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<https://new.tamuc.edu/coronavirus/>

## **EDCI 695: Doctoral Research Methodology**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Karyn Miller, Ph.D

**Office Hours:** I will be available by appointment.

**University Email Address:** [Karyn.Miller@tamuc.edu](mailto:Karyn.Miller@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

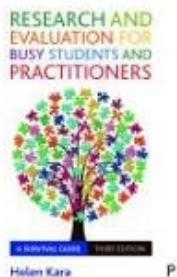
**Communication Response Time:** 48 hours maximum (Monday-Friday)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

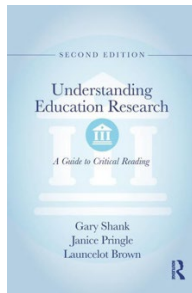
#### **Textbooks Required**

Kara, H. (2023). *Research and Evaluation for Busy Students and Practitioners: A Survival Guide*. Policy Press.



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Shank, G., Pringle, J., & Brown, L. (2018). *Understanding Research: A Guide to Critical Reading* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Routledge. ISBN-13: 978-1138565807/ISBN-10: 1138565806.



### **Other Readings**

Other readings will be made available throughout the semester as needed.

### **Optional Texts and/or Materials**

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Seventh Edition (2020)

## **Course Description**

This course is intended to familiarize doctoral students with basic research concepts and their application in conducting educational research. Further, this course is designed to help doctoral students make some of the decisions for their own research proposals. Because no one research design or methodology is considered best practice, this course places a balanced emphasis on various data collection and analysis techniques. Consequently, students will become familiar with tools with which to determine the best approach for a problem they wish to investigate, the nature of their research objectives, and the constraints of the research problem. Students will broaden their knowledge of how to access, understand, and evaluate research reports. Finally, students will learn the initial steps of drafting a research proposal.

This course will meet at the Mesquite ISD Center and over zoom. Although students can participate asynchronously, the ETAMU course schedule states: "If you are unable to attend (live), the session will be recorded for later viewing, and you are required to complete course work associated with the recorded sessions."

While there is not a penalty for attending asynchronously, there is an expectation required beyond simply watching the recording.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

*By the end of this course, students will be able to:*

1. Identify the various components of an effective research study.
2. Distinguish between opinion articles and reports of systematic research.

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3. Gain familiarity with a variety of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis techniques.
4. Identify a research problem within your field of concentration, to generate appropriate research questions, and to explore the choice of an appropriate methodology and design.
5. Develop a research proposal.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Access to a Computer with:

- Internet Access
- Microsoft Word Processing Software
- Microsoft Power Point Software
- Adobe or Foxit Reader to open PDF File

### **Instructional Methods**

This course meets face-to-face (Mesquire or zoom) every other Wednesday from 5-8pm (see course schedule for exact dates). However, it uses a flipped classroom model where students are expected to complete readings, activities, and assignments before each in-person meeting. Instructional methods include lectures, small group discussions, student presentations, and writing assignments.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

Students are responsible for engaging in their own learning. This includes being aware of and meeting deadlines, checking class emails, asking questions to clarify understanding, and actively participating in course activities.

I expect active participation in the course, regardless of whether students participate in-person, online synchronously, or asynchronously. Asynchronous participation does not consist of simply watching a class recording. Additional coursework is required, per the university's course schedule.

## **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%

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F = 59% or Below

## Assessments

The assignments for the course are listed below along with its weighted value towards the final grade. Specific instructions for each assignment are included in detail in D2L (see assignments for each unit).

- Participation: 20%
- Reading reflections: 10%
- Article Critique assignment: 15%
- Ideas/Thinking Journal: 15%
- Research Proposal: 25%
- Proposal Presentation: 15%

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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](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 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](mailto: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

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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 ETAMU 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**

You should expect responses to questions and concerns posted in my virtual office or sent by email within 48 hours. In most cases, I respond within 24 hours. Please email me only for personal concerns. Questions about the class should be posted in my virtual office for the benefit of the class.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

This course allows students to work through each unit at their own pace, prior to the scheduled class meeting. However, all assignments be submitted by the due date. No late work will be accepted after the due date except for in extenuating circumstances. Examples of extenuating circumstances include a verified illness, death in a student's immediate family, and obligation of a student at legal proceedings in fulfilling responsibility as a citizen. Documentation is required to

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be granted an exception to the late work policy. Make-up work, re-writes, and extra credit are not permitted.

### **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>

### **ETAMU 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 East Texas A&M University 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](#)

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDis honestyFormold.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**

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

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

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

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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.

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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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **COURSE CALENDAR**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	The Nature of Educational Research
2	Composing a Research Life
3	Framing a Research Problem
4	Research Design
5	Data Collection
6	Data Analysis
7	Presenting research

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