

CATALOG 2006-2008

COLLEGE: College of Education



Catalog Page(s) Affected:

Course: Add: x Delete: _____ Change: Number _____ Title _____
(check all that apply) SCH _____ Description _____ Prerequisite _____

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red and provide a brief justification. Please see reverse side of this page.

The Department of Curriculum & Instruction requests authority to offer EDCI 6335 Advanced Qualitative Methods as part of the Texas A&M International University and Texas A&M University Cooperative Ed.D. program in Curriculum and Instruction

Rationale for Courses: The Cooperative Ed.D. program in Curriculum and Instruction has already been approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the degree program was submitted and approved by the Texas A&M International University Curriculum Committee. This 3 SCH course is part of the research core of courses that will be offered by Texas A&M International University.

Description of Course: : This course is designed to enhance participants' knowledge of qualitative research methods. In this course, participants will refine a research topic, select and develop an appropriate theoretical foundation for the study of this topic and explain the research methods that can be used to study this topic, as well as the rationale for selecting these methods. Finally, participants will enhance their knowledge and skills regarding data analysis and representation of information.

Course Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Demonstrate through written assignments their understanding of qualitative research and several of its different dimensions.
- Refine their research topic
- Select and develop an appropriate theoretical foundation for the study of the topic
- Select and explain the research methods that can be used to study the topic, as well as the rationale for selecting these methods
- Demonstrate in written form their knowledge and understanding of methods for data analysis and representation of information

Program: Add: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

Minor: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed minor.
If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry.
If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____
Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

Approvals:

Signature

Date

Chair

Barbara Greybeck

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EDCI 6335: Advanced Qualitative Research Methods
Juan R. Lira

Overall Description: This course is designed to enhance participants' knowledge of qualitative research methods. In this course, participants will refine a research topic, select and develop an appropriate theoretical foundation for the study of this topic and explain the research methods that can be used to study this topic, as well as the rationale for selecting these methods. Finally, participants will enhance their knowledge and skills regarding data analysis and representation of information.

Text: Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. (Eds.) (2005). *The Sage handbook of qualitative research* (third edition). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

Androsino, M., & Perez, K. (2000). Rethinking observation: From method to context. In N. K. Denzin & Y. S. Lincoln (Eds.), *Handbook of qualitative research* (2nd ed.) (pp. 673-702). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

Lopez, G. (1999). Teaching the value of hard work: A study of parental involvement in migrant households. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 61(01), 44. (Proquest No. 730827811).

Additional readings will be assigned, as appropriate.

Principal Course Objectives

Participants will:

- Enhance their understanding of qualitative research and several of its different dimensions.
- Refine their research topic
- Select and develop an appropriate theoretical foundation for the study of the topic
- Select and explain the research methods that can be used to study the topic, as well as the rationale for selecting these methods
- Increase their knowledge and skills pertaining to data analysis and representation of information

Instructional Activities:

Participants will:

- Read critically all assigned readings and participate in class dialogues and discussions to demonstrate their understanding of the content, insights, and use of the content without dominating the conversation.
- Maintain a typewritten research journal of their assigned readings
- Prepare and submit a synthesis of these research journal entries, as appropriate.
- Complete a mid-term examination.
- Prepare and submit the major qualitative research project assigned.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Submission of typewritten research journal entries based on assigned readings (15%)
- Submission of typewritten synthesis of research journal entries (20%)
- Mid-term examination (25%)
- Completion of major research project (40%)

Final Grade will be determined as follows:

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

< 70 = F and repeat course.

Note. Criteria for evaluating typewritten work will include, but not be limited to, accuracy of content, clarity, organization, thoroughness, format, and grammar usage, and mechanics.

Participants are expected to submit work on time. Any exception to this procedure must be cleared with the instructor beforehand. Participants submitting work late without making prior arrangements will automatically receive one letter grade lower than would have been earned.

Feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance in helping you to accomplish the objective of this course.

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Office Hours: 4:00-6:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday. All other times by appointment.

Rubric for Research Journal Entries:

- Name of individual preparing journal entry
- Name of selection and author(s) (5 points)
- Concise summary of the most salient points (40 points)
- Identification and explanation of at least one issue that participant would like to know more about or would like to have clarified. (20 points)
- Concise description of how participant envisions this entry may help advance his/her qualitative research knowledge and / or skills. (20 points)
- Work will be judged based on the following criteria: accuracy, clarity, organization, thoroughness, format, and grammar usage, and mechanics. (10 points)
- Entire entry should be no more than two typewritten double spaced pages in size 12 Times New Roman font. One inch margins should be maintained throughout journal entry. (5 points)

Rubric for Each Synthesis of Research Journal Entries

- Name of Individual Preparing Synthesis
- Explain your thoughts regarding the major concepts, principles, theories and / or themes discussed in the selections you have read. That is, what do you think about these issues? (25 points)
- Explain why you think as you do. Support your views with relevant examples and additional research, as appropriate. (25 points)
- Explain how these selections have influenced your thinking? (20 points)
- What are possible implications of this type of thinking? (15 points)
- Include examples, as needed, to help convey your thoughts clearly. (10 points)
- Entire synthesis should be no more than two single spaced or four-double spaced typewritten pages in size 12 Times New Roman font. One inch margins should be maintained through the task. (5 points)

Rubric for Major Research Project:

- Identification of topic to be studied
- Content of the project will be judged on the basis of the following (70 points)
 - Explanation of theoretical foundation for studying this topic. Must be supported by relevant research of at least 10 sources, at least seven of which must be within five years. Simply using 10 sources does not automatically satisfy this requirement, since the theoretical foundation must be thorough, accurate, and provide a sound basis for the study.
 - Description of context and participants to be studied.
 - Description of how you could gain access and consent to obtain the data.
 - Description of the research methods you plan to use to obtain the desired data.
 - Rationale supported by relevant research explaining why you selected these methods.
 - Description of your plan for analyzing the data you could collect.
 - Explanation of potential advantages and disadvantages associated with your plan for analyzing the data.
- Entire report should be between 25 and 30 typewritten double spaced pages using size 12 Times New Roman font. (10 points)
- There must be a reference section that conforms to the latest edition of *the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. (10 points)
- Report will be also be evaluated in terms of accuracy of content, clarity, organization, thoroughness, format, and grammar usage, and mechanics. (10 points)