Syllabus for EDUC6753 Applied Research Fall Semester 2019
Austin Kureethara Manuel, Ph.D.
West College of Education
Course Dates: Aug 24, 2019 – Dec 13, 2019
Credit Hours: 3

Contact Information

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Office Hours (Ferguson 101 B)

Tuesdays: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Wednesdays: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Thursdays: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Tentative Class hours: Thursdays 5:30 pm – 8:20 pm

How to contact me?

Use the email within D2L. This will help us to organize a private email system for our class. You may use my office email in case needed. If you are using my office email, make sure that you start the subject of the email with "EDUC 6753: student first name, last name" so that I will know that the email is from our class, which will promote faster replies. In case you need to talk to me – Yes, sometimes it will help to talk than using emails – please use my office phone number (940)397-4136. Leave a message with your phone number, name, and course number (EDUC 5053) if you end up in a voice message box. Another option is to email me your phone number. In both situations, I will contact you as soon as possible. I am located at 101B, Ferguson Building. If you are anywhere near, you are welcome to schedule an appointment to meet with me.

Objectives and Outcomes:

1. Students can identify a researchable problem in their professional practice; then design, and implement an action research project to improve their practice.
2. Students understand and design informed consent to protect human subjects. Students can analyze their data and derive empirical findings that inform their practice.

3. Students can effectively use APA (6th Edition) to format their research paper and bibliographic guide.

Dispositions

1. Students will apply sound theory and methodology in research design.
2. As reflective practitioners, students will make professional decisions based on empirical data and sound scientific research.
3. Students will understand and protect the rights of participants involved in research.
4. Students will be critical and scholarly in their use of published research to define issues and resolve problems in education.

Standards and Assessment

Content and methodological standards for this course are held by West College of Education, American Educational Research Association, and the Midwestern State University Graduate Catalog.
Ethical standards are those required by HSRC/OHRP. Manuscript style is set by the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition. The primary measure of those standards is the student's written research report.

Catalog Description of the Course:

"Practical application of quantitative and qualitative research theory and methodology leading to the completion of a formal report of original empirical research (file paper)."

Prerequisites:

Score of 3.5 on GRE Analytical Writing Section or 4.0 on the Criterion On-Line Writing Evaluation, and 18 graduate hours to include EDUC 5053.

Required Textbook & Instructional Materials

1. Creswell, J. W. (2014). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
2. Huck, Schuyler W. (2012). *Reading Statistics and Research* (6th ed.). Boston: Pearson.
3. American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication Manual of The American Psychological Association.* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
4. Handouts and copied materials as required through the semester.

Recommended Resources

1. Salkind, N. J. (2014). *Statistics For People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE. doi: 978-1452277714
2. Creswell, J. W. (2015). *Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, And Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. doi:9780133549584
3. Online or hard copy journal articles and books as assigned.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Tutoring and Academic Support Programs (TASP)offers a schedule of selected subjects tutoring assistance. Please visit the TASP webpage for more information.

Attendance

Students should participate in all classes. Logging into D2L at least twice a week will be considered as your attendance for the week. In case of an emergency situation that will not allow you to log on to D2L, please let me know as early as possible. Note that any changes in the assignment deadlines will not be allowed. One week's absence will result in one letter grade drop on your final grades. Two weeks' absences will result in withdrawal from the course by the instructor. Excessive tardiness (as determined by the professor) might also result in instructor-drop, if required. Late work will receive a grade of zero unless you have worked out an alternate plan with the instructor beforehand. Be proactive and submit earlier to avoid late penalties!

Instructor-drop

As per the College policies, an instructor may drop a student any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. Instructor will give the student a verbal or written warning prior to dropping the student from the class. The instructor-drop take precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the first 8 weeks of this semester. After this period, the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date.

Academic Honesty and Intellectual Property

Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted

techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.
By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a *limited right* in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The *limited right* shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality, authenticity, and educational purposes. Please check with the Student Handbook, available from the link provided in the webpage of the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Please note that by enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course.

Paper Requirements by discipline

Paper required by the following discipline vary. Please check with your advisers.

1. Educational Leadership
2. Special Education
3. Curriculum & Instruction
4. Educational Technology
5. Sports Administration
6. Language and Literacy Studies

CITI Research Ethics and Compliance Training Certificate:

It is mandatory for all students to complete or renew the online preparatory course from CITI. You are required to produce the certificate before you apply for Human Subjects Approval. Please log on to the CITI web link for the training and the certificate. You should select and complete the training "Human Subjects Research (HSR)" to become eligible to do research in this class. More details are available in the module "CITI certificate" in D2L.

Human Subjects Approval from IRB

All students will fill out a Human Subjects application and submit it to me. Although it is possible to get an exemption for a file paper (as in this course), you will still need to fill out an application to ask for an exemption. You will know more details about the MSU IRB from its webpage.

Assessments:

All the assignments are due in drop box before 11:30 pm on Sundays (unless otherwise stated in the class). Please make sure to submit them before deadline. I will not accept the assignments in any other form (email attachments, hard copies, and so on).

Allotment of points for assignments

No	Assignment	Points
1	LitReview Analysis Assignment	10
2	CITI certificate	5
3	Assignments (7 times 25)	175
4	Exams (2 times 50)	100
5	Final Research Paper (Rubric will be provided)	150
6	Final Research Presentation (Rubric will be provided)	50
7	Research Questionnaire (Rubric will be provided)	10
8	Research Problem (Rubric will be provided)	10
9	Research Variables (Quant) / Factors of inquiry (Qual)	10
10	Research Hypotheses (Quant) / Central phenomenon (Qual)	10
11	Research Purpose Statement (Rubric will be provided)	10
12	Research Question (Rubric will be provided)	10
13	Research Methodology (Participants, Anonymity, Methodology)	30
14	Research Introduction (Rubric will be provided)	10
15	Reading Feedback (7 assignments, Methodology, Exam 1, Research Questionnaire)	10
-	Total points	600

Grading Scale:

93% - 100%   A
85% - 92%   B
77% - 84%   C
70% - 76%   D
Below 70%   F

Late submissions: 10% reduction in the grades for each day you are late to submit the assignment.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. Assignments are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings including the Clark Student Center (CSC). Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!! There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they will be able to help you get connected to our online services.

Disability Support Services

In accordance with the law, MSU provides students with documented disabilities academic accommodations. If you are a student with a disability, please contact your instructor as well as Disability Support Services, Clark Student Center, Room 168, Phone: (940) 397-4140 or visit their [webpage](#).

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University graduate catalog for the process. The current catalog can be downloaded from the link provided in the webpage for [University Catalogs](#).

University Guideline for Concealed Carry of handguns on Campus

Senate Bill 11 Handgun Policy -Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are

appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at
Campus Carry

File submission – format and filename

Every time you submit your file in D2L, your format for doing so should be exactly in the following format:

Name of the Assignment Your First Name Your Last Name

Example: If your first name is John, the last name is Adams and you are

submitting the assignment named "Research Purpose Statement" in

dropbox, then the name of your file should be

Research Purpose Statement John Adams

Your file should be a word file by default. If you need to submit your file in any other format, contact me and let me know about it. There are chances that you may have to use open document or any other file type depending on various programs that you use in your computer. You MUST discuss this situation with me before submitting your file in any format other than a word file, so that I will be ready with the software for reading your assignment.

Research Paper Requirements for this class

1. There should be more than 10 references
2. The paper should be in APA 6th style
3. The rubric that will be used to evaluate your paper will be discussed in class. You should fulfill all the requirements of the rubric to score well in your research paper.
4. You should also submit a presentation video in addition to your research paper.
5. The due dates and the time line of the research outlined in this syllabus is tentative and will change to meet to your individual research needs.
6. If you plan to graduate this semester, it is important that you meet with your academic advisor to determine the research standards according to your degree plan, at the earliest. There are different requirements to be met regarding your research paper based on your degree plans and discipline of studies.

Late Submissions in D2L

Lateness of the submission will be determined by D2L. I will not overrun the lateness recorded by D2L. Please understand that D2L does not take into account for holidays or weekends and so do I. For example, if the due date of a particular assignment were 11:30 pm, 8/27/19, and you submitted the assignment at 11:31 pm, 8/27/19, the D2L dropbox will mark your assignment as ONE day late. I will go by the D2L decision and will consider your assignment as ONE day late. To avoid missing the due date by such hairline margins, I advise you to submit the assignment well ahead. One day late will result in 10% drop in your earned grade. Two days late will result in 20% drop in your earned grade. And so on.

Blank submissions or submitting wrong files in D2L.

Extreme care should be taken when you submit your final document. If by any chance you submit wrong file, make sure to submit the correct one as early as possible. All the dropboxes are set to accept multiple files. I will evaluate the file that you submitted. If I have to notify you that you submitted the wrong file, and allow you to resubmit it, your grade will be 75% if the resubmission is within the date I would specify in the feedback.

Reading feedback for your assignments.

It is crucial that you read the feedback for your assignments. In order to encourage you to read the feedback, I intend to give credits for doing so on certain assignments. The feedback will have instructions to improve your understanding of the topics that we discuss in our class, in addition to pointing out the mistakes in the submitted assignments.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Disclaimer Notice: Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor to meet the needs of the class appropriately.

Classes	Assignments Due at 11:30 pm	Topics	Research Time line
Week1 8/26 – 9/1	LitReview Analysis Assignment.	Syllabus Discussion Topic LitReview Analysis Assignment Basics of Statistics NIH certificate Types of variables	Submit Lit Review Analysis Module "Writing Guide" is available for your reference.
Week 2 9/2 – 9/8	CITI certificate. Research Questionnaire. Research Introduction. Research Problem.	Chapter 1: The selection of a research design. Chapter 4: Writing strategies and Ethical considerations. Avoid common academic writing errors. Weak and Wordy sentence openers. APA (6th Edition) Style guide. Guidelines: Find the research requisites of your discipline from your adviser. Discuss IRB permission for your research.	Submit CITI certificate, Research Questionnaire, meet with your advisor to fill up the questionnaire and discuss your research, get the approval.

Classes	Assignments Due at 11:30 pm	Topics	Research Time line
Week 3 9/9 – 9/15	Assignment 1 (Reliability and validity). Research Purpose statement. Research Question. Research Hypotheses. Research Variable(s).	Final Research Document Format Chapter 5: The Introduction	Start writing the document
Week 4 9/16 – 9/22	Assignment 2. Research Methodology.	Chapter 6: The Purpose Statement Chapter 7: Research Questions and Hypotheses. Reliability and validity	Determine the type of study, Discuss methodology plan, Get my approval for your methodology, Submit methodology. When you score 90% or more, the module "IRB Documents" opens up for you.
Week 5 9/23 – 9/29	Assignment 3	Chapter 8: Quantitative Methods Reporting Stat in Text Descriptive Analysis	Submit IRB application documents
Week 6 9/30 – 10/6	Assignment 4	Basic Steps in Statistical Analysis Bivariate correlations. What Analysis do I use? One sample t-test Assignment 3	Data Collection

Classes	Assignments Due at 11:30 pm	Topics	Research Time line
Week 7 10/7 – 10/13	Assignment 5	How to conduct independent t test? How to conduct Mann-Whitney test? Assignment 4	Data Collection. A dropbox "Data Folder" is available in the module "Submit your data here" to submit your data.
Week 8 10/14 – 10/20	Exam 1	Exam 1	Data Collection
Week 9 10/21 – 10/27	Assignment 6	How to conduct dependent t test (paired t test)	Data Collection
Week 10 10/28 – 11/3	Assignment 7 (Correlational Analysis)	How to conduct correlational Analysis?	Data Collection / Writing research paper/ Data Analyses
Week 11 11/4 – 11/10	Nil	Chapter 9: Qualitative Procedures: Grounded theory, Ethnographic, Narratives. Chapter 10: Mixed Methods Procedures.	Writing research paper.
Week 12 11/11 – 11/17	You may submit your "final paper" draft for ONE TIME comment. This submission is not mandatory.	Writing your research paper.	Submit your paper for my non-mandatory "ONE TIME" comment on your final paper.

Classes	Assignments Due at 11:30 pm	Topics	Research Time line
Week 13 11/18 – 11/24	Exam 2	Exam 2	Submit Exam 2
Thanks-giving week 11/25 – 12/1	Nil	NA	Writing research paper. The dropboxes for submitting your final research paper and presentation are open in separate modules "Final Research Paper" and "Presentation" for your convenience.
Week 14 12/2 – 12/6	Final Research Paper (Due on 12/6/19, 11:30 pm) Presentation. (Due on 12/6/19, 11:30 pm)	No specific topic. Open for discussion.	Submit your final research paper. Submit your presentation video.
Week 15 12/9 – 12/13	Winding up the course.	No specific topic. Open for discussion.	Winding up the research.

On-line Instruction:

On-line courses are convenient and effective method of learning. However, online courses require organization skills. The following are some recommendations to be successful in this course:

1. Schedule at least 7 to 9 hours a week for this course.
2. Adhere to the due dates. You may turn in assignments early. Seek clarification for any concern in a timely manner.

Wish you all success in this course. Please enjoy the experience of understanding, analyzing, and synthesizing existing research.

Wish you all success in this course.

References

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

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative [CITI]. (2019). Human Subjects Research (HSR) – CITI Program. Retrieved August 24, 2019, from https://about.citiprogram.org/en/series/human-subjects-research-hsr/

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Midwestern State University. (2018). Campus Carry. Retrieved August 24, 2018, from https://mwsu.edu/campus-carry/

National Institutes of Health [NIH]. (2018). Office of Extramural Research, Protecting Human Research Participants tutorial (Developed 3/1/2008; Version 2/4/2011). Retrieved from https://phrp.nihtraining.com/# on September 2018.

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