



**HIED 696:01W ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODOLOGY: INTERPRETIVE INQUIRY
COURSE SYLLABUS SPRING 2019**

Instructor: Dr. Jon Travis, Regents Professor
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials—Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook Required:

Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2017). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Optional:

Marshall, C., & Rossman, G. B. (2010). *Designing qualitative research* (5th ed.) [Note—6th ed. is currently in press]. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Supplementary Readings:

Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. (Eds.). (2017). *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research* (5th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

LeCompte, M. D., Millroy, W. L., & Preissle, J. (1992). *The handbook of qualitative research in education*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press.

Course Description: A doctoral research tools course that provides a background and analysis of the interpretive act in all educational research. Designed to provide an in-depth study of the process of conducting research in the naturalistic paradigm, the course focuses on an examination of the major methodological traditions of this approach to research. Also included are the terminology and a consideration of the distinctions between the naturalistic and the rationalistic, or quantitative, methods of inquiry.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the systematic process of research. Specifically, the student will be able to:
 - 1.1 Describe educational research as a systematic process of constructive inquiry.
 - 1.2 Discuss the fundamental procedures of conducting systematic inquiry.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundations of interpretive inquiry in education. Specifically, the student will be able to:
 - 2.1 Describe qualitative educational research.
 - 2.2 Identify, compare, and contrast naturalistic and rationalistic designs.
 - 2.3 Describe the value of qualitative methodology in educational research.
3. Develop in-depth skills for interpretive research design. Specifically, the student will be able to:
 - 3.1 Identify and demonstrate ethnography.

- 3.2 Identify and demonstrate case study.
- 3.3 Identify and demonstrate phenomenology.
- 3.4 Identify and demonstrate grounded theory.
- 3.5 Identify and demonstrate biographical research.
- 3.6 Identify and demonstrate program assessment.
- 3.7 Identify and demonstrate hermeneutics.
- 3.8 Identify and demonstrate critical social science.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of naturalistic fieldwork. Specifically, the student will be able to:
 - 4.1 Identify and briefly describe five data gathering techniques: observation, interviewing, document collection, participation, and artifact collection.
 - 4.2 Identify and briefly describe four data recording techniques: field notes, photographs and photocopying, sound recording, and videotaping.
5. Develop basic skills in qualitative data analysis and reporting. Specifically, the student will be able to identify and briefly describe the following techniques:
 - 5.1 Coding and sorting.
 - 5.2 Interpretation.
 - 5.3 Drawing and verifying conclusions.
 - 5.4 Qualitative data presentation.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the applications of interpretive inquiry in education. Specifically, the student will be able to:
 - 6.1 Identify research problems suitable for interpretive inquiry.
 - 6.2 Apply a qualitative method to a specific research problem.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods/Activities/Assessments

A serious commitment to mastery of the content. An online course inherently requires students to assume the responsibility for their own learning and to be active, self-directed learners.

Review of online lectures and completion of assigned readings in the course text as well as additional outside reading. This reading is necessary to serve as a basis for discussion and understanding qualitative methodology. (Please note—many authors in the research literature have provided different interpretations that actually may be contradictory. If these contradictions prove to be obstacles, please use discussion for clarification.)

Participation in weekly threaded discussion. PLEASE NOTE that discussion posts MUST adhere to APA standards. Deviation from these standards will result in a reduced grade.

Critical review of five studies in text and one additional qualitative study taken from a journal or a collection of studies. The five studies in the text will be discussed (via Threaded Discussion) in conjunction with the applicable method. The reviews of the study outside the text are to be prepared in groups, should focus on the methods of the studies, and must be submitted to Doc Sharing.

A methodology exam.

Completion of an individual fieldwork assignment outside of class.

A brief paper (**maximum** of six pages) that comprises the **research method** for a specific **qualitative** research **proposal** (i.e., this paper should resemble the Method of Procedure section of a dissertation proposal, preceded by a one-sentence purpose statement).

PLEASE NOTE, Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted. Papers must be **THOROUGHLY EDITED BEFORE** submission and **MUST** conform to the *APA Style Manual* for writing accuracy.

Grading

The following weighted criteria will be utilized for student evaluation:

- Participation in weekly threaded discussion—150 pts. (10 pts. each week)
- Presentation of qualitative study (outside text)—20 pts.
- Methodology exam—100 pts.

Proposal paper—30 pts.

Total possible—300 pts.

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

- A—270
- B—240
- C—200

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

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

This course will be using myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) 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. Group discussions may utilize any technological link preferred by the individual group.

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

Browser Support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.
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Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- 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.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system.

The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- 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.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

To access myLeo Online, students should type the following address into their internet browser:
<https://myleoonline.tamuc.edu>

Students will need their campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log in to the course.

Students who do not know their CWID or have forgotten their password should contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection 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, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

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 the Graduate Catalog, will incur a penalty commensurate with the severity of the infraction, from failure on the applicable assignment to failure in the course. A more severe infraction may also lead to a recommendation for suspension or expulsion.

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 162, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148 (StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)**

COURSE OUTLINE:

(Note: *Subject to change*)

Topic

Overview of research as inquiry; Interpretive aspect of inquiry

Comparison of paradigms; Qualitative methodology; Data collection methods

Ethnography

Case Study

Phenomenology

Grounded Theory

Biographical Research

Program Assessment

Hermeneutics

Critical Social Science

Exam

Fieldwork /Data Collection

Data Analysis

Interpretation/Conclusions

Writing qualitative reports