

EDF 9373 EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH DESIGN

**Fall 2015
Mississippi State University**

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Class Location:
Meeting Time: Tuesday 5:00 – 8:50 pm

Course Overview

Welcome to Educational Research Design! EDF 9373 is the CORE course where advanced graduate students are expected to combine the theoretical aspects of research with the knowledge base of their specialty areas of study. Students are expected to define acceptable questions for study, determine an appropriate research design based on the questions asked, and develop methodically acceptable analytic procedures. It is expected students will have the requisite knowledge of research and statistics, and acceptable skill in writing.

EDF 9373 is to help advanced graduate students:

- Compare and contrast the various types of research in terms of: relative strengths and weaknesses; specific tools and techniques of data collection; assumptions of use; and acceptable analytical procedures for each.
- Formulate questions in a manner appropriate for investigation.
- Utilize existing research in developing both a theoretical understanding of the question under investigation and a working knowledge of the research methods used in these studies.
- Develop a theoretical/functional rationale and a logical proposal for a research study.
- Determine what may logically be concluded from the study.

Required Readings

Frankel, J. R. & Wallen, N. E. (2015). *How to design and evaluate research in education* (6th ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Proposal Guide required in your department.

Policies and Procedures

- Come to class on time. If for any emergency, you have to miss a class, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor beforehand and to make arrangements with a fellow student to make up work, relating to individual, group, or class assignments.
- Contribute your share to the discussion, and be sensitive about issues of equal "air time" for others in the class.
- Have assignments completed on time.
- All written assignments are to be typed with a header and paginated, using Times New Roman with font size of 12, one-inch margins all around.

MSU Honor Code:

"As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do."

The Mississippi State Honor Code can be found at <http://www.honorcode.msstate.edu/>.

Disability:

Students with disabilities will be afforded appropriate accommodations. Contact disability services at 325-3335 or visit the Student Support Services website or office for more information.

Evaluation of Student Progress and Assignments:

Class enrollment is deliberately kept low to ensure each student receives verbal indications of student progress during each class. Class assignments are required nearly each week; they are critiques and returned to students. A project consisting of the first three chapters of their dissertation is required of each student. Preparing these three chapters will better ensure students understand and can apply concepts of sound research design.

Assignment	Point Value
First 3 Chapters of Dissertation (Proposal)	200
Presentation of Research Proposal	100
Application of Research /Group Research Project	300
Class Participation and Professionalism =	100
Mid Term Exam	150
Final Exam =	150
Total Points	1000

1000 – 900 = A

899 – 800 = B

799 – 700 = C

Assigned Readings/discussions/critiques

You will read, analyze and discuss various research articles both individually and as a part of a group.

Web

Go to <http://ohrp-ed.od.nih.gov/> and complete the Human Subjects Assurance Training. Print the three certificates and bring them to the instructor.

Go to <http://www.orc.msstate.edu/> and complete the online training program (CITI Program). If you have already completed this training please send documentation of your completion to me.

Group Research Project

You will form a team of about 2-4 persons to complete a survey research project. In your groups, determine what you want to know from a population or sample of subjects/participants, develop a questionnaire to answer your research questions, administer the questionnaire, analyze the data, **submit a manuscript in**

publishable form and present your findings to the class in a 40 minute formal, professional presentation.

IRBs (Group Project)

Complete the IRB application for your survey research and for your research proposal.

Proposal

Write a proposal for your dissertation research and present it to the class. The proposal is intended as a practical application of the content of this course. It is your practical application of the abstractions and theories of class, and of your readings, to your idea for research for your dissertation.

Ideally, the project would be the completed first three chapters of your dissertation, called the dissertation proposal. More likely, however, the project will result in pre-proposal, a short statement of your proposed research idea, method of research, anticipated findings, etc.

Each department has its own procedures, and you are required to adhere to the procedures of your department. You are expected to meet with your dissertation director before beginning your proposal. Specifically, the proposal will require you to describe your proposed research in the form required by your department and to use the following terms/topics/questions, **sources of literature, theoretical basis, design of research, sampling, data collection procedures, instrumentation, analytic procedures, inference/meaning, and internal and external validity.** The proposal is an individual assignment. A one-page (front only) summary of the above terms/topics/issues will be provided by each student to the other members of the class. Be sure to include your name, current position, phone number, e-mail, etc., so your classmates can find you after the class is over.

Quizzes

You MAY have random quizzes throughout the semester over any topic or assignment we have discussed to that point.

Mid-Term and Final Exam

Mid-Term and Final exam will cover all you have read and done.

Bibliography

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