

**EDP 656 -- Methodology of Educational Research
Syllabus -- Spring 2000**

Instructor: Doris Stilwell
Office: 13 DH (basement)
Office hours: Wednesday 1- 3
 Thursday 2:15 - 4:15
After class and by appointment

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I. Nature of the course:

The principle aim of EDP 656 is to enhance each student's understanding and effective use of research methods and techniques as employed in education and the social sciences generally.

II. Competency goals of the course:

- A. An understanding of the concepts, terms and symbols used to describe research methodology;
- B. The ability to read, understand and critique research articles/reports;
- C. The ability to plan and write a research proposal; and
- D. Develop an understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of various research designs and methods.

III. Course activities:

- A. Take midterm and final examinations;
- B. Write a 2-3 page paper on ethics in research;
- C. Write critiques of two journal articles (no more than 3 - 4 pages);
- D. Write a research proposal (no more than 10 pages) and present to the class (no more than 10 minutes), proposal is due the day of the presentation;
- E. Participate in class discussions.

Note: All papers should be typed, double spaced and written in accordance with APA guidelines, points will be deducted if APA format is not followed.

IV. Grading:

A. Test I	- 15%	
2. Test II		- 20%
C. Ethics Paper		- 10%
4. Critique 1		- 10%
E. Critique 2		- 15%
6. Proposal		- 25%
G. Oral Presentation of Proposal		- 5%

Note: Attendance is important - one-half point will be deducted from the final grade for each absence.

V. Texts:

Mason, E.J. & Bramble, W. (1997). Research in education and the

behavioral sciences: Concept and methods. Madison, WI: Brown and Benchmark.

American Psychological Association (1994). Publication Manual (4th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

VI. Course Planning Guide:

- 1/13 Overview of the course
1/18 - 20 Ethics in Research
1/25 - 27 Computer Searches or Chapter 1
Chapter 2: Modes of Research and the Scientific Method
Chapter 3: Making Problems Researchable
- 2/3 Ethics Paper Due**
- Chapter 4: Understanding and Designing Experimental Studies
Chapter 5: Quasi-Experimentation - When there can be no Random Assignment
- 2/24 First Journal Article Critique Due**
- Chapter 6: Some Fundamental Quantitative Tools
Chapter 7: Making Inferences from Data
- 3/2 Mid-Term Exam**
- Chapter 12: Putting it all Together
Chapter 13: Writing about Research
- 3/14 - 16 SPRING BREAK**
- Chapter 8: Observing and Measuring
Chapter 9: Methods of Measuring and Observing Behavior
- 3/30 Second Journal Article Critique Due**
- Chapter 10: Qualitative Research
Chapter 11: Evaluation
Catch-up and Review
- Proposals Due on the Day of Presentation**
- 4/11 - 20 Proposal Presentations
- 4/25 - 27 **AERA** (no class)
- 5/4 Final Exam Time: Thursday @ 10:30 a.m.**

RESERVE LISTING -- for EDP 656 -- Spring 1998

1. Folder - 1 copy
American Psychology Association. (1992). Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct. American Psychologist, 47, 1597-1611.
2. Folder - 1 copy:
Campbell, D. T. & Stanley, J. C. (1968). Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for research on teaching. In N. L. Gage (Ed.), Handbook on research on teaching. Chicago: Rand McNally.
3. **IRB Materials (1996 or 1997)** Separate Folders - One copy of each:
 - Introduction (1)
 - Exemption Certification Application (1)
 - Expedited Certification Application (1)
 - Full Review Application - non Medical (1)

IRB Member Resource Guide (1996) (all of the above in one handbook)
4. Folder - 1 copy
The National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research (April 18, 1979). The Belmont Report. US Government Printing Office (1988).
5. Folder - 1 copy -- **Example of a Research Article Critique**
Graves, E. V. Research article critique: Therapy for negative body image. Used with permission.
of the author and includes a copy of the article critiqued:

Rosen, J. C., Orosan, P., & Reiter, J. (1995). Cognitive behavior therapy for negative body image in obese women. Behavior Therapy, 26, 25-42.
6. Folder - 2 copies -- **Article for Critique I**
Walberg, H. J. & Walberg III, H. J. (1994). Losing local control. Educational Researcher, 23(5), 19-26.
- On Reading/Critiquing Journal Articles:**
7. Folder - 2 copies
Schroeder, D. A., Johnson, D.E., & Jensen, T. E. (1985). Reading research reports: A brief introduction. In Schroeder, D. A., Johnson, D. E. & Jensen, T. D. (Eds.), Contemporary Readings in Social Psychology, (pp. 36-41). Chicago: Nelson-Hall.
8. Folder - 2 copies

Maher, B. A. (1978). A reader=s writer=s, and reviewer=s guide to assessing research reports in clinical psychology . Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 46, 835-838.

1. Campbell, D. T. & Stanley, J. C. (1968). Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for research on teaching. In N. L. Gage (Ed.), Handbook on research on teaching. Chicago: Rand McNally.

2. IRB Materials (1996 or 1997):

Introduction (1)

Exemption Certification Application (1)

Expedited Certification Application (1)

Full Review Application - non Medical (1)

IRB Member Resource Guide (1996) (all of the above in one handbook)

3. The National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research (April 18, 1979). The Belmont Report. US Government Printing Office (1988).

4. Example of a Research Article Critique

Graves, E. V. Research article critique: Therapy for negative body image. Used with permission.

Including a copy of the article critiqued:

Rosen, J. C., Orosan, P., & Reiter, J. (1995). Cognitive behavior therapy for negative body image in obese women. Behavior Therapy, 26, 25-42.

6. Folder - 2 copies -- **Article for Critique I**

Walberg, H. J. & Walberg III, H. J. (1994). Losing local control. Educational Researcher, 23(5), 19-26.

On Reading/Critiquing Journal Articles:

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assessing research reports in clinical psychology . Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 46, 835-838.

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- 3/23 - 25 Chapter 8: Observing and Measuring
Second Journal Article Critique Due
- 3/30 - 4/1 Chapter 9: Methods of Measuring and Observing
Behavior
- 4/6 Extra Office Hours and time to work on proposals
- 4/8 - 13 Chapter 10: Qualitative Research
Chapter 11: Evaluation
Catch-up and Review
- 4/15 **Test II**
- 4/20 - 22 **AERA** (no class - work on proposals)

CLASS PRESENTATIONS LIST***

April 27

1. T. Past
2. B. Riffe
3. B. Walters
4. B. Brogli

April 29

1. B. Slevin
2. Y. Liang
3. T. Vignini
4. R. Kayo

May 3

1. M. O'Neill

2. Y. Quashigah
3. J. Lyles
4. P. Yemeh

*****Proposals Due on the Day of Presentation**

4/27 - 29 Presentations

5/3 (Final Exam Time Monday 8 a.m to 10 a.m.) Presentations

II. Objectives:

- A. The student will be able to recognize and define approximately 100 key terms used in the area of educational research.
- B. The student will develop the ability to critique educational research methodology and demonstrate this ability by writing a critique of one article.
- C. The student will know the essential parts of a research proposal and develop the ability to write a research proposal.