COURSE INFORMATION

Materials—Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Resources Required


One HIED dissertation completed on this campus.

Resource Recommended

A guide for preparing the dissertation and/or proposal.

Optional and Supplementary Resources


Course Description: This course is a forum for the search of knowledge and understanding of contemporary and historical issues concerning education. The student will demonstrate his/her competence in using systematic research procedures through preparation of a doctoral proposal.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to
1. Demonstrate an understanding of quality dissertation work. Specifically, the student will be able to
   1.1 Evaluate a completed dissertation.
   1.2 Demonstrate the process of developing and writing the dissertation proposal: Chapters 1-3.
2. Develop Chapter 1 of a dissertation proposal. Specifically, the student will be able to
   2.1 Develop and write problem and purpose statements.
   2.2 Develop and write hypotheses and/or research questions.
   2.4 Formulate the design of the planned study.
   2.5 Complete the remainder of Chapter 1
3. Develop Chapter 3 of a dissertation proposal. Specifically, the student will be able to
   3.1 Expand upon the method of procedure section from Chapter 1.
   3.2 Ensure that all of the procedures (i.e., design, instrument selection, sample selection, data collection, and data analysis) are explained in DETAIL.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of major weaknesses that plague students during the proposal writing process. Specifically, the student will be able to
   4.1 Identify weaknesses in his/her own writing.
   4.2 Develop his/her writing skills.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods/Activities/Assessments

Readings in the course resources as well as additional outside reading. This reading is necessary to serve as a basis for proposal assignments, threaded discussion, and presentations.

Participation in threaded discussion.

Critical review (via written presentation to class in Doc Sharing) of a recent HIED dissertation completed on this campus. These presentations will focus ONLY on the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the dissertation. The studies themselves MUST NOT be described.
Development and preparation of a complete dissertation proposal in scheduled segments (see course outline for schedule).

Remediation of writing skills, as needed.

**Grading**

The following criteria will be utilized for student evaluation:

- Dissertation presentation—25 pts.
- Problem and purpose statements—25 pts.
- Chapter 1—100 pts.
- Chapter 3—100 pts.

Total possible—300 pts.

The minimum number of points required for each grade is as follows:

- A—250
- B—200

*(Please remember, no grade below a B may be applied to a doctoral degree.)*

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

This course will be using the eCollege platform for course delivery and for all student submissions and discussion. All direct communication with the class and the professor will be conducted in the appropriate week's threaded discussion session.

Access to the library's available databases via the student's MyLeo account may be required, unless the student prefers to use the library's holdings in person.

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

To access the eCollege platform, students should type the following address into their internet browser: https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx.

Students will need their CWID and password to log in to the course. Students who do not know their CWID or have forgotten their password should contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedure A12.08—see Student Guidebook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

All graduate students are expected to maintain high standards of academic integrity and honesty. Academic dishonesty, as defined in Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10, will incur a penalty commensurate with the severity of the infraction, from failure on the applicable assignment to failure in the course. A report of each infraction also is submitted to the Graduate School for further action.

A&M-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.
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) 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.

Students with Disabilities:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination 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 the 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)

COURSE OUTLINE:
(Note: Subject to change)

Topic

Overview of dissertation proposal process; pretest and assignments; process of developing and writing dissertation proposal
Review of selected dissertation
Problem and purpose statements due
Hypotheses/research questions and method of procedure due
Prepare Chapter 1
Prepare Chapter 3