

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course affords students the opportunity to research a topic in-depth and create a five-chapter final thesis paper that has the major components of the introduction, lit review, methods, results, and conclusion. The course requires 6 hours of grades, the first 3 hours consisting of completion of a thesis proposal and the last 3 hours consisting of completion of the thesis. Completion of the thesis proposal is a prerequisite for enrollment in the last 3 hours of the thesis.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the learner will know...

1. The components of carrying out a research proposal:
 - a. Choose a problem to study and develop the IRB proposal, if necessary
 - b. Complete the CITI Training
 - c. Write chapter one detailing background reasons for this study and the significance of the study etc.
 - d. Analyze literature related to the problem and compose a chapter on the literature review.
 - e. Determine the research approach, method for collecting data, a method for analyzing data, and procedure, and share this information with your research advisors
2. How to analyze literature to identify a viable research problem.
3. How to create a literature review.
4. How to design a methodology
5. How do infer results from data
6. How to discuss the results from data

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Standards of Exceptionality
- Multicultural Special Education
- Parents and Families
- Specific Categories of Special Education
- Contemporary Research in Special Education
- Case studies

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Students will create a reading/research plan with their instructor and analyze literature for relevance to their chosen topic.