



**HIED 650  
Doctoral Research Practicum  
Spring 2017**

**Class: January 17 – May 12**

**First Meeting: January 23**

**Time: Monday, 6pm – 8:40pm**

**Location: TAMUC Education South #101 & TAMUC Downtown Dallas #312**

**Instructor:** Derek Lester, PhD

**Office Locations**

- TAMUC, Education North #103
- TAMUC 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

**Office Phone:** (206) 407-9904

**Office Fax:** (214) 915-1903

**University Email Address:** Derek.Lester@tamuc.edu

<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

*Textbook(s) Required:*

*Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> 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 a student's selected topic.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completing this course, each student will:

1. Students will begin the Chapter 2 Literature Review portion of their dissertation with the completion of 35 pages of text.
2. The student will develop their knowledge and understanding of a content area through a literature review of a specific higher education topic.
3. Students will learn to write informative yet succinct research article summaries.
4. Students will organize the research into a nomothetic network of related and interrelated research topics and concepts.
5. Students will begin to address a theoretical framework with which to organize, view, and analyze the content area.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

#### **Meetings**

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

#### Meeting 1

- Monday, January 23
- 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.
- Meet between January 24 - 29
- 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: February 27
- 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 February 28 – March 8
- Clarify content organization
- Identify and detail a potential research theory

**Meeting 5**

- Location: TAMUC & Downtown Dallas
- Date: May 8
- Draft 2 Due
- Students' final presentations of literature review findings.
  - Material presented will cover content and theory (12-15 minute presentations)

**Paper Draft 1**

- Cover Page
- One-page outline of APA headings
- 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 90% for the assignment. Fifteen pages or less will earn a student 85% for the assignment. Draft one will be graded solely on page count.

**Paper Draft 2**

- Cover Page
- One-page outline of APA headings
- 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 a maximum of 90% for the course. Twenty-nine or less pages will earn a student a maximum of 85% for the assignment.
  - Twenty-five percent of the paper grade will be based on the writing quality and coherence of content organization.
  - Twenty-five percent of the paper grade will be based on appropriate organization of the material using APA headings.
  - 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.

### General Literature Review Format

Detailed below is a rough outline of a dissertation literature review chapter. These are placeholder headings and are suggested options on how to categorize and subcategorize the content. These headings should be renamed and re-categorized according to the logic of your individual research content and theory.

### Chapter Two – General Literature Review Format

#### Content “X”

##### Definition of Content X

**Definitions.**

**Definition for the study.**

##### Content X Category 1

**Subcategory 1.**

**Subcategory 2.**

**Subcategory etc.**

##### Content X Category 2

##### Content X Category 3

##### Content X Category (Specific content area of the dissertation.)

**How defined.**

**How researched.** (Research similar to the dissertation.)

*Measurements.*

*Qualitative research/Quantitative research.*

*Specific research that examined X.* (Research study very similar to your dissertation.)

#### Family of Theories

##### Theory A

**Theory A description.**

**Research that used the theory.**

##### Theory B

**Theory B description.**

**Research that used the theory.**

##### Theory Y (The dissertation theory.)

**Theory Y description.**

**Research that used the theory.**

*Measurements.*

*Qualitative Studies/Quantitative Studies.*

*Specific research that used Y.* (Research with theory and methods of your dissertation.)

**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.
- Presentations will fall between 10-12 minutes in length.

**Attendance and Participation 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. Five percent of the total course grade is dependent on individual students' class participation. Students are expected contribute to every class period to class discussion. One absence will lead to a five percent reduction of the total grade.

**Grading**

- Papers and presentations (85%)
    - Draft 1 (25%)
    - Draft 2 (45%)
  - Presentations (10%)
    - Presentation 1 (5%)
    - Presentation 2 (5%)
  - Attendance/Participation (5%)
- 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](mailto: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.

<b>COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES</b>
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**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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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 the course.

**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) at 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.

### **Concealed Carry**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **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](mailto: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*).

<b>COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR</b>
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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading(s)</u>
January 23	<b>Introductions</b> <b>Syllabus</b> <b>Mini Lecture on Lit Review Format</b> <b>Good Power Point Presentation</b> <b>Dissertation Forms: Selection Committee &amp; Template</b>	
January 24-29	<b>Individual Discussion of Research Interests</b> <b>TBD</b>	
February 27	<b>Literature Review Introductions and Transitions</b> <b>Literature Review: Content and Theory</b> <b>Student Presentations: Subject Area Content</b> <b>20-page Literature Review Drafts Due</b>	
Feb. 28 – March 8	<b>Second Individual Discussion to Focus Research and Theory</b> <b>TBD</b>	
May 8	<b>Final Paper Presentations: Content and Theory</b> <b>35-page Literature Review Due</b>	



**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*