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EDAD 695.01W RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Julia Ballenger, 2020 Regents Professor

Office Location: Frank Young, Ed. Bldg. North, Office #110

P.O. Box 3011, Commerce, TX. 75429

Office Hours Virtual: Tuesday and Thursday – 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Monday and Wednesday- 10: a.m. – 2 p.m.

Cell phone: 936.554.9300

Office Fax: 903.886.5507

University Email Address: julia.ballenger@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Twenty-four hours unless there are extenuating circumstances

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.), American Psychological Association.

Babbie, E. (2021). *The practice of social research* (15th. ed.). Cengage Learning. ISBN 13: 978-0-357-36076-7

Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D., (2023). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approach* (6th, Ed.). SAGE. ISBN-13 978-150638 6706

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Optional Textbook

Lunenburg, F. C., & Irby, B. J. (2008). *Writing a successful thesis or dissertation: Tips and strategies for students in the social and behavioral sciences*. Corwin Press. ISBN: 978-1412942256

Machi, L. A., & McEvoy, B. T. (2016). *The literature review: Six steps to Success*, (3rd, ed.). Corwin Press

Course Description

This course is designed to provide an overview of research methodology. The students will evaluate social science research using a variety of approaches. The Instructor will teach fundamental issues regarding formulating purpose statements, research questions or hypotheses, research design, and data collection and analysis techniques. The course instructional materials encompass quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research approaches in discussing the essential components of the research process: conceptualization and measurement, sample selection, and data collection and analysis.

In addition to teaching techniques and conventions of writing a research proposal, students will apply the skills learned to analyze empirical research. Students will develop a variety of matrices and identify software programs to organize and manage research information. The course also includes applying survey research, sampling, measurement, and questionnaire construction. Students will also learn about validity, reliability, data reduction, and analysis. This course meets the requirements for a Level I research tools course. Prerequisite: Doctoral status or consent of the Instructor

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Apply the basic components of systematic research to develop a research proposal.
2. Evaluate the appropriateness of specific data gathering and analysis techniques in peer-reviewed articles.
3. Apply research skills learned to analyze peer-reviewed research articles.
4. Describe characteristics of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research approaches.
5. Apply the principles and procedures related to standardized measurement in selecting an appropriate data collection instrument.
6. Describe trustworthiness principles to include in the proposal to protect human subjects.
7. Identify research problems and structure appropriate purposes for the

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research study associated with the problem.

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8. Develop research questions and hypotheses based on the review of the literature.
9. Develop an appropriate data interview protocol for a proposed qualitative research study.
10. Select an appropriate research design for the purpose statement and research questions and/or hypotheses within the context of experimental, quasi-experimental, non-experimental quantitative, qualitative, and/or mixed methods approaches.
11. Identify techniques used to analyze data using descriptive and inferential statistics.
12. Develop matrices to record notes from articles and books for the literature reviewed.
13. Demonstrate an understanding of sampling techniques, measurement, and questionnaire construction
14. Describe concepts such as validity and reliability, data reduction, and analysis in writing the research proposal.
15. Articulate an understanding of the role of the researcher and personal qualitative researcher in the proposed research study.
16. Demonstrate the application of the six steps in writing a literature review.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You will be expected to know how to use the learning management system, use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Some of the assignments require you to make a virtual presentation with a variety of graphics designs. You will be required to understand how to participate with others in a Google + Hangout, on SKYPE ZOOM, or Adobe Connect.

Instructional Methods

The Instructor will create an engaging, positive learning environment and provide guidance for engagement with the content and learning activities. The Instructor will provide learner-learner, learner-content, and learner-instructor opportunities for each student to actively engage in the learning. I desire that you experience a quality learning environment as you master the skills and knowledge needed to accomplish each of the student learning objectives.

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Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

This course is taught entirely online. It is instructor-led with a course schedule. The course content is presented in D2L Learning Management System learning modules. Each module contains instructions, and the course schedule includes the due dates. In each module, you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, etc., available on the first day of the module. As a graduate-level course, the Instructor expects quality work from each student supported by adequate preparation and active engagement.

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

Assessments

Explanation by graded assessment type (points toward final grade)

Module Assignments: All assignments have to be completed to earn an A for this course.

Module	Assignment/Points	Discussion Points
Module 1	Assignment 1- 10pts.	No Discussion
Module 2	Assignment 2- 10pts.	No Discussion
Module 3	Assignment 3- 10pts.	Discussion 3 – 5pts.
Module 4	Assignment 4- 20pts.	Discussion 4 – 5pts.
Module 5	Assignment 5- 10pts.	Discussion 5 – 5pts.
Module 6	Assignment 6- 10pts.	Discussion 6 – 5pts.
Module 7	Assignment 7- 10pts.	No Discussion

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Total Points	80pts	20pts.
Grand Total Points		100 pts.

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

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide I.D. (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for I.T. 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 P.C. 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

Assignments and discussion board threads will be graded during the assignment period or no later than two days after the due date. Constructive feedback will be provided on all assignments. The Instructor expects students to review feedback and make corrections to the assignments. The Instructor does not want to see the same errors in future assignments. The preferred mode of communication is via email at Julia.ballenger@tamuc.edu. Response time to students will be within 24 hours unless there are extenuating circumstances (i.e., illness or conference attendance).

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

No late work will be accepted unless the professor grants prior approval.

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).
<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](#).

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<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/>

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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 (P.C.) 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

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

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.

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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.

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