Primary Dissertation Mentor: Ava J. Muñoz, Assistant Professor
Office Location: EDN 116
Office Phone: 903-886-5756
Office Fax: 903-886-5507
Office Hours: Virtual Daily and by appointment

University Email Address: ava.munoz@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:
No textbook required.

Course Description:
EDAD 718 Doctoral Dissertation (3 - 12 semester hours) A candidate must present a dissertation acceptable to the student’s advisory committee and the Dean for Graduate Studies and Research on a problem in the area of specialization. To be acceptable the dissertation must give evidence that the candidate has pursued a program of research, the results of which reveal superior academic competence and a significant contribution to knowledge.

Student Learning Outcomes:
EDAD 718 Doctoral Dissertation is intended to provide a guided experience in the writing of the dissertation project. The Shell will address the following dissertation project sections.

The Course Shell will provide resources for writing:
- The IRB;
- Chapter One
- Chapter Two
- Chapter Three
- Chapter Four
- Chapter Five

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS
This is an online course shell and some obvious technological resources will be required. Access to a computer with
- Internet access (high-speed preferred)
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word preferred)

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from eCollege (and all other university emails) will go to
this account, so please be sure to check it, regularly. Conversely, you are to email me via the eCollege email system or your myLeo email as our spam filters will catch yahoo, hotmail, etc. and I will not check for your email in spam.

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

**eCollege Technical Concerns:** Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by sending an email directly to helpdesk@online.tamuc.org. You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511, or through the Online Chat by clicking on the "Live Support" tab within your eCollege course.

**Course Concerns:** If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact your instructor via email, through the "Virtual Office," or during office hours (scheduled upon student request).

**Other Questions/Concerns:** Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department relating to your questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**

**Participation & Communication:** I expect each of you to be active and thoughtful participants within the learning environment (eCollege) and your learning community. You are to expect the same of me. This includes completing the extensive readings related to individual research proposal topics and participation in proposal revision activities (submission of individual draft sections, etc.).

1. Email is the best way to reach me as I check it daily. A reply will be sent within 12 hours depending upon the time your message was received. Please do not send me panicked last minute emails with the word HELP!!!!!!! in the subject line.

**University Specific Procedures**

**Campus Concealed Carry**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to ([http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf)) and/or consult your event organizer. Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.
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.

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.

**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).

**COURSE GRADING**

A grade of S (Satisfactory), U (Unsatisfactory), and I (Incomplete) can be assigned for the course. Students receive a grade of I until the dissertation is complete.