EDCI 687.41B Sociocultural Inquiry
Fall 2023
Mesquite Center
Wednesdays (4:30-8:00 p.m.)

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Sherri R. Colby PhD

Office Location: Ed Sowers South 232

Office Hours: By appointment.

Office Fax: 903-886-5581

University Email Address: Sherri.Colby@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Usually 1 business day; occasionally 2 business days.

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required:

Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. (2018). Qualitative *inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Saldaña, J., & Omasta, M. (2021). *Qualitative research: Analyzing life* (2nd ed.). Los Angeles:
Sage Publications.

Students shall also be responsible to implement the APA (American Psychological Association) style guide (7th edition). Additional information about the style guide can

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be found at Purdue Owl:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

Course Description

The course content centers on qualitative research in the sociocultural environments of public schools. The methodology (research design, data collection, analysis) associated with this form of inquiry shall be delineated. The course focuses on the philosophical and methodological differences between varying approaches (narrative, phenomenology, case studies, grounded theory, and ethnography) to research. Academic writing and critical reading of qualitative research shall also be addressed

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Students shall comprehend and understand the basic tenets of qualitative inquiry.
2. Students will engage in qualitative data collection, including observation, interviews, and qualitative texts.
3. Students will analyze qualitative data using coding and thematic analysis.
4. Students will create qualitative art projects as an additional lens for descriptive and interpretative qualitative inquiry.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The students will complete the following assignments, and the final grade shall be calculated using the percentages listed below.

Reading Response Charts and Journals – 25%;

Data Collection and Analysis Papers (Observation – 15%; Interview — 25%,

Qualitative Text – 15%)

Qualitative Art Display – 20%.

Total: 100%

Assessments

A shortened description of the assignments follows. Additional details about the assignments are found in Brightspace.

1. *Reading Response Charts* – We shall complete a series of reading response charts that correlate with the assigned reading for the course. The format for the charts is provided in Brightspace. For the journals, you may consider reflecting on your dissertation research questions or to practice qualitative skills. Alternative texts

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(poetry, narrative, auto ethnography) are encouraged. As part of this assignment, a reading reflection will be required. More detailed instructions to these assignments shall be found on Brightspace.

2. *Collecting and Analyzing Qualitative Texts:* For these assignments, you shall practice the skills of a qualitative researcher: reflecting, observing, writing, interviewing, and creating. Three different texts shall be analyzed: observation, interview, and political/historical text.   For these activities, I recommend collecting data from naturalistic settings in schools or other community centers. Guides to these assignments are found on Brightspace in the doc. Sharing section.

3. Qualitative Art/ Photovoice Project: For this assignment, prepare an art display depicting your growth and/ or insights as a qualitative researcher, student, and educator. The art display may include multimedia, photography, music, artisan crafts, food, scrapbooks, or other modalities. As part of the display, include a written description or reflection.

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students should be able to submit Word documents and presentation materials, operate a video camera, participate in Zoom/ online conferences, navigate Brightspace D2L, and use technology for presentations. The use of photography, video, and other multimedia is encouraged. The use of artificial intelligence as a substitute for students' writing is prohibited.

Instructional Methods

As a social constructivist educator with strong considerations for thinking and inquiry within the disciplines, my teaching style involves peer collaboration, dialogic learning, analytical and aesthetic thinking, and inquiry methods.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Please review course materials and the calendar. I recommend checking your MyLeo email regularly and the course announcements page for updates. Also, if you need assistance, please reach out to me to schedule a personal conference. Peer support groups are encouraged.

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

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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.

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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

Email is the most efficient way to reach me. I often schedule Zoom conferences with students. Please email me for an appointment.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Assignment Submission Policy: The instructor reserves the right to change course assignments, projects, and examinations throughout the semester. Each assignment/project must be completed and turned in by the due date given. All assignments are due by 11:59 midnight on the date indicated on the calendar. All assignments are submitted electronically on D2L Brightspace. **Late assignments shall be subject to letter grade reductions (usually a 70 or half credit) or non-acceptance at the instructor's discretion.**

In the case of unexpected emergencies, students must provide written documentation regarding their missed assignments. The instructor reserves the right to deny make-up opportunities, especially in cases of negligence. It is expected that all course assignments/projects (inside and outside of class and including examinations) will be completed at mastery level (as designated by the instructor). If (in the professional opinion of the instructor) an assignment/project is not satisfactorily completed, it may be returned to the student, and the student may be required to re-do the work until it is at mastery level. The instructor reserves the right to limit the number of times an assignment/project may be re-submitted and to establish a reasonable time frame for resubmissions. If any course assignment/project is not completed at a mastery level by the final resubmission deadline, the instructor reserves the right to assign the student a grade of "I" or "F" for the assignment and/or course--at the instructor's discretion.

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

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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

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Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServ
ices/

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/rulesProcedur
es/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**

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

A calendar shall be given to you during the first week of class. Our tentative class dates are as follows: Aug. 30, Sept. 6, Sept. 20, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Nov. 29, Dec. 6.

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