



HIED 650
Doctoral Research Practicum
Spring 2016
Class: January 19 – May 10
Time: Tuesdays, 5pm – 8pm
Location: TAMUC Education North #108 & TAMUC Downtown Dallas #312

Instructor: Derek Lester, PhD

Office Locations:

- TAMUC, Education North #103
- TAMCU Downtown Dallas, Pacific Place, 1910 Pacific Ave, Dallas, TX

Office Hours:

- Tuesday, 1pm to 5pm (TAMUC Campus)
- Thursday, 2pm to 4:30pm (Downtown Dallas)
- Available by appointment: In-person, phone, and Skype

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Office Fax: (214) 915-1903

University Email Address: Derek.Lester@tamuc.edu

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| COURSE INFORMATION |
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Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). (2010). Washington D.C.: American Psychological Association.

Recommended:

Heppner, P. P., & Heppner, M. J. (2004). *Writing and publishing your thesis, dissertation, and research: A guide for students in the helping professions*. Thomson/Brooks/Cole.

Ivers, M. (2010). *Random House Guide to Good Writing*. Random House Digital, Inc.

Pan, M. L. (2013). *Preparing literature reviews: qualitative and quantitative approaches*. Pyrczak Publishing.

Course Description

Three semester hours. This course includes individualized research that will culminate with a significant foundation for the dissertation proposal, as demonstrated by an extensive review of the literature related to the student's selected topic.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completing this course, each student will:

1. The student will develop their knowledge and understanding of a content area through a literature review of a specific higher education topic.
2. Students will learn to write informative yet succinct research article summaries.

3. Students will organize the research into a nomological network of related and interrelated research topics and concepts.
4. Students will begin to address a theoretical framework with which to organize, view, and analyze the content area.
5. Students will begin the Chapter 2 Literature Review portion of their dissertation with the completion of 35 pages of text.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Meetings

There will be four meetings throughout the semester. Students will attend three in-class meetings, and will meet individually with the instructor twice, for about an hour, during the semester. The individual meeting will be to help students focus their research topic.

Meeting 1

- Location: TAMUC & Downtown Dallas
- Review course expectations.
- Lesson on how to do article write-ups.
- Introduction to organization of a literature review.

Meeting 2

- Location: TBD In-person or videoconference meetings.
- Date: By February 5
- Content: You are best served if you focus your research topic as much as possible before our one-on-one meeting. If you are uncertain of your content interest or theory you want to use that is OK, as our meeting will give you a venue with which to focus your topic interest.

Meeting 3

- Location: TAMUC & Downtown Dallas
- Date: Tuesday, March 8
- Draft 1 Due
- Students' presentation of their topic (10-12 minutes)
 - Students will present a summary of the literature findings they have collected to-date.
 - Briefly identify a theory, or set of theories, that may be used in the dissertation.

Meeting 4

- Location: TBD In-person or videoconference meetings.
- Meet between March 21 – April 1

Meeting 5

- Location: TAMUC & Downtown Dallas
- Date: Tuesday, May 10
- Draft 2 Due
- Students' final presentations of literature review findings.
 - Material presented will cover content and theory (12-15 minute presentations)

Papers

- Draft 1: Twenty pages of text, not including references, will earn the student the opportunity to earn 100% for the content portion of the grade. Sixteen to nineteen pages will earn the student a maximum of 89% for the assignment. Fifteen pages or less will earn a student 79% for the assignment. Twenty-five percent of the paper grade will be based on the writing quality. Ten percent will be based on the presentation quality.
- Draft 2: Thirty-five pages of text, not including references, will earn the student the opportunity to earn 100% for the content portion of the grade and an A in the course. 30-34 pages will earn the student of a maximum of 89% for the course. Twenty-nine or less pages will earn a student 79% for the assignment. Twenty-five percent of the paper grade will be based on the writing quality and coherence of content organization. Ten percent will be based on the presentation quality.
 - Up to ten pages of previously written text will be accepted for the final requirement of 35-pages of text. However, the material must coherently fit within the literature review.

Presentations

- Each student will present their research findings during Meetings 3 and 5. Presentations will cover the main research findings of the literature. Presentation 1 will cover the research findings of the literature with a brief introduction to a potential theoretical perspective with which to research a topic.
- Presentation 2 will briefly cover the main research findings of a topic, with about half of the presentation to cover theories that have been used to examine the content area.
- Each presentation will include a power point, of sparsely worded slides, and an optional handout.

Attendance Policy

Class attendance is an integral part of the educational process. Students who miss class miss out on the dialectic process of exchanging ideas with the instructor and colleagues. One absence will lead to a five percent reduction of the total grade. A second absence will result in a failing grade for the course.

Participation

Twenty percent of the total course grade is dependent on individual students' class participation. Students are expected contribute to every class period to class discussion. A potential of 5 points are earned per meeting day.

Grading

- Papers and presentations (80%)
 - Draft 1 (30%)
 - Draft 2 (50%)
 - Attendance/Participation (20%)
- A = 4.0 = 90-100%
- B = 3.0 = 80-89%
- C = 2.0 = 70-79%
- D = 1.0 = 65-69%

F = 0.0 = <65%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Some course assignments and internet-based research are required in this course. A computer, smart phone, or tablet with Internet access will be needed to complete some assignments. A wireless connection is available to students on campus. Computers are available for student use in the Gee Library, campus, and UCD computer labs. For more information concerning library or campus computer labs, visit <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/library/>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Email me at Derek.Lester@tamuc.edu. I will reply to emails within 48 hours. Use only your TAMU-Commerce email when communicating with me. I may also be reached on my cell phone: (206) 407-9904.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Writing Requirements

All papers are to follow APA format guidelines. Begin papers with an APA title page and Abstract. Font is to be 12 point, New Times Roman, double-spaced. Normal margins: one inch left, right, top, and bottom. Secure the paper with one staple in the top left corner. No folders please.

Written assignments are generally graded according to the following criteria:

- Completeness of response to the assignment: 25% of grade
- Organization and coherence: 25% of grade
- Appropriate grammar, punctuation, spelling: 25% of grade
- Use of disciplinary format and citation style: Paper displays correct use of student's disciplinary format and citation style (APA, 6th Edition) for papers submitted for presentation or publication. Non-cited statements, and content that is not organized according to APA leveled headings will result in a loss of points. 25% of the final grade

Respect Differing Views

As with all graduate courses, this course deals with ideas. Please be respectful of individuals with ideas and beliefs that differ from your own. If you disagree with someone, ask them why they believe as they do and then listen to the answer. People can have complex reasoning for what is seen as, on the surface, a simple idea. Only civil and even-tempered discussions will be permitted in class.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism within an assignment will result in a failing grade for that assignment. I expect all assignments for this course to be original works produced specifically for this course. At the instructor's discretion, if the plagiarism may have been accidental, an assignment may be redone for a maximum grade of 80% of the original total. Work produced, whether in part or in whole, from assignments for other courses will not be accepted for credit.

Technology Use

Personal use of computers, cell phones, or tablets is not permitted during the class session.

Late Assignments

An electronic or hard copy of each assignment is due at the beginning of class. Electronic copies must be emailed to my TAMU email address. Hard copies will be handed in at the beginning of class. Late assignments will lose one letter grade (10%) per day late. The measurement of days ends at 11:59pm the following day of class. A new day begins at Midnight (12 am) and continues to 11:59 pm. Late assignments may be turned in via email.

Examination Policy

Exams are timed and closed book.

Religious Holidays Policy

Reasonable accommodation will be given to students who require class absences because of religious holidays. However, the attendance policy is still in effect.

Writing Center

Students are encouraged to visit the A&M-Commerce Writing Center for writing assistance. Also, I am available to help with the writing process during office hours and by appointment.

University Specific Procedures

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 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

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| COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR |
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COURSE SCHEDULE FOR Spring 2016

| Date | Topic | Reading(s) |
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| Jan 19 | Introductions Syllabus Mini Lecture on Lit Review Format Good Power Point Presentation | TAMUC & Dallas |
| Jan 20 – Feb 5 | Individual Discussion of Research Interests | TBD |
| March 8 | Literature Review Introductions and Transitions Literature Review: Content and Theory Student Presentations: Subject Area Content | TAMUC & Dallas |
| March 21 – April 1 | Second Individual Discussion to Focus Research | TBD |
| May 10 | Final Paper Presentations | TAMUC & Dallas |

Journals and periodicals (to name a few):

Academy of Management Review

Administrative Science Quarterly

American Journal of Sociology

American Sociological Review

Economics of Education Review

Educational Policy

Higher Education: Handbook of Theory & Research

Journal of Higher Education

Review of Higher Education

Research in Higher Education

Sociology of Education