

Angelo State University
College of Education
ED/CI 6391 Research
(Web-Blended)
Spring 2010 Hill Country –Boerne Campus

Professor: Dr. Linda N. Lucksinger, Carr 145 Phone: 325-942-2052
Email: Linda.Lucksinger@angelo.edu Online Office Hours M-F 8-5 p.m. via email
Office Hours: Saturday on-campus class dates 7:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m., 5:00-5:30 p.m.
Other days/times by appointment or email.

“It must be remembered that the purpose of education is not to fill the minds of students with facts; it is not to reform them, or amuse them, or make them expert technicians in any field. It is to teach them to think, if that is possible, and always to think for themselves.”

By Robert Hutchins

Class Information: This is a Web-Blended class that meets as indicated on the attached schedule. The electronic classroom – BLACKBOARD is used for this web-blended course. Access to BLACKBOARD is <http://blackboard.angelo.edu> See schedule attached for specific information. *Students are to use and check their ASU emails regularly.* All correspondence with students by ASU is through the student’s ASU email address.

Saturday Class Location: Kendall County Economic Development Corp. Bldg. , 1221 Main St. Suite 100, Boerne, TX 830-331-8521 M-F 8a-5p

Class Dates/times/format: Saturdays 8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Face to face on campus meetings Feb. 6, 27, Online classes see assignments posted on Blackboard (not on campus) Mar. 20, Apr. 10, and **face to face on campus meeting May 1.**

Course Description: The types and methods of educational research are examined and skills are developed in the use of APA style in writing papers, research, and documentation of sources. The student is expected to complete an action research proposal.

Credit Hours: 3 sch **Prerequisites:** None

Required Texts: Contact the Bookstore at ASU or use an on-line bookseller
Leedy, P. D., & Ormond, J. E. (2010). *Practical research: Planning and design*, 9th Ed.
Boston: Pearson.

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th Ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Optional Textbook:
Koshy, V. (2005). *Action research for improving practice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Productions.

Your Angelo State University Bookstore Store Manager is Margaret Box
Phone: (325) 942-2335
Fax: (325) 942-8742
Email: angelo@bkstr.com

Course Goal: This course is designed to help the learner become an informed consumer and creator of educational research who can evaluate educational research studies using different research methodologies and become proficient in the use of APA format and style in writing professional papers, research, and documentation of sources.

Course Objectives:

1. Gain factual knowledge, learn terminology, classifications, methods, and understand the critical evaluation of educational research.
2. Learn to apply course materials, improve thinking, problem solving, and decision-making.
3. Develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field.
4. Learn to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems with action research methods.
5. To develop professional competence in designing, writing, and presenting research materials utilizing the APA format and style.

Grading & Assignments:

Student must have access to BLACKBOARD <http://blackboard.angelo.edu> See BLACKBOARD for electronic posting of syllabus, assignments, announcements, grading information, etc. Students are to download these documents and bring the copies to class. ASU Technology Help Desk: 325-942-2911.

All written assignments, presentations, media presentations, etc. must follow the writing style found in the most current edition of the American Psychological Association Publication Manual (APA Manual).

1. Class attendance and participation – 100 pts (20 pts per weekend date) Students are expected to attend all on-campus classes as scheduled, web discussions, and to be in class on time for on-campus dates. Students must notify the instructor in advance if unable to attend a class or immediately after missing class due to emergencies. Web class participation is determined by participation in Discussion Boards, emails, and other electronic communication on Blackboard.

2. Three Research Critiques – 150 pts (50 pts each) Each student will read and critique 3 research articles selected from the list provided by the instructor. See BLACKBOARD for this assignment. Submit by due dates. See the sample provided on BLACKBOARD.

3. Two Exams – 200 pts Mid-term = 100 pts (March 20 on-line exam via Blackboard) and Final Exam = 100 pts (May 1 in-class exam) Exams cover lecture, readings, presentations, class discussions, assignments and information.

4. Action Research Proposal – 200 pts See assignment posted on BLACKBOARD for details. Students select a topic, discuss it with your instructor, narrow the topic in order to develop an

action research proposal. Student may submit ONE draft of the research proposal to the professor for review by April 10. Final Action Research Proposal is due May 1.

Grading Scale: Total points = 650 A = 650 - 585 (100-90%) C = 519 - 455 (79-70%)
B = 584 - 520 (89-80%) F = 454 - 0 (69-0%)

Persons Seeking Accommodations: Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. Students are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Academic Honesty: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the *Student Handbook*.

Plagiarism and the use of Internet Web, etc. prepared papers is strictly forbidden! Faculty utilize Internet search links that assist in identifying plagiarized materials.

College of Education Cell Phone/Electric Paging Device Policy: Cell phones and other electronic paging devices are to be turned off during class time.

Tentative Schedule

Read assignments BEFORE coming to class. See Blackboard for assignment information. ASU Technology Help Desk 325-942-2911. Note: The Koshy book (optional) is helpful, especially if you are doing qualitative research and need to see how to do surveys, questionnaires, interviews, etc.

Class Dates (Saturdays)

Assignment/Activity

Assignment: Read Leedy & Ormrod, *Practical Research* - Part I & Part II
Read APA Manual chapters 1, 2, 3

February 6

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

All students are to meet at the Boerne campus for the first day of class. Introduction to course, review of syllabus and assignments; Lecture: The Fundamentals of Research and Focusing Your Research Efforts; and Lessons #1 and #2 on APA Style and Format
Select a research topic, begin looking at previous research on that topic.
Article Critique #1 due February 16

Read *Practical Research*, Part III and Part IV and APA Manual Chapters 4, 5, 6

February 27

On campus

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Discuss Article Critique # 1 work, revise Article #2 as needed
Lecture: Focusing Your Research Efforts (Chapters 3-6) and Qualitative & Quantitative Research Methodologies

Develop your Research Questions for your Action Research Proposal

Writing the Research Proposal

Article Critique #2 due March 6

March 20 Article Critiques # 3 due

March 7-April 15 Write a *draft* of your research proposal (follow the form provided on Blackboard, see samples of Action Research Proposals on Blackboard). Study for Mid-term exam (on-line March 21).

March 14-21 ASU Spring Break.

Read *Practical Research*, Part III & IV (again), and Part V; Read APA Manual chapters 6 (again) and 7

March 20

Web date

No class on campus.

Discussion Board on Blackboard

Mid-term Exam on-line See Blackboard, and Article Critique #3 due

Review PowerPoint Part II and *Practical Research* Parts III & IV.

Continue to write a *draft* of your research proposal (follow the form provided on Blackboard, see samples of Action Research Proposals on Blackboard).

Participate in Discussion Board as posted. Must complete by April 24.

Submit **one** draft to professor **by April 10** for review and comments.

April 2 ASU – Spring Holiday (Offices closed)

Read APA manual chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 (again!) and *Practical Research* Part V

April 10

Web date

Draft of Proposal due to professor.

See PowerPoint Part II again and review the Technical Details of your proposal!!

Participate in Discussion Board as posted. Must complete by April 24.

No class on campus. See announcement information on Blackboard.

Discussion Board on Blackboard Work on re-writes to proposal, due May 1.

On-line Course evaluations, check you ASU emails.

Study for Final Exam.

May 1

9:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Final Exam in class and in-class presentations.

Final Exam

Proposals due

Presentations of Research proposals (non-graded)

Grades will be posted as grading is completed. Check Blackboard for grade information.

Graduation Ceremonies May 15.

Websites:

BLACKBOARD <http://blackboard.angelo.edu>

ASU Home Page: www.angelo.edu

APA Style Helper at www.apastyle.org/electref.html for information about electronic references and Internet articles, journals, newsletters, on-line books, etc.

To access the ASU library electronic data bases go to Ramport.

<http://ramport.angelo.edu> and select the library tab.

Texas Education Agency: www.tea.state.tx.us