Angelo State University
College of Education
ED/CI 6391 Research (Web-Blended)
Fall 2009

Professor: Dr. Linda N. Lucksinger, CARR 152, 942-2052, ext 257, Linda.Lucksinger@angelo.edu
Office Hours (including online): T, W, Th 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. and 3 – 4 p.m. Saturday on-campus class dates office hours 7:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m., 12n-1 p.m. Other days/times by appointment or email.

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 a research proposal.

Credit Hours: 3 sch Prerequisites: None
Graduate students are to maintain a GPA of 3.00 or better

“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 for 3 Saturdays on-campus and 2 web dates as noted below. 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 on-campus meetings: TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. DATES: Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Dec. 5
Web class dates: Oct. 24 and Nov. 14 (assignments on Blackboard, no on-campus meetings)

Required Texts:


Optional Text:

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 papers, research, and documentation of sources.

**Course Objectives:**
1. To increase knowledge and understanding in the critical evaluation of educational theory and research.
2. To increase knowledge and understanding about different research methodologies.
3. To provide opportunities for reflection on the learning process.
4. To provide opportunities to determine an action research agenda and to develop and design that plan.
5. To develop professional competence in designing, writing, and presenting research materials utilizing the APA format and style.
6. To become knowledgeable about sources for locating research materials.
7. To evaluate previous research that has been done on a self-selected topic of interest.

**Grading & Assignments:**
*Student must have access to BLACKBOARD [http://blackboard.angelo.edu](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.*

*Due dates for assignments are listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus. 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. 6th Ed (APA Manual).*

1. **Class attendance and participation – 150 pts** (30 pts per 5 weekend dates) 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 (on-line exam via Blackboard) and Final Exam = 100 pts (in-class exam) Exams cover lecture, readings, presentations, class discussions, assignments and all other information.

4. **Action Research Proposal – 150 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. The in-class presentation is nongraded. Please prepare an interesting 15 minute presentation on your research proposal. Powerpoint type presentations are good to do; do not read your proposal to us, tell us about it.
**Grading Scale:** Total points = 650  
A = 650 - 585 (100-90%)  
B = 584 - 520 (89-80%)  
C = 519 - 455 (79-70%)  
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. If you have problems contact the 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.

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<tr>
<th>Date (Saturdays)</th>
<th>Assignment/Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to course, review of syllabus and assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 12</strong></td>
<td>Lecture: The Fundamentals of Research and What is Action Research Lessons #1 and #2 on APA Style and Format</td>
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<td>On-campus</td>
<td>Library Session on Electronic Data Base Searching (3rd Floor Library)</td>
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<td>Assignments: Read Leedy &amp; Ormrod p. 1-42 (Part I); <strong>Homework: See samples posted on Blackboard.</strong></td>
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<td>Continue to read in Leedy &amp; Ormrod p. 43-132.</td>
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<td>Select a research topic, begin looking at previous research on that topic.</td>
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<td><strong>Article Critique #1 due Sept. 25.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Article Critique #2 due Oct. 3.</strong></td>
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| **October 3** | **Article Critique #2 due Oct. 3. Discuss Article Critiques.** |
| On-campus | Lecture: Focusing Your Research Efforts, Review of Related Literature, Planning Your Research Project (Leedy & Ormrod p. 43-132 - Part II); Develop your Research Question for your Action Research Proposal Discuss: Writing the Research Proposal |
| | **Homework: Article Critiques # 3 (due Oct. 17)** |
Write a draft of your research proposal (follow the form provided on Blackboard, see samples of Action Research Proposals on Blackboard). Submit one draft to your professor by Oct. 17 for review and comments. Study for Mid-term exam (on-line Oct. 24). See Blackboard for study sheet.

October 24  Mid-term Exam on-line See Blackboard.
Web date  Continue to read Leedy & Ormrod p. 133-178. PowerPoint Part II.
          Rewrite your draft research proposal (follow the form provided on Blackboard, see samples of Action Research Proposals on Blackboard).
          Respond to Discussion Board items on Blackboard.
          Continue to work on your research proposal.

November 14  Continue to read Leedy & Ormrod p. 179-281 (Part IV), See PowerPoint Part II on Blackboard.
Web date  Respond to Discussion Board items on Blackboard.
          Work on re-writes to proposal. Proposals due December 5.

December 5  Final Exam in class. Proposals due & in-class presentations.
On-campus  Grades will be posted as grading is completed. Check Blackboard for grade information.

December 12  Graduation at ASU.

Resources that might be helpful:
Sage Publications – Journal of Action Research
The Educational Forum

Websites:
APA Style Helper at www.apastyle.org/elecref.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
Action Research for Professional Development
Government site:  http://ori.dhhs.gov/education/products