



## PSY/SPED 595 Research Literature Review and Techniques

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer I 2026  
Online  
June 1 – July 2

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor:** Mei Jiang, Ph.D. Associate Professor  
**Office Location:** Henderson 202A  
**Office Hours:** Zoom meetings by appointment  
**Email Address:** [mei.jiang@etamuc.edu](mailto:mei.jiang@etamuc.edu)  
Preferred Form of Communication: Email  
Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours on weekdays

**Note.** Emails without proper salutations or not sent from LEOMAIL will **NOT** be responded to.

### COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

American Psychological Association (APA). (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (7<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Cengage.

McMillan, J. H. (2022). *Educational Research: Fundamental Principles and Methods* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Pearson Education.

ISBN-13: 978-0-13-577014-6 (eTextbook)

ISBN-13: 9780135770092

\*\*\*Additional required readings will be provided on D2L.

### Course Description

Emphasizes research in the student's major field, basic statistics, literature review, proposal and report development, research implementation, needs assessment, program development, and  
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ethical and legal considerations regarding research through the presentation of a formal research proposal and/or presentation of a completed research report.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of:

- the importance of research, opportunities, and difficulties in conducting research in the psychology, counseling, and special education professions
- research methods such as qualitative, quantitative, single-case design, action research, and outcome-based research
- technological competence and computer literacy
- principles, models, and applications of needs assessment, program evaluation, and use of findings to affect program modifications
- use of research to improve program effectiveness
- ethical and legal considerations related to research and program evaluation

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Be able to use

- the learning management system
- Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Windows system or Mac system.

### **Instructional Methods**

This is an online course, which is not to be interpreted as self-paced. Rather, you are required to log on regularly (preferably every day) in order to succeed. You may consume the material at a more rapid pace than set by the below schedule, but assignments, quizzes, and exams will still take place according to the schedule. Quizzes and Exams will be open for 2-3 days. If you are unable to complete the exam in this time frame, you must contact me ahead of time to re-schedule.

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

Read the text: Read the chapter we are covering when it is assigned. This prepares you to complete the assigned work.

Ask questions: If there is something you do not understand, ask questions. You may email me directly! Ask questions as early as you can! – The most important!

*Please feel free to contact me any time you have questions. I make a rule for myself, and I would like for you to follow it. If I spend an hour on something, and really **give it my all, but I still can't get it, it's time to ask for help.** Don't be afraid to ask for help! Don't just sit there getting frustrated!*

Take notes: Take GOOD notes while you read. It is a good study habit to go over your notes at the end of each week, filling in the blanks from the supplemental video(s) and assignment. It is also a good idea to make friends in the course and get the phone numbers of a couple of people who you can clarify notes with.

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Utilize D2L: All instructions, due dates, and submission of graded material are to be completed in D2L. **Email submission will not be accepted.** Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the system and contact me or IT with questions in advance.

## 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

The instructor reserves the right to make subjective judgments about the quality of student participation and products. In other words, quantity does not equate to quality, nor does effort equate to quality. Moreover, a grade of A will be reserved for only the highest achieving students. If you need to receive an A in this course, I suggest you work hard to submit stellar products. Contact me anytime if you need help. Please do not wait until the semester is over to discuss grades.

In both undergraduate and graduate school, grades are earned according to individual student performance on described activities. Effort is important but the outcome of your effort is the product upon which grades are based. Final grades are assigned as follows using a weighted percentage points earned scale:

- ✓ Grades of A are *reserved* for students whose products are consistently exemplary and commensurate with the work of an accomplished graduate student. A products provide clarity of thoughts and ideas with no grammatical, structural, or spelling errors.
- ✓ Grades of B are earned by students whose products are good but not outstanding. B products provide detail and explanation; may have a few grammatical, structural, or spelling errors.
- ✓ Grades of C are earned by students whose products are limited but display sufficient understanding; may have major grammatical, structural, or spelling errors.

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## Assessments

Percentage toward final grade	Assignment/Activity
10%	Assignments (3)
25%	Quizzes (10)
35%	Peer Review Activities (11)
25%	Research Proposal (1)
5%	Professionalism (lounge)

\*\*\*See D2L course for grading details.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M 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)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universitymenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universitymenu)

## 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@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.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 East Texas A&M campus open computer lab, etc.

### 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:

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

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

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

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

I am here to support you. My office hours are listed on the top of the syllabus. If you would like to set up a Zoom meeting, please email me to schedule a time. Office hours are subject to change, and I will inform students via D2L if there are any changes. My normal email response time is 24 hours but may take up to 48 hours. If you do not hear back from me within 2 business days, please email me again in case I did not receive your message. Your assignments will be graded and returned to you within one week.

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

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

#### ***EMAIL POLICY***

If you would like to schedule an appointment, the best way is to email. We can then set up a time to chat when it is convenient for both of us. If you email me and do not receive an email response within 48 hours during the weekday, most likely, your email was not received.

#### ***EMAIL GUIDELINES***

In an attempt to provide a framework for professional communication, emails must contain the following:

- Subject Line: Course and section # (e.g. PSY 595-01W); additional information if desired (e.g. Research Question)
- Address the Reader: Open with “Dr. Jiang...”
- Use good grammar and avoid acronyms (i.e., do not write like you text)
- Ask good questions; a good question is specific and show me the effort you’ve made.
- If asking for assistance with an issue, please list how you have attempted to remediate the issue prior to contacting me (these should probably include looking at the syllabus/ course rubrics/ D2L, contacting a colleague, and checking your textbook, etc.)
- Close with your name and CWID.
- Please send emails from your University Leomail account.
- The instructor will NOT discuss grades over email. If you would like to discuss your grade, please make an appointment during office hours.

### **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**

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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 can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

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>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M 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 student academic dishonesty policy  
[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

### **East Texas A&M Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

### **Artificial Intelligence**

East Texas A&M 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).

**In this course, the use of such AI software for individual work is DISALLOWED unless requested in the instruction.** Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. **I will be use AI-enabled Turnitin to check work originality throughout this semester.** Students should be aware of such requirements and follow the guidelines.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of *The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

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

### **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 Services  
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

**Phone (903) 886-5930**

Fax (903) 468-8148

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

**Website:** <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.asp>  
[x](#)

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M 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,

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

## **Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content Professional Standards**

### ***National Association Of School Psychologist Standards***

Data Based Decision Making (1)

Consultation and Collaboration (2)

Academic Interventions and Instructional Supports (3)

Mental and Behavioral Health Services and Interventions (4)

Research and Evidence-Based Practice (9)

Legal, Ethical, and Professional Practice (10)

### ***Texas Special Education Teaching Standards***

Domain I Standard V- The special education teacher understands formal and informal assessment procedures and knows how to evaluate student competencies to make instructional decisions.

Domain III Standard XI- The special education teacher promotes students' performance in English language arts and reading.

Domain III Standard XII- The special education teacher promotes students' performance in mathematics.

### ***Texas Educational Diagnostician Standards***

Educational Diagnostician Standard IV- The educational diagnostician understands and applies knowledge of student assessment and evaluation, program planning, and

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instructional decision-making.

Educational Diagnostician Standard IX- The educational diagnostician addresses students' behavioral and social intervention skills through appropriate assessments, evaluations, planning and instructional strategies.

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## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

		Chapters	Peer Review (PR)	Assignment (A)	Quiz (Q)
1	June 1-7	C1: Introduction C2: Ethics C3: Research Problem & Questions	PR1 PR2 PR3a; PR3b	A2a; A2b	Q1 Q2 Q3
2	June 8-14	C4: Literature Review C5: Sampling C6: Measurement	PR4 PR5 PR6	A4	Q4 Q5 Q6
3	June 15-21	C7: Data Collection C9: Experimental Research Design	PR7a; PR7b PR9		Q7 Q9
4	June 22-28	C8: Nonexperimental Research Design C10: Statistics Basics	PR10		Q8 Q10
5	June 29-July 2	Final Paper			

See D2L for detailed outline and deadlines. As a general guideline, each module starts on Monday morning and all the work are due the following Sunday night by 11:59 pm.

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