment of Data) to Discussion	By Thursday, 5/1 Midnight
	14. Provide constructive feedback to at least 2 of your classmates	By Saturday, 5/3 Midnight
	15. Submit Final Paper to Dropbox	By Sunday, 5/4 Midnight
Module 7	Assignments	Due Date
5/5 – 5/8	16. Submit IRB Paper to dropbox	By Thursday, 5/8 Midnight