



EDAD 698.01W Research Methodology COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer I and II, 2015

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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Lawrence-Lightfoot, S., & Hoffmann, D., J. (1997). *The art and science of portraiture*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Creswell, J. W. (2013, 3rd Ed.). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches*. Los Angeles, CA: SAGE

Bogdan, R. C., & Biklen, S. K. (2007). *Qualitative research for education: An introduction to theories and methods*. Boston, MA: Pearson.

Course Description

This is a research tools course. Using the foundation of qualitative research approaches such as: the sociological/anthropological roots of qualitative research. The knowledge and skills from this course will assist students in understanding how the problem statement should be aligned to the purpose statement and methodology of the research study, in selecting proper qualitative methods, in coding data and identifying cultural themes and patterns as a basis of all thick descriptions, and allow students to pursue qualitative research methods/design within the general framework of the course time line. Students will develop a conceptual framework from the literature reviewed to formulate research questions and a research design that emerges from the framework. The development of quality qualitative dissertation proposals is critical to conducting qualitative

research, and the understanding of qualitative methodologies enables the leader to use this way of knowing to gather data in the natural setting of a campus, school district or other entity to improve organizational and human performance.

Student Learning Outcomes

The purpose of the doctoral program is to produce a graduate who has developed breadth of vision, a capacity for interpretation, and the ability to carry out critical investigations. The doctoral student is expected to gain many new concepts, zeal for adding to the sum of human knowledge, and developing the ability to conduct original research and to think clearly and independently. The student must also develop the professional competencies necessary for giving application of knowledge in the essential areas of human and public interest. Guidance toward extended reading and research is an integral part of graduate study. To assist students in achieving the stated purposes of the doctoral program, the following student learning outcomes have been developed for this course. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Develop an understanding of and uses for qualitative data collection methods.
2. Understand how qualitative research procedures compare to quantitative procedures.
3. Be able to select appropriate data collection and analysis methods.
4. Design and conduct a qualitative study.
5. Examine ethical research issues.
6. Demonstrate how to move from research idea, to research implementation, to the analysis and reporting of data.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods Activities Assessments

Performance Expectations

This is a doctoral standing only course. Therefore, performance evaluations need to fit with the purpose of the doctoral program and the expectations for the doctoral student stated earlier. To that end, the following student expectations for this course have been generated.

Qualitative Study (65% of grade). Following instructor approval, conduct a qualitative study. Interview at least five people in person and tape record

the individual sessions; the sessions should each last at least 1 hour. Prepare an article-length paper (20-25 pages with abstract, not including title page, references, or appendices) that adhere to the publication guidelines of the approved journal.

The article will include the following sections: introduction, review of literature, methods, data collection, data analysis, conclusions, findings, recommendations for further research, summary, and references. Occasionally, journals will ask for submissions of less than the length required for class. In that instance, follow class page length guidelines. Use Times New Roman font, 12-point type, APA 6th edition format, and one-inch margins. Do not include excessive, long quotes.

All interview questions and transcribed interview responses with names and identifiers removed will be included as appendices. Be prepared to discuss your progress in discussion threads. Make sure you do not include extra spaces in the header/footer. Make sure there is no automatic spacing between sections and paragraphs. If you turn in a paper less than the required length, be prepared for a substantial point reduction that will be applied before the grading rubric is used

Late work will not be accepted unless you have received prior approval from the professor. This assignment is not intended to include work from other courses with a couple of pages of new information added. You may use a few pages of your own literature review; all other information should be original.

Turnitin will be used for all submitted work. Plagiarized work will earn a grade of F.

The following activities must be submitted and approved before you can Turn in your journal article.

- Journal/Manuscript Submission Criteria
 - Each student will locate a peer-reviewed journal that accepts submissions of the topic/genre of your qualitative study
 - Qualitative Study Proposal
 - Prepare and submit your study proposal
- Interview Questions
- Develop Interview Questions for your participants based on your research topic and research questions.
- IRB Application (Mock)

- Complete and submit IRB paperwork including informed consent documents and interview questions.

Student Learning Outcome: Students will design and conduct a qualitative study and be able to select appropriate data collection and analysis methods.

Assessment Method: Your study will be graded using a Qualitative Study Rubric provided by the instructor.

Discussion Board Participation (15% of grade). Participate in two discussion boards about your assignments and reading.

PowerPoint Presentation (20% of grade). The final exam will consist of a PowerPoint presentation that will be due during the last week of class.

Student Learning Outcome: Students will demonstrate how to move from research idea, to research implementation, to the analysis and reporting of data.

Assessment Method: Your presentation will be graded using a PowerPoint Presentation. Rubric provided by the instructor.

GRADING

You must complete all assignments to earn an A in this course.

Late work will not be accepted. There are no provisions for late work. While the final course grade is the sole judgment of the professor, the following scale will be used as a guide.

Grading Scale

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|--------------------------------|-----|
| Manuscript Submission Criteria | 5% |
| Qualitative Study Proposal | 15% |
| Interview Questions | 5% |
| IRB Application | 5% |
| Discussion Boards | 15% |
| Article | 35% |
| PowerPoint Presentation | 20% |

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|---|--------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |

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|---|-------|
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - speakers or headphones.
- Depending on your course, you might also need a:
 - webcam
 - microphone

For courses where interactive tools are used, like Voice Thread or ClassLive Pro, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at:
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - Adobe Reader
 - Adobe Flash Player

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.
- For additional information about system requirements, please see: <https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>.

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

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

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can't log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on *'Live Support'* on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the *'Tech Support'* icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

Note: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511
2. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number
4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

Internet Access

An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at <https://leo.tamuc.edu>.

Learner Support

Go to the following link [One Stop Shop](#)- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.

Go to the following link [Academic Success Center](#)- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

This is a 100% online class. All instruction and assignments are delivered using the **eCollege** learning media platform. In order to minimize confusion and repetition, I like to communicate with students through my e-mail address, which is Julia.ballenger@tamuc.edu You may also call me via 936.554.9300.

Another way to interact with me is during my Pearson LearningStudio Virtual Office. You may have questions about course content or course procedures and assignments. I will send an e-mail during the first week of class to announce the day and time of my Virtual office time

Another way I communicate with students is through PearsonLearningStudio Announcement. **Please periodically review new announcements within this eCollege course home page for updated information pertaining to this course.**

Course Specific Procedures

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.

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.

Late work will not be accepted unless you have received prior approval from the professor.

Turnitin will be used for all submitted work. Turnitin is an Internet-based plagiarism-prevention service created by iParadigms, LLC. This program is used to check the documents for unoriginal content. The results can be used to identify similarities to existing sources.

Continued use of plagiarized work will earn a grade of F.

University Specific Procedures

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

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of*

Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR