OLT 595 Research Methodologies
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2020
10/26/2020 through 12/11/2020

Instructor: Katie Koo, PhD. Assistant Professor
Department of Higher Education and Learning Technologies
Office Location: Education North Room # 103
Office Hours: Mondays 9:00 am to 11:00 am virtually,
Tuesdays 9:00 am to 11:00 am at my TAMUC office,
or by appointment
Office Phone: (903) 886-5604
University Email Address: katie.koo@tamuc.edu
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/7480096595
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: Email is the best way to reach me as I check it daily. A reply will be sent within 48 hours, depending upon the time your message was received.

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required:


Course Description
This course provides an overview of research methodology to include basic concepts employed in quantitative and qualitative research methods in addition to obtaining an approval to conduct a research study from the researcher’s institution.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Understand what research is and how it differs from other types of studies, such as

   The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.
evaluation or a technical report.
2. Understand the overall research procedures.
3. Compare the use of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed design research and describe characteristics of each type and their application.
4. Apply ethical guidelines in conducting research and for the protection of human subjects of research projects.
5. Conduct a literature review locating and retrieving relevant studies related to a topic of research interest.
6. Based on reading the relevant literature, define research problems and develop a research purpose and research questions.
7. To define and select an appropriate research design for various research problems including experimental, quasi-experimental, non-experimental quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods designs.
8. Determine the use of data collection methods and identify appropriate data collection instrument or protocol.
9. Define and understand the concepts for analysis of data in quantitative and/or qualitative research.

Course Assessments (**No late assignment is acceptable)

Discussion Boards (7 at 10 points each = 70 points total): Each discussion thread topic will require a “post” and two “replies” to fellow classmate’s posts.

Research Design Critique Reports (2 at 20 points each = 40 points total): One objective of this course revolves around learning about different types of research designs. In Modules 4 and 5, you are asked to complete a research design report to assess your understanding of research designs.

TAMUC IRB Protocol Form (20 points): It is important to become familiar with the TAMUC Institutional Review Board (IRB) Protocol Form that you will have to "officially" complete upon defending your dissertation proposal towards the conclusion of your doctoral program. In Module 8, you are asked to complete the TAMUC Institutional Review Board (IRB) Protocol Form based on your Research Plan.

Research Plan (80 points): The core of this course is the development of a research plan. Through the analysis of appropriate research literature, you will identify a problem that you wish to further investigate. This problem needs to be one that is “researchable” and related to an area in education. It would be ideal if you choose a topic that will become your dissertation research (if you are a doctoral student). Do not worry if you don’t have a specific topic. Throughout the semester, you will conduct a series of activities to assist you in developing and refining your topic and completing a formal research plan.

Grade
A: 210-201

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.
B: 200-191
C: 190-181
D: 180-171
F: 170 and below

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Browser support

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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.

### Desktop Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Browser</th>
<th>Supported Browser Version(s)</th>
<th>Maintenance Browser Version(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft® Edge</td>
<td>Latest</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft® Internet Explorer®</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozilla® Firefox®</td>
<td>Latest, ESR</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google® Chrome™</td>
<td>Latest</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple® Safari®</td>
<td>Latest</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</table>

**Table and Mobile Support**

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>Browser</th>
<th>Supported Browser Version(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Android™</td>
<td>Android 4.4+</td>
<td>Chrome</td>
<td>Latest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple</td>
<td>iOS®</td>
<td>Safari, Chrome</td>
<td>The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows</td>
<td>Windows 10</td>
<td>Edge, Chrome, Firefox</td>
<td>Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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)

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• 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:
  o Adobe Reader  https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  o Adobe Flash Player (version 17 or later) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  o Adobe Shockwave Player  https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  o Apple Quick Time  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. Coping 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

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, 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.

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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.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Email is the best way to contact the instructor. Course shell also provides a way to share content related questions and help needs through multiple discussion forums. If the instructor cannot be reached during office hours and talking over the phone is helpful, leaving a voice mail or emailing the instructor leaving the best date, time, and phone number to reach will be most effective.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies
The instructor will make every effort to grade an exam and the final project in time. If an unusual delay should occur, such as illness or a conference travel, instructor availability and expected timeline/response will be shared as course announcement in the course shell. The course has no extra-credit assignment.

Syllabus Change Policy
The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette
http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

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TAMUC Attendance
For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

Academic Integrity
Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

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 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

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Nondiscrimination Notice

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.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

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 the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: [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)

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.
**COURSE CALENDAR: Fall 2020** 10/26/2020 through 12/11/2020

Every effort will be made to adhere to the course schedule as noted below. However, unforeseen circumstances may require changes to the schedule. In that case, changes will be announced via University email and in announcements. The professor reserves the right to change the schedule if necessary and depending on the progress of the class. I highly recommend that you follow the schedule outlined below **VERY CAREFULLY** so that you will complete and turn in your assignments on time (late assignments will not be accepted).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Discussion/Assignment</th>
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</table>
| Module 1 (10/26-11/1/2020) | - Introduction to Educational Research  
- Identifying a Research Problem, Purpose and Questions | Creswell Chapter 1, 2, 4 Online video(s) | - Sharing Bio by 10/29 TH and Reply by 11/1 SUN  
- Discussion Post by 10/29 TH and Reply by 11/1 SUN  
- Milestone I (No need to submit, but start working on it.) |
| Module 2 (11/2-11/8/2020) | - Library Search  
- APA Style  
- Literature Review | Creswell Ch 3 Online video(s) and reading(s) | - Discussion Post by 11/5 TH and Reply by 11/8 SUN  
- Assignment by SUN 11/8 |
| Module 3 (11/9-11/15/2020) | - Literature Review, cont’d | Creswell Ch 3 | - Discussion Post by 11/12 TH  
- Discussion Replies by 11/15 SUN  
- Milestone II (No need to submit, but start working on it.) |
| Module 4 (11/16-11/22/2020) | - Quantitative Research Designs | Creswell Ch 10, 11, 12 | - Discussion Post by 11/19 TH  
- Discussion Replies by 11/22 SUN  
- Assignment by 11/22 SUN |
| Module 5 (11/23-11/29/2020) | - Qualitative Research Design | Creswell Ch 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 | - Discussion Post by 11/26 TH  
- Discussion Replies by 11/29 SUN  
- Assignment by 11/29 SUN |

Please note: 11/26 is the Thanksgiving day. Please plan to work on your

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assignments in advance.

| Module 6             | Collecting Quantitative and Qualitative Data | Creswell Ch 5, 7 | Discussion Post by 12/3 TH and Reply by 12/6 SUN
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<td>(11/30-12/6/2020)</td>
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<td>- Milestone III (No need to submit, but start working on it.)</td>
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| Module 7             | Institutional IRB | Online reading(s) | Discussion Post by 12/9 WED and Reply by 12/11 FRI
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(12/7-12/11/2020)</td>
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<td>- Assignment by 12/11 FRI</td>
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*This class is for 7 weeks long under a very intense schedule, please plan to work on your assignments on time.

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