

EDUC 6305 Research Design in Education & Social Sciences

(Cross-listed with EDRD 6305 Research Design in Reading)

Section 783, Fall 2020, First 8-Week Session

Syllabus

Basic Information

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Louis C. Glover

E-MAIL: glover_l@utpb.edu (email is preferred)

PHONE: 432.552.2146

OFFICE HOURS: MWF (10 AM to 1PM) Virtual and by appointment

This course is a Web course and is conducted within Canvas at <http://utpb.instructure.com>

Course Description

Course Catalog Description:

This course is designed to acquaint students with how research is conducted in the fields of education and the social sciences. Students will select and evaluate research findings within their specific fields, and learn how to plan their own research studies.

Prerequisites:

Admission to graduate study is required. Enrollment by other students requires the permission of the instructor or the department.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Describe the nature of research and its diverse approaches.
2. Explain ethical, legal, and human relations issues inherent in planning research.
3. Delineate the major components of a quantitative research study.
4. Explain the purpose of and methodology involved in qualitative research.
5. Use electronic and print databases to access current knowledge on a research topic.
6. Calculate basic statistics utilized in various research designs.
7. Frame a research problem and develop a proposal for investigating it.

Materials

Required: Leedy, P. & Ormrod, J. (2019). *Practical research: Planning and design* (12th ed.). New York: Pearson. Paperback ISBN 9780134775654. E-Text ISBN 9780134776200.

Recommended: American Psychological Association (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN 9781433832161.

[APA Style \(Academic Writer\)](#) is a good online FREE resource to APA style.

Computer Skills, Technical & Software Requirements

To effectively complete the requirements of the course, you must have the following:

- An e-mail address linked to Canvas through My UTPB (checked daily).

- Daily access to your UTPB Canvas account.
- A working computer and Internet connection, to allow you to receive all course materials.
- To view the course content, you must have Microsoft Office and Acrobat Reader installed on your computer.

This course requires basic proficiency in the use of Word and PowerPoint to create and edit documents, and to save and submit files. Students also need basic proficiency in receiving, sending, and attaching files to email, and in the use of Internet search tools. To submit photo identification with the designated assignments, students will need access to a camera or a camera phone.

Students can use cloud version of Word, PowerPoint and other Microsoft products through use of their UTPB Outlook 365 and UTPB email address. For more information, refer to [UTPB Office 365 Page](#).

Computer Technical Requirements

See [Technical Requirements](#).

Important Academic Dates

UTPB [Academic Calendar](#)

Class Communication and Feedback

Students in this course are encouraged to use the Conversations Inbox in Canvas for student-student and student-instructor interaction as much as possible. I will check the messages each morning, including weekends. I will also check the messages in the evening on dates that major assignments are due. Students are encouraged to update their preferred email address in My UTPB as an additional means of student-instructor communication.

Course Overview

Methods of Instruction:

Students will interact with each other and the instructor on the discussion board. Audio lectures with notes will supplement readings in the text, providing content in a variety of learning modes. Students will also visit several web sites pertaining to research design. Each student will develop a research proposal on a topic of interest to him or her. Students will work together to complete activities related to planning and conducting research.

Readings:

Each week, students will read chapters from Leedy and Ormrod (2019) and/or other resources. After completing the assigned readings, students will review lecture notes and audio lectures, that will summarize and elaborate upon the textbook material. (If there is any discrepancy between an audio file and the syllabus or course calendar, **the final authority is the course syllabus**.)

Brief Explanation of Assignments:

Online Discussions: As a group, you will discuss seven topics related to educational research. Prompts will be provided every week. You are responsible for your activity in the discussions, and you are expected to respond professionally to each other's postings. At a minimum, you must respond to the original discussion question, and reply to the posts of two other students.

Research Proposal and Related Assignments: Working on your own (this is not a group activity),

you will complete seven short assignments that require you to reflect on topics related to educational research. You will also frame a research problem and write a proposal to investigate the problem, following the format of the American Psychological Association (APA).

Grading:

Course Activity	Points	Percentage of Grade
Syllabus quiz	10	3.3%
Human Participants Tutorial	10	3.3%
Plagiarism Tutorial	10	3.3%
Research Topic & References	10	3.3%
Topic Paragraph & Expanded Reference List	10	3.3%
Finding Themes in Research	10	3.3%
Topical Outline	10	3.3%
Rough Draft: Intro & Lit Review	25	8.3%
Rough Draft: Methodology, Ethics, and Timeline	25	8.3%
CAEP Permission; Dispositions	10	3.3%
Final Draft: Research Proposal	100	33.3%
Discussion participation 7 Topics @ 10 pts each	70	23.3%
Total	300	100%

Grading Scale:

Grade Range	Letter Grade
90 and above	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
Below 59	F

**Unless otherwise stated, all materials, activities, and assessments are required and are not optional.*

Schedule

Week	Topics & Reading Assignments	Assignments Due
Aug 24-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethical responsibility and research - Plagiarism - Developing a topic - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student ID authentication - CITI Human Participants Ethics Tutorial - Discussion: Syllabus facts - Discussion: Possible research topics

	- Recommended: APA manual Ch. 1	
Aug 31-Sept 6	- Research topics and references - Quantitative research - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 2	- Research topic and references - Plagiarism tutorial - Discussion: Quantitative research
Sept 7-13	- Writing a literature review - Qualitative research - APA format - Quantitative research - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 3, 5, 6 - Recommended: APA manual Ch. 2, 6, 7	- Topic paragraph & expanded references - Finding themes in research - Discussion: Qualitative research
Sept 14-20	- Experimental & ex post facto design - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 4, 8, 9	- Discussion: Experimental, quasi-experimental, or ex post facto research - Topical outline - Start rough draft
Sept 21-27	- Strategies for analyzing quantitative data - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 11	- Submit rough draft: Introduction and literature review
Sept 28-Oct 4	- Program evaluation - Action research - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 4 p 100 - Recommended: APA manual Ch. 3, 4	- Discussion: Action research - Submit rough draft: Methodology, ethics, and human relations timeline - Write literature review for final version of research proposal (do not submit yet)
Oct 5-11	- Preparing a research proposal - Ethics and timeline - Dispositions - Reading: Leedy & Ormrod Ch. 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 - Recommended: APA manual Ch. 4	- Write methodology for final proposal - Write the human relations, ethics, and timeline for the final proposal - Complete CAEP permission form - Complete disposition form
Oct 12-16	- Abstract and introduction - Final research proposal	- Write introduction and abstract for final version of research proposal - Discussion: self-evaluation of proposal process - Submit final version of research proposal

Online Student Authentication

UTPB requires that each student who registers for an online course is the same student who participates in, completes, and receives credit for the course. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires faculty members to employ at least two methods of verification to ensure student identities. To access online courses students must login to the UTPB learning management system using their unique personal identifying username and secure password. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires at least one additional student identification method within the course that has been determined and approved by the faculty or academic program.

This course satisfies student authentication in two ways. (1) To access the online course, students must log in to Canvas using their unique user name and password. (2) To complete the student identification authentication assignment, students must submit a photo of themselves as a "selfie," holding their student ID card or other approved photo ID*. The photo should be a clear image of you and your ID, in

color and well lit, taken in full facial view facing the camera. If you use a photo ID other than your student ID, it should show only your name and picture. Tape over any ID numbers. Submit the image file in either JPEG or PNG format.

*Approved photo identifications are: passports, government issued identification, driver's licenses, and military ID from DoD, and your student ID.

Policies

1. **Discussion Board:** Discussion Board is primarily for discussing course related topics and issues. Best practices are:
 - a. Read all message postings in online discussion.
 - b. Respond to the question directly
 - c. Reply to minimum of two other student posts.
 - d. Use a person's name in the body of your message when you reply to their message.
 - e. Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc.
 - f. Ensure responses to questions are meaningful, reflective.
 - g. Support statements with concepts from course readings, personal experience, etc.
 - h. Follow **Rules of Behavior**.
2. **Rules of Behavior:** Discussion areas are public to every student in this class (including your instructor) who will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:
 - Do not post anything too personal.
 - Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in regards to gender, race, or ethnicity.
 - Do not use all caps in the message box unless emphasizing (it is considered shouting).
 - Be courteous and respectful to other people on the list
 - Do not overuse acronyms like you would use in text messaging. Some of the list participants may not be familiar with acronyms.
 - Use line breaks and paragraphs in long responses.
 - Write your full name at the end of the posting.
 - Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.
3. **Make-Up/Late Submission Policy:**

All course activities must be submitted before or on set due dates and times. If the student is unable to abide by the due dates and times, it is his/her responsibility to contact the instructor immediately. Barring extenuating circumstances such as documented extended illness, military service, maternity, or natural disaster, late work will be graded at a maximum of 93% of the original value if it is one week late and 85% of the original value if it is two weeks late. **The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to the Central Time Zone.**
4. **Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating:** The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest, whether or not the effort is successful. Any suspicion of academic dishonesty will be reported and investigated. A student who engages in scholastic dishonesty that includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will receive an "F" for the course.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. For complete information on UTPB student conduct and discipline procedures consult the [University's Handbook: Scholastic Dishonesty](#).

5. **Academic dishonesty** includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor, or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression and media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit.

6. **Attendance and Class Participation:** Regular and active participation is an essential, important aspect of this online course. Students will log on a minimum of three times every seven days. All students are expected to do the work assigned; notify the instructor when emergencies arise.
7. **Tracking:** The learning management system has a tracking feature. Statistics are collected that quantifies how often and when students are active in the course and provides information if the student has accessed different pages of the course.
8. **Absenteeism:** All the course activities have set dates to be completed and submitted. After the due dates the activities may not be available for the students. Not logging into an online course is considered absenteeism. Contact instructor immediately in case of an emergency situation.
9. **Course Incomplete/Withdrawal/Grade Appeal:**
All students should complete the course within the semester they are signed up. Incomplete grades for the course will only be granted if the student provides a valid, documented excuse for not being able to complete the course on time, and has contacted the instructor prior to the scheduled last class to request an extension. The student signs a contract that includes the incomplete course activities and the new due dates.

Find information and dates regarding drops and withdrawals consult the University Handbook: [Drops and Withdrawals](#) and [Appeal Process](#).

10. **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** The University of Texas Permian Basin, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, provides "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities. Only those students, who an instructor has received an official Letter of Accommodation (LOA) sent by the Office of ADA for Students, will be provided ADA academic accommodations.

ADA Officer for Students: Mr. Paul Leverington.

Address: Mesa Building 4242 /4901 E. University, Odessa, TX 79762
Voice Telephone: 432-552-4696.
Email: ada@utpb.edu.

For the accessibility and privacy statements of external tools used within courses, go to [Accessibility and Privacy Statements](#).

Preparation for Emergencies

Computer Crash: Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer before the semester begins, that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

Complete Loss of Contact: If you lose contact with course connectivity completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Canvas or email), you need to call instructor, and leave message regarding connectivity loss and contact information.

Lost/Corrupt/Missing Files: You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external drive, UTPB Outlook 365 One Drive, or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g. virus infection, student's own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any contradictions or problems, you may be required to resubmit the files.

Student Support Services

SERVICE	CONTACT
ADA Accommodation/Support	Services for Students with Disabilities (432) 552-4696
Testing Services	Testing Services & Academic Accommodations Department (432) 552-2630
Advising	UTPB Academic Advising Center 432) 552-2661
Bookstore	UTPB Campus Bookstore (432) 552-0220
Email, Office 365, my.utpb.edu	Information Technology
Financial Aid and Scholarship	UTPB Financial Aid (432) 552-2620
Library	The J. Conrad Dunagan Library Online at (432) 552-2370
Registrar	UTPB Registrar (432) 552-2635
Student Services	Student Services (432) 552-2600
Technical Support	Canvas 1-866-437-0867
Tutoring & Learning	If you are taking courses through UTPB the following links provide

SERVICE	CONTACT
Resources	services: Smarthinking Online Tutoring (provides tutoring services), SmarterMeasure (measures learner readiness for online course).

End-of-Course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation

Every student is encouraged to complete an end of course evaluation survey provided by UTPB. During the last two weeks of class, there will be an announcement in Canvas, an email, and a button in your course navigation that will take you to any available surveys.

The survey is anonymous and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

Disclaimer & Rights

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. Students will be informed about the changes, if any.

Copyright Statement

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