



EAST TEXAS A&M

AG 595 CRN: 83241 Research & Literature Techniques COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Whitney Figland, PhD, Assistant Professor

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Office Hours: I maintain an open-door policy and welcome visits to address questions; I would encourage you to send me a quick email to schedule a meeting or zoom. However, I am always available by my cell.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description: A careful study of the latest research literature and techniques available in different fields of agriculture.

Textbook (Required):

Bhattacharjee, Anol. (2012). *Social Science Research: Principles, Methods, and Practices*, 2nd edition. Textbook Collection, 3. *Provided e-text*

Creswell, J. W. (2022). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (6th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. *A free PDF 4th edition version is provided; however, there may be slight differences based on editions*

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Apply the *scientific method* to solving education-related problems.
2. Demonstrate understanding of ethical issues and conduct in research related to human subjects.
3. Analyze research articles and:
 - a. Discuss relevance to your profession.
 - b. Distinguish between research methods.
 - c. Determine the purpose(s) of each study.
 - d. Recognize limitations of the study.
 - e. Discuss implications for educators or stakeholders.
4. Utilize library and online databases and bibliographic search indexes.
5. Explain the importance of validity, reliability, and usability to research.

6. Recognize the types of, factors affecting, and methods used to determine validity and reliability.
7. Describe the basic procedures of survey research using questionnaires.
8. Discuss various types of experimental designs used in educational research.
9. Discuss qualitative research methods and uses.
10. Apply research methods to program evaluation.
11. Compose a literature review and cite sources appropriately.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and ASSESSMENT

Assessment and Grade Determination	Point Value
Online interaction and discussion participation	135
Conduct in Research IRB training for Soc Sciences	100
Literature review outline/draft	100
Recognizing Research Theories	50
Final Project – Completed Lit Review	300

Total = 685

Online Interaction and Participation in Discussions

Students are expected to respond to each discussion prompt using proper grammar including spelling, capitalization (when applicable), and punctuation. **Participation in response to 2 other classmates is required for full discussion points.**

Recognizing Research Theories

Use your library, previous literature review skills, and internet search skills to locate and select a research article related to an agricultural education, extension, leadership, or communication issue that uses one of the common theories presented in this module for its theoretical framework. You may find it helpful to utilize your collected literature review articles.

Research ethics assignment (University-approved IRB training/quizzes)

This assignment will allow the student to demonstrate:

1. Consider case studies related to ethical issues in research.
2. Interpret, define, and/or utilize key vocabulary related to research.
3. Recognize strategies for protecting Human Subjects.
4. Discuss implications of research to a profession, population, or society.

Literature Review

Each student will complete a literature review that is a max of 15 based on an identified topic. References, in-text citations, and writing will follow format specifications from *American Psychological Association (APA) Manual for Publication*, 7th or latest edition. More detail will be discussed in modules.

GRADING SCALE

- A = 90% +**
- B = 89.9 – 80%**
- C = 79.9 – 70%**
- D = 69.9 – 60%**
- F = <59%vb**

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Plagiarism: Plagiarism **WILL NOT** be tolerated and will result in an automatic **F** in the course. Students are expected to do their own work. Assistance with written assignments, such as proofreading or editing, is encouraged as long as the final concepts and product are those drafted and authored by the student. Information or materials (including ideas, quotes, data, procedures, etc.) from sources other than the student must be given proper credit through appropriate citation. The discipline of Agricultural Education uses the APA format (6th edition) as its primary style guide for publications, including research papers and reports. Assistance with this format and general guidelines for written assignments are available at the following source:

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.

Writing Standards: All written assignment will be written in a format aligned with the *American Psychological Association (APA) Manual for Publication*, 7th edition. APA style will always be used for punctuation, writing style, headings, and citations. Exceptions to APA formatting will be specified when appropriate. For the two writings in this course, the exceptions and expectations are:

- Name (First Last) will be a flush right header and Assignment Name will be a flush right footer. I do not want a “running head” in the top left. Page numbers are optional. The precludes the need for a cover page or a “heading” on the first page in the body of the paper.
- 1” Margins for Top, Bottom, Left, and Right
- Times New Roman, 12 Point
- Single all paragraphs with double space between paragraphs, topic headings (in the body), tables, and figures

A tutorial on scientific writing, including the use of APA format is available from the Online Writing Lab at Purdue University (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>). Personal face-to-face assistance with editing and format suggestions is available from the ETAMU on-campus Writing Center

Interaction with Instructor Statement: E-mail will serve as the primary method for out-of class communication between the instructor and students. Therefore, students should check their university (myLeo) or other preferred e-mail account at least once daily. The instructor will attempt to answer each student-generated message within 48 hours of dispatch.

University Specific Procedures and Language

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

Gee Library- Room 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

ETAMU 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.

Citizenship

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>

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas

ETAMU 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 ETAMU 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.

I reserve the right to make changes and revisions as needed to improve the class, the assignments, provide clarity, or provide a better experience.