TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - CORPUS CHRISTI

EDLD 6397 - Dissertation Research

Fall 2009

Course Credit: 3 semester hours, doctoral level

Meeting Time: Saturday, 1:00 – 5:30 PM, CCH 123:
8/29/09
9/12/09
10/3/09
10/17/09
10/24/09
11/7/09
11/21/09
12/5/09

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E-mail: Kamiar.Kouzekanani@tamucc.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Wednesday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Thursday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
As well as open door policy and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to assist the students in writing a draft of the three-chapter (introduction, review of literature, methods) research proposal that may become the basis for a doctoral dissertation. Prerequisites: EDLD 6333, EDLD 6384, EDLD 6335, EDLD 6392.

RATIONALE

Students must be knowledgeable and competent in the methodology of educational research in order to complete a doctoral dissertation. This course will provide the student with the opportunity to synthesize knowledge and understanding of research methods, instrumentation, and data analysis to write a research proposal that, if approved by the student’s dissertation committee, will become the basis for a doctoral dissertation.

STATE ADOPTED PROFICIENCIES FOR TEACHERS AND/OR ADMINISTRATORS/COUNSELORS - NA
COURSE OBJECTIVES

This is the last of the five research methods and statistics courses in the Department of Educational Administration and Research. As such, the major objective of the course is to assist the student in writing the first draft of the doctoral dissertation proposal. Additionally, all students are expected to complete the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) application form which must be approved by TAMUCC Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects in advance of the initiation of the research investigation.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS


RECOMMENDED READING


**ON-LINE REFERENCES**


APA guide for preparing manuscripts for publication:  [http://www.apa.org/journals/authors/guide.html](http://www.apa.org/journals/authors/guide.html)

Belmont report:  [http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/belmont.htm](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/belmont.htm)

Criteria for IRB approval of research:  [http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/45cfr46.htm#46.111](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/45cfr46.htm#46.111)


Writing & presenting your dissertation:  [http://www.learnerassociates.net/dissthes/](http://www.learnerassociates.net/dissthes/)

Exempt research categories:  [http://research.tamucc.edu/forms/categories.pdf](http://research.tamucc.edu/forms/categories.pdf)

Expedited review categories:  [http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/expedited98.htm](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/expedited98.htm)

**EVALUATION AND GRADE ASSIGNMENTS**

Chapter I, Introduction 30%
Due: __________________________

Chapter II, Review of Literature 30%
Due: __________________________

Chapter III, Methods 30%
Due: __________________________

IRB Application 5%
Due: __________________________

Proposal Presentation 5%
Due: __________________________
GRADING SCALE:

90 – 100  A
80 - 89   B
70 - 79   C
60 - 69   D
< 60       F

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Cell phones must be off. Text messaging is not allowed.

If not already, go to http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php and complete the tutorial course on common concepts, principles, and issues related to protection of human participants, including principles of bioethics and basic legal standards. Provide the instructor with a copy of the certificate of completion.

Due: ______________
Self-Assessment: Am I ready to begin the dissertation proposal?


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>How well prepared am I?</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Weak</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Do I have sufficient knowledge to ...?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify a short list of important, feasible, &amp; personally interesting dissertation topics?</td>
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<td>Specify in some detail the nature &amp; importance of each topic?</td>
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<td>Briefly summarize enough of the relevant empirical research, theoretical positions, &amp; practical knowledge to help choose among these topics?</td>
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<td>Discuss general research approaches possibly relevant to studying these topics?</td>
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<td>Discuss my personal interest in these subjects as dissertation topics?</td>
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<td>Discuss how my current motivation, circumstances, &amp; work style may both help &amp; hinder me in completing the proposal?</td>
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<td><strong>Do I have sufficient skills to ...?</strong></td>
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<td>Conduct a paper-based literature search?</td>
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<td>Conduct a computer-based literature search using electronic databases and the Internet?</td>
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<td>Use software to assist in analyzing the relevant literature?</td>
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<td>Conduct a meta-analysis of empirical research?</td>
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<td>Critique alternative inquiry approaches possibly appropriate to my topics?</td>
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<td>Discuss the purposes, strengths, weaknesses, &amp; necessary conditions of alternative study designs appropriate to my topics?</td>
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<td>Select, develop, &amp; implement data collection procedures needed for my study?</td>
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<td>Select or develop any instrumentation needed for my study?</td>
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<td>Analyze &amp; interpret the different kinds of data I may collect in my study?</td>
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<td>Use appropriate equipment, including computers, needed in my study?</td>
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<td>Communicate effectively, orally &amp; in writing, with my chairperson, committee members, colleagues, &amp; study participants?</td>
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<td>Write effectively in professional technical English (i.e., the language of the written dissertation)?</td>
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<td>Manage my proposal &amp; study time &amp; resources in light of competing professional, occupational, familial, social, religious, &amp; personal demands?</td>
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