

**A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT** This course addresses basic concepts associated with research and historical development of research methodologies. Emphasis will be on research design and exploring threats to various types of validity and reliability. Students will be expected to critically evaluate existing research and understand how research impacts policies and procedures in education. The focus will be on research in applied educational settings. This course is writing intensive, and students are expected to gain new knowledge in an educational area of choice.

**B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. Differentiate between the characteristics and purposes supporting quantitative and qualitative research.
2. Explain the major ideas that have influenced the development of quantitative and qualitative research.
3. Identify characteristics that distinguish and are similar for quantitative and qualitative research in each step of the research process.
4. Define and identify a research problem and explain its importance to a study.
5. Identify how quantitative and qualitative research problems differ.
6. Analyze and discuss examples of mixed methods research and the implications of combined research methods.
7. Synthesize the steps and the significance of the research process.
8. Apply and evaluate a variety of research designs.
9. Demonstrate mastery of knowledge through effective written and oral communication.

**C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS**

What is research?  
APA  
Brief overview of Research Designs  
Finding your topic  
Research problem statements  
Research questions  
Quantitative  
What are EBP/WWC?  
How to read an article  
Organizing your research  
Qualitative  
Quantitative Study Designs  
Types of Data  
Validity and Reliability  
Statistics  
Qualitative Data  
Action Research

**D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS**

American Psychological Association (2020). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.).  
Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Other readings will be provided through Blackboard.