SYLLABUS
COUN 695 Research Methods
Spring 2013 2014
Monday 7:20-10:00

INSTRUCTOR:
Stephen J. Freeman, Ph. D.
Professor
Texas A&M University—Commerce
College of Education & Human Services
Department of Psychology, Counseling & Special Education
Commerce, TX  75429-3011
E-Mail:  sfreeman@tamuc.edu

Office Hrs
Mon. 5:30-7:00 (Commerce)
Tue 3:00- 4:30 (CCHE)

CATALOG DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE:
Coun 695 Research Methods
An overview of research methodology includes basic concepts employed in
quantitative and qualitative research methods. Includes computer
applications for research. Meets requirements for a Level I research tool
course.

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Research Methodology expands beyond the research foundation established
doctoral students’ Master-level research course(s). In addition, Research
Methodology is intended to support the development of students’
understanding of research methodology, promoting their ability to construct
sound empirical investigations and become critical consumers of research.

COURSE OBJECTIVES include, but are not limited to, the following.
Research Methodology students should have learned and/or be able to
demonstrate the following dispositions, knowledge, skills, and attitudes:
1. Understand the nature, purpose, and types of educational research
2. Understand the procedures for reviewing research literature and develop
   their skills to construct a sound initial literature review
3. Develop the necessary skills to construct an empirical investigation that aligns with ethical and legal practices (Institutional Review Board, IRB)
4. Understand sampling procedures and procedures for selecting and administering measurements in research
5. Understanding concepts and procedures relating to research design develop their understanding of diverse data collection methods in educational research across disciplines
6. Develop their understanding of diverse research designs in education across disciplines (e.g., quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods)
   a. Quantitative Research Designs
      1. Non-experimental Research Designs
      2. Descriptive Research
      3. Causal-Comparative Research
      4. Correlational Research
      5. Experimental Research Designs
      6. True Experimental Research
      7. Quasi-Experimental Research
      8. Single-Subject Research
   b. Qualitative Research Designs
      1. Case Study Research
      2. Phenomenological Research
      3. Ethnographic Research
      4. Historical Research

CACREP (2009) Accreditation Standards Addressed in COUN 695:
   1. Research and Scholarship
      E.2. Understands qualitative designs and approaches to qualitative data analysis
      F.1. Demonstrates the ability to formulate research questions appropriate for professional research and publication.
      F.2. Demonstrates the ability to create research designs appropriate to quantitative and qualitative research questions.

REQUIRED TEXT(S) AND/OR READING(S)

ATTENDANCE
Attendance is mandatory. More than 2 unexcused absence will result in you being dropped from the class. The natures of this course demands that all students be present for every class session and actively participate in discussions. Students are responsible for all information disseminated in class (even if the student is absent).

ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS:
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA; 20 U.S.C Section 1400 et seq.), the American with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA; 42 U.S.C., Section 12101 et seq.), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794 et seq.) requires the University of Texas A&M Commerce provide “reasonable accommodations to any individual who advises us of a physical or mental disability.” Students wishing to receive some instructional accommodation because of a documented disability should meet with the instructor to discuss accommodations. Please arrange a meeting with me at your earliest convenience. 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

CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC HONESTY
"All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Polices and Procedures, Conduct) “Graduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work.” (See Section A13.12, Academic Honesty, A&M-
Commerce Procedures.)

UNIVERSITY CLOSING DUE TO WEATHER
Check http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/ regarding class cancellations. Also, KETR radio on 88.9 FM and television channels 4, 5, and 8 (channel 7 for Tyler & Longview Area).

COURES REQUIREMENTS

Courses Quizzes
Complete IRB training
Class Participation & Attendance
Final exam

Course Quizzes

The quizzes will cover material from assigned readings. A quiz may consist of multiple choice and/or true/false questions. The quizzes will be given at the beginning of each class. If a student is tardy or absent from class, he or she will be unable to make-up the quiz.

GRADING SCALE:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
F = Below 70

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

1/26  Introduction & Orientation to the Course
      Review Syllabus & Course Expectations

Readings for next class:

2/2  Epistemologies of Research Inquiry
      Ethics in Human Subjects Research
Readings for next class:

2/9 Research Process

Readings for next class:

2/16 Research Methods

Readings for next class:

2/23 Research Data: Tests and Self-reports

Readings for next class:

3/2 Research Data: Questionnaires and Interviews

Readings for next class:

3/9 Research Data: Observations and Content Analysis

Readings for next class:

3/16 Spring Break

3/23 Quantitate Research: Non Experimental Casual Comparison

Readings for next class:

3/30 Quantitate Research: Correlational

Readings for next class:

4/6 Quantitate Research: Experimental Design

Readings for next class:

4/13 Quantitate Research: Quasi-experimental Design

Readings for next class:

4/20 Qualitative Research

Readings for next class:

4/27 Qualitative Research

Readings for next class:

5/4 Evaluation and Action Research

5/11 Final Exam