

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT Presents the principles and methodology of conducting research in special education; reviews and evaluates pertinent research studies and recent trends in the field; facilitates the preparation of a proposal for a research project. This course meets the graduation requirement of a research class as a capstone course and should be taken in the last year of study.

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.