

DRAFT SYLLABUS

This is posted for your info to help you select or prepare for a course. An official version will be ready at or prior to your course start. Texts will be same or very similar. Please check online bookstore for exact texts.

EDU 6690 – APPLIED RESEARCH METHODOLOGY  
Course Syllabus  
On-line Format

Instructor: Dr. Debi Nowakowski  
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Blackboard: <http://troyst.blackboard.com>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a study and evaluation of a variety of research methods and types of reporting. This course is designed to be both instructional and practical. The course seeks to provide an opportunity for students to formulate an applied research project, become critical consumers of available research, and proficient writers familiar with APA style.

OBJECTIVES:

The student will demonstrate the ability

- To locate and analyze current research in education.
- To determine the implications of current research for the classroom setting.
- To develop an overall understanding of terms and methods used in reporting research findings.
- To formulate an applied research project.
- To demonstrate mastery in usage of writing standards according to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.

TEXTS:

- Creswell, J. W. (2002). Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research. Columbus, OH: Prentice Hall
- Creswell, J. W. (2002). Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research Companion Website ([www.prenhall.com/creswell](http://www.prenhall.com/creswell)). Columbus, OH: Prentice Hall
- Clark, V. P. (2002). Student Study Guide. Columbus, OH: Prentice Hall
- American Psychological Association (2001). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Merrill
- TSU Research Review Board (<http://spectrum/troyst.edu/~research>)
- Supplemental Readings – Internet links and other sources as referenced in subject modules or class lectures. Research as necessary to complete assignments.

#### ENTRANCE COMPETENCIES:

Students are expected to have some basic understanding of research methodologies and statistics.

#### EVALUATION AND OTHER PROCEDURES:

- Completion of scheduled assignments and examinations will be used to monitor participation in the course.
- Participation in on-line learning activities is required.
- Creswell text Self-Assessments and Creswell text Projects and Essays as well as all assignments are to be e-mailed to the Course Instructor per the due dates.
- Incomplete assignments will not be accepted and will result in a grade of zero (0) points. If extenuating circumstances prevent the student from completing an assignment, the student is expected to contact the Course Instructor via e-mail prior to the assignment deadline to discuss alternatives. Should such communication not occur the grade of zero (0) points will be posted.
- Late assignments will not be accepted and will result in a grade of zero (0) points. If extenuating circumstances prevent the student from completing the assignment by the deadline, the student is expected to contact the Course Instructor via e-mail before the deadline to discuss alternatives. Should such communication not occur the grade of zero (0) points will be posted.
- Grades will be based on a possible total of 600 points. Possible points for each assignment and examination can be found under the Requirements section of this Course Syllabus.
  - A = 540 points and above
  - B = 539-480 points
  - C = 479-420 points
  - D = 419-360 points
  - F = 359 points and below

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY/PARTICIPATION:

All instruction will be completed via the Internet. No class attendance is required. However, participation in scheduled assignments and examinations is required and will not be accepted if incomplete or late.

Should extenuating circumstances arise which would prevent the student from successfully completing the course, the student is expected to contact the Course Instructor via e-mail prior to deadlines for assignments to discuss alternatives.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- Students attempting to earn the M.Ed. degree through the College of Education are required to successfully complete this course.
- Students are expected to complete and submit all assignments and examinations by the due dates. These due dates can be found in the Class Schedule posted on the Blackboard page under Assignments as well as on each Assignment Description,

which are also found under Assignments. Should extenuating circumstances prevent the student from completing this requirement, s/he is expected to contact the Course Instructor via e-mail prior to the assignment due date.

- The Course Syllabus can be found on the Blackboard page under Announcements.
  
- Details regarding each assignment are in the Assignment Descriptions found on the Blackboard page under Assignments.
- All assignments for each week must be e-mailed to the Course Instructor NO LATER THAN Sundays, 9 p.m. Central Standard Time.
- Lecture notes are posted on the Blackboard page under Information. Please review these in conjunction with the texts.
- Each week the Course Instructor will post, on the Discussion Board feature of Blackboard, questions/comments about that week's topic(s) of study so as to stimulate discussion amongst the students. Students are expected to participate in these discussions.
- Students are required to complete and submit the Course Exam Proctor Form during Week One of the term. This form can be found at [www.tsulearn.net](http://www.tsulearn.net) under the Forms.

Creswell Text Activities: The Creswell text Companion Website ([www.prenhall.com/creswell](http://www.prenhall.com/creswell)) provides a series of Self-Assessments and Projects and Essays for each chapter. These are to be completed and e-mailed to the Course Instructor per the Class Schedule. The Class Schedule is posted on the Blackboard page under Assignments. Due dates can also be found on each Assignment Description which can be found under Assignments. Assignments will not be accepted after the due dates. Each assignment will be worth 15 points for a total of 270 points.

Due: Weekly as indicated in the Schedule                      Value: 270 points

RRB Training: Each student must complete the TSU Research Review Board training for a researcher. This training can be found at <http://spectrum/troyst.edu/~research> Documentation verifying successful completion of this training must be e-mailed to the Course Instructor by the third week of class.

Due: Week Three    Value: 30 points

Research Project: Each student will develop and submit a research project per the Class Schedule. The topic of the research project can be a topic of interest to the student or work the student is currently engaged in as a paid research assistant. The project must include:

--Chapter One

Statement of the Research Problem

Proposal for Data Collection and Analysis

--Chapter Two

Review of the Literature

Due: Week Ten

Value: 100 points

Mid-Term Examination: Each student will complete a proctored mid-term examination during Week Four of the term. This examination will consist of multiple choice questions and will cover all materials studied up to that point. Students are required to complete and submit the Course Exam Proctor Form, which can be found at [www.tsulearn.net](http://www.tsulearn.net) under the Forms section, during Week One of the term. If this form is not

completed and submitted during Week One of the term, the student will not be allowed to take the mid-term examination. Thus, resulting in the grade of zero (0) points.

Course Exam Proctor Form Due: Week One

Mid-Term Examination Due: Week Four Value: 100 points

Final Examination: Each student will complete a final examination during Week Eight of the term. This examination will consist of multiple choice questions and will cover all materials studied during the term. The final examination will be e-mailed to the students via e-mail. The student will return the completed examination to the Course Instructor via e-mail by the due date.

Due: Week Eight Value: 100 points

#### INTERACTIONS:

Faculty/Student:

E-mail will be used for one-on-one student conferencing, weekly quizzes, weekly assignments, the research project and the final examination. E-mails will be checked daily and responded to within 24 hours. However, in some cases a 24-hour response rate will not be achievable. In these instances the e-mail will be addressed in a timely manner. Students are encouraged to use the Discussion Board feature on Blackboard to ask questions and/or make comments that pertain to this course. This approach will allow all students to benefit from this information.

#### OTHER POLICES:

Standards of Conduct:

All students enrolling in Troy State University assume an obligation to conduct themselves at all times as responsible members of the campus community and in accordance with standards of common decency and decorum, with recognition and respect for the personal and property rights of others and the educational mission of the University. (Please refer to the Graduate Bulletin, "Standards of Conduct" for more details.)

#### AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA):

Any student whose disabilities fall within the ADA must inform the instructor, at the beginning of the term, of any special needs or equipment necessary to accomplish the requirements of this course.