



EDCI 696.41E

Applications of Research Methods

COURSE SYLLABUS: SUMMER I 2023

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: David L. Brown, PhD
Office Location: Education South, 229
Office Hours: By Appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5536
Office Fax: 903-886-5581
University Email Address: David.Brown@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: 24 - 48 Hours (Monday thru Friday)

COURSE INFORMATION

Class Meeting Information:

Every Tuesday and Thursday, 5:00 pm to 9:30 pm - **First Class Meets June 6, 2023**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

Boudah Daniel J., (2019) "Conducting Educational Research: Guide to Completing a Thesis, Dissertation, or Action Research Project", 2nd Edition. SAGE Publications Inc., CA. ISBN # 978-1544351698

Patten, Mildred L., (2014) "Questionnaire Research: A Practical Guide", 4th Edition. Routledge. ISBN # 978-1936523313

Optional Texts and/or Materials:

Pan, M. L. (2015). *Preparing Literature Reviews: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*, 5th Edition. New York, NY: Routledge. (ISBN 978-1936523399)

Silverman, D. (2013). *Doing Qualitative Research: A Practical Handbook*, 4th Edition. London, UK: SAGE Publications Ltd. (ISBN 978-1446260159)

Adelheid, A. A. M. & Pexman, P. M. (2010). *Presenting Your Findings: A Practical Guide for Creating Tables*, 6th Edition. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (ISBN 978-1433807053)

Adelheid, A. A. M. & Pexman, P. M. (2010). *Displaying Your Findings: A Practical Guide for Creating Figures, Posters, and Presentations*, 6th Edition. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (ISBN 978-1433807077)

American Psychological Association (2010). *Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th Edition. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (ISBN 978-1433805615)

Course Description

An application of research methodology in curriculum and instruction including basic concepts employed in quantitative and qualitative research methods. This course includes conducting data collection, data analysis, and use of computer applications for research. Students will, by the end of semester, develop skills and knowledge necessary to write a draft of a research proposal. This is not a statistics class, but students should be currently enrolled or have completed one statistics course. Prerequisites include the completion of EDCI 695 and Doctoral level standing or consent of the instructor.

Prerequisites:

Doctoral level standing or consent of instructor and **completion** of EDCI 695

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will increase their skills in reviewing and critiquing peer-reviewed studies for the purpose of learning how to understand research results, conclusions, and implications.
2. The student will increase their skills in writing research questions, and hypotheses for quantitative and mixed methods research.
3. The student will increase their knowledge and ability to select structured quantitative instruments and create qualitative and mixed methods questionnaires by which to measure their hypotheses.
4. The student will increase their skills in determining what statistical method to use to test their quantitative data.
5. The student will analyze data using Excel and SPSS, present and interpret results, and write a brief report using tables.
6. The student will develop datasets using Excel and import into SPSS for analysis.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will be required to use the current learning management system, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, YouTube videos and Web browsing skills while completing this course.

Instructional Methods

Methods of Instruction:

This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course and module learning objectives. Each day you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, research, and projects.

Preparation, Participation, Knowledge, and Professionalism: Check your Leo email (or other listed email) at least twice a week for updates, assignments, and notifications.

- a) Complete assignments prior to due date.
- b) Be prepared to discuss, question, analyze, critique, and debate readings, research, and other class assignments.

- c) Participate regularly and follow the conduct rules.
- d) Demonstrate the attainment of a depth of knowledge commensurate with doctoral studies and professional behavior in all you do.
- e) Lack of preparation, participation, and/or professionalism (please see the Code of Student Conduct in the Texas A&M University-Commerce Student Guidebook) may result in removal from class or lowering of your final grade. Plagiarism may result in dismissal from the doctoral program.

Course Topics and Content Areas:

1. Conducting Policy Research
2. Research Designs
3. Identifying a Research Problem
4. Identifying a Possible Research Question
5. The Purposes of a Literature Review
6. The Process of Conducting a Literature Search
7. Understanding and Writing a Literature Review
8. Issues in Validity and Reliability
9. Designing and Conducting Experimental Research
10. Designing and Conducting Qualitative Research
11. Designing and Conducting Descriptive Research
12. Creating a Research Proposal
13. Analyzing and Interpreting Experimental Research
14. Analyzing and interpreting Qualitative Data
15. Analyzing and Interpreting Descriptive Research
16. Writing Research Reports
17. Developing Data Sets
18. Handling Missing Data
19. Conducting Survey Research
20. Understanding and Using Survey Monkey

Course Requirements/Assignments:

1. **Be prepared to discuss, question, analyze, critique, and debate** assigned readings, special topic readings, and other class assignments. Each student will attend and participate in discussions, readings, and collaborative activities during each class session. Additionally, each student will complete assigned readings and be ready to share and discuss in class. Class participation is defined as regular attendance to class, coming to class prepared by having read the assigned readings; formulating questions for class discussion; active participation during in-class activities and discussions; and displaying professional conduct during class.

2. **Presentation:**

Analyzing Data: Each student enrolled in EDCI 696 will engage in data analysis using data that will be provided by the instructor. This assignment will provide students with practice in doing basic descriptive statistics and interpretation of data. Each student will work in concert with the Instructor of record and their statistics professor to develop and analyze a set of data and write a brief report with tables and interpretation of results.

3. **Present Summary of Research:** Each student will present a summary of a research study to the class including a discussion of results with directions for future research. The presentation and discussion during the EDCI 696 class meeting will last for approximately 45 minutes. The presentation should be done in PowerPoint and include.
 - a. A summary of the purpose of the study, why it is relevant, research questions addressed, methods use, and results and conclusions from study.
 - b. Identify major strengths and weaknesses of the research study according to a criteria discussed in class.
4. **Reviews of Three Research Articles that Relate to Student's Dissertation or Proposal Topic:** Students will use the enclosed template to prepare a 2-page review (each) of the three research-based articles that relate to the topic that will be examined in the student's dissertation proposal. The students will be required to share their reviews of the research-based articles in terms of their strengths and weaknesses. Of the three reviews, two must be on a quantitative study and one must be on a mixed methods or qualitative study.
5. **Chapter Presentation:** Each student will select chapters from the textbooks and develop a 4-6 page (PowerPoint) presentation reflecting the key ideas within those chapters. The student will provide copies of the (PowerPoint) handout for each class members, during their presentation. Students are strongly encouraged to actively engage class members in their presentation.

Guidelines for Chapter Presentations:

- Please remember to bring copies of your handout materials during the Chapter Presentation.
- If you choose to use the PowerPoint projector, please arrive early and check to see if you are able to open your file.
- Please plan to share the key ideas orally, but do not read the information; discuss with the class.
- Try to keep within your 30 to 45-minute time limit. However, if you have to extend the time limit, we may have some additional time that must be used strategically.
- Finally, please actively engage the class in understanding the key ideas within the chapter.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Each of you are expected to participate fully in assigned readings related to course topics. Regular thoughtful and consistent course involvement will be expected of all students.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Example:

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Assignments | 20% |
| Discussions | 20% |
| Midterm Exam | 30% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

Assessments

Information on how assignments are related to the course outcomes and how they are assessed can be found in the course assignment section.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

My aim is to be in quick communication with you. I do respond to text and email quickly. If you have not heard from me within a two-day time frame, please text or email again. I might have missed the communication, or it did not come through. If you need to call me to discuss an issue, please feel free to call the number of the syllabus.

Correspondingly, I will make every effort to grade papers in a timely fashion. You will notice that I have given you several weeks to complete the quizzes, discussions and assignments for a set of chapters. This will allow you to go into depth on a topic you may be interested in researching further and not feel challenged to get an assignment done by just “skimming the surface” within a week’s time. Therefore, please note it will take me time to grade the large amount of assignments that are submitted. My goal is to have your grades posted by the due date of the next set of assignments.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Assignment Due Dates: Assignments are due on specific dates, as assigned. Assignments will be accepted after the due date with the exception of major projects. However, a 10-point deduction will be applied to assignments that are 1 day late, and an additional 5 points for each day thereafter.

Materials from the course will not always be found in your text. Typically, you will be expected to read 1 to 3 chapters per week. It is advised that you do not wait until the night before to start the reading material. It is recommended that you stay current with chapter readings and read the assigned chapters in a timely manner.

Please understand that you should not come to me at the end of the semester, unhappy with your grade, asking for a way to change it. Grades will not be changed.

Written Assignments: All assignments must be typed in legible (preferably Times Roman) 12 point font. College level writing is expected. If you feel insecure about your writing abilities, you may want to seek assistance from the writing lab in the department of literature and languages. They will not assist with spelling. Please make sure someone proofs your paper. Excessive grammar, spelling and vocabulary errors will result in a lower grade. You should demonstrate mastery of organizing, structure and editing. **All assignments should be written using the APA Style Manual, Version 7.**

Citizenship: All Students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student 92s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

Student Conduct: You are expected to demonstrate a professional attitude at all times. This includes respecting the thoughts of your peers as well as your instructor.

Also included are the following: participating in small and large group discussions, being on time, staying the entire time, accepting constructive criticism, listening, turning in high quality work, and understanding that this is a growth experience. Students who come into class expecting an A need to rethink their reason for being here. If you want an A, then you will work to earn the A.

Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be tolerated, and students will be asked to drop the class. If a student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism **WILL NOT** be tolerated and will result in an automatic **F** in the course. Various versions of your work and final papers will be run through Turnitin software – this is not meant to “catch” you in the act, but rather assist you in seeing possible areas that may be unintentionally plagiarized and allow for editing your work.

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." These policies are stated in detail in the Student's Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 or F on the assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce further does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Visit the following websites:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

AI Use in Course

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

Scholarly Expectations: All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Class Meetings:

| | | |
|---------|----------|-------------------|
| June 06 | Tuesday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 08 | Thursday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 13 | Tuesday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 15 | Thursday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 20 | Tuesday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 22 | Thursday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 27 | Tuesday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| June 29 | Thursday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |
| July 06 | Thursday | 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM |