

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION/DIVISION OF EDUCATION
COURSE SYLLABUS



Course Title: Educational Research
Course Number: EDUC 810 and EDAD 729
Credit Hours: 3.0
Instructor: David Suddick, 708/534-4375, Room D34031

Catalog Description:

Develops literacy in the use of the literature of educational research. Leads to development of research problems and methods to study the problems.

Rationale:

The course is designed to lead students to a research perspective so that they may effectively study educational problems and arrive at sensible solutions. The intent of the course is to make students critical consumers of educational research literature and researchers capable of analyzing educational problems.

Course Objectives:

1. Critique research problem statements as well as appropriate hypotheses for the problems.
2. Distinguish among selected types of research methodologies.
3. Summarize the function and purpose of literature reviews in educational research.
4. Interpret the role of populations and samples in the decision-making process of educational research.
5. Explain the function and typical characteristics of instruments utilized in educational research.
6. Distinguish among selected research designs intended to provide answers to appropriate research problems.
7. Interpret the characteristics and uses of descriptive and inferential analysis techniques.
8. Appraise the quality and utility of the literature of educational research.

Texts:

McMillan, J. H. *Educational Research: Fundamentals for the Consumer*. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.

Packet of materials titled, *Addendum for Educational Research, EDUC 810*.

Course Outline:

<i>Class Meeting</i>	<i>Text Chapter</i>	<i>Description</i>
1	1,2,3,4	Introduction, Problem Identification, Preparation of a Research Plan, Preparation and Evaluation of Research Report
2	7	Causal-Comparative Research, Two Group Designs
3	8	Experimental Research, Two Group Designs
4,5,6	7,8	Difference Between Experimental and Causal-Comparative Research and Advanced Applications.
7	7,8	Correlational Research
8	4,5	Samples, Population and Measures
9	6	Survey Research
10	9	Survey Research
11	9	Survey Research
12	9	Survey Research
13	10	Historical Research
14		Computer Application
15		FINAL

Required Activities:

1. Completion of all critiques on scheduled dates.
2. Completion of all abstracts on scheduled dates.
3. Completion of all assignments on scheduled dates.
4. Completion of mid-term examination on scheduled date.
5. Completion of final examination on scheduled date.

Evaluation:

Critiques:	10 points each with total prorated to...	25 points
Abstract:	5 points each with total prorated to....	5 points
Assignment:	9 points each with total prorated to...	30 points
Mid-term:	10 points
Final:	<u>30 points</u>

100 points

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Point Range</u>
A	91 - 100
B	81 - 90
C	71 - 80
D	61 - 70
F	60 or lower

Description of Evaluation Method:

1. Critiques and Mid-term

The evaluation for these assignments is:

- 2 points - Introduction
- 2 points - Summary of methods
- 2 points - Major findings and strengths of the study
- 2 points - Limitation of the study, and
- 2 points - Conclusion

The critiques are assigned projects. For the midterm, the student identifies a study in international or multicultural education for critiquing.

2. Abstract

Completion of abstract for a study. Draft the paragraph and cite: purpose of study, description of subject, instrument (if any), procedure, and major findings in 100 to 150 words.

The evaluation for the abstracts is:

3 points - Abstract which summarizes the purpose of the study, subject and methods, instrument, if any, and major findings.

2 points - APA style typed presentation of cover sheet and the above.

3. Assignments

Complete the study per the methods provided. Draft the remainder of the Findings section, write a Summary and an Abstract, and an APA cover sheet.

The evaluation for these assignments is:

3 points - Abstract which summarizes the purpose of the study, subjects and methods, and presents the major findings of the study.

3 points - Findings based upon methods and provided data.

3 points - APA style typed presentation of the cover sheet and the above.

4. Final Examination

This multiple choice evaluation is comprehensive and includes topics from lectures as well as materials in all texts.