MATH 5393: Literature Review & Research Methodology
Spring 2008

COURSE INFORMATION

Meeting Time/Place: Mondays 4:20-6:50 PM in CS 107
Instructor: Elaine Young
Office Address: ST 207B
Office Phone: 825-2819
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Web Address: http://sci.tamucc.edu/~eyoung/5393/index.html
Office hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Reading, analyzing, and synthesizing mathematics education research literature for the purpose of informing teaching practice. A study of qualitative research methods including interviews, case studies, and teaching experiments, with a focus on the components of a research study (research question(s), literature review, conceptual framework, methods, analysis, findings) and the relationships among them.

PREREQUISITES

- Accepted in the Curriculum Content program and completion of all leveling work
- Successful completion of 18 hours in the program, specifically MATH 5321, 5325, 5326, 5327, 5328, and 5329
- Upon receiving credit for this course, students must immediately enroll in MATH 5995 or 5997 and continue that enrollment throughout each semester (including Summer I) until the thesis or project is completed and signed by the committee.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

The course will consist of lecture, collaborative groups, class discussions, a field trip to the library and a guest speaker. Students are expected to participate in collaborative groups and whole class discussions by contributing knowledge and thoughtful evaluation of the contribution of others. It is very important that students critically and meaningfully provide feedback and comments on others' work during this course.

COURSE SCHEDULE

See online course calendar

ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

This course is graded credit/no credit. By the end of the course, you are expected to have your thesis or project proposal satisfactorily completed and signed by all three committee members. This will result in credit for the course and will allow you to enroll in MATH 5995 or 5997 (thesis or project) for the next semester. Not completing your proposal or securing required signatures...
will result in no credit for the course (IP -- in progress will show on your transcript) and the course will have to be continued by enrolling in the next semester.

CLASS POLICIES

Written work: It is expected that your written work will be excellent in spelling, grammar, and format. The Writing Center is available for help.
Attendance: Attendance is expected; please communicate promptly if you are unable to attend class. You are responsible for any work or learning missed.
Ethical behavior: University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes plagiarism, which is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work. Be sure and give credit to others as appropriate both in the text and the bibliography portions of your written work.
NOTE: The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling or distribution of term papers or other academic materials.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Selection of an appropriate research topic and problem
- Selection of appropriate research questions or hypotheses
- Specify an appropriate research methodology for thesis or outline the method of completing the curriculum project
- Conduct a literature review of the research problem
- Choose a committee chair and two committee members
- Write a research or project proposal and submit for critical review by peers
- Rewrite the research or project proposal reflecting suggestions by peers and advisor
- Submit final draft of research or project proposal to committee for approval
- Make a formal presentation of the research or project proposal to peers and committee
- Obtain committee signatures on research or project proposal and file copy in appropriate office

http://sci.tamucc.edu/~eyoung/5393/syllabus.html
1/16/2009