



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

EDRG 5365

Action Research

Course Description:

This course provides the necessary skills and processes to conduct a literacy action research study. Graduate students will be expected to complete the Institutional Review Board (IRB) process. After completion of the IRB process, this course requires graduate students to collect data, analyze data, report findings, and take informed action. The action research study will serve as students' Graduate Research Project. This study will also lay the foundation for students wishing to pursue a Master's Thesis. (3 hours). Prerequisites: EDRG 5310, EDRG 5320, EDRG 5325, EDRG 5329, EDRG 5335 and EDRG 5355.

A. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Completion of a Graduate Research Project
2. Conference proposal and/or article submission

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Engage in the research process
2. Conduct an action research study
3. Disseminate the findings by writing a conference proposal and/or submitting a manuscript

C. STANDARDS:

International Literacy Association

- Standard 1: Foundational Knowledge
- Standard 6: Professional Learning and Leadership

Master Reading Teacher Standards

- Standard I: Components of Reading
- Standard III: Differentiated Reading Instruction Design and Implementation
- Standard IV: Language Acquisition and Instruction for Diverse Learners

Reading Specialist Standards

- Standard VI: Research-driven Intervention and Leadership Reading Specialist Standards
- Standard I: Components of Reading
- Standard III: Strengths and Needs of Individual Students
- Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Leadership

Lecture and Discussion Topics

- Research problems and questions

- Quantitative Research Methods
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Mixed-Methods Research Design What is action research?
- The action research process
- Identifying research questions
- Collecting data
- Analyzing data
- Reporting results
- Taking informed action
- Building reflective practitioners

Required Texts:

No required texts for this course. However, you will be required to read/add/revise your Literature Review from EDRG5329.

Other Assigned Readings:

The context of this course will require additional assigned readings (peer reviewed articles, book chapters, research studies, etc.) which will be made available in class and/or via Blackboard.

For Additional APA Help: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THIS COURSE.

****All assignments with (**)** will be uploaded to your e-portfolio on Digication. You should upload assignments as they are completed. Your e-portfolio should be visually appealing to the audience with details of each component.

Evaluation and Grading Policy: All written assignments must be turned in on time – in class. Assignments are due on the date indicated in the syllabus. Points will be deducted for assignments turned in after the due date regardless of attendance in class. Technical difficulties will NOT be accepted as a reason for **LATE** assignment submission. Begin your assignments early, visit on campus library, and dialogue with peers.

Late Assignments: 25% of your total assignment points will be deducted if an assignment is late. For **each day that an assignment is late, 10 percentage points** will be deducted for up to two calendar days. After the **third day, the assignment is counted as a zero** unless prior approval from the instructor has been granted along with official documentation. Make-up assignments will only be granted for documented approved absences. Students are responsible for keeping track of written documentation if approval given.

Active and Engaged Participation: Much of the learning and teaching that will occur during this course will be the result of our interaction together as we explore ideas, engagements, and questions. Your attendance, preparation and active participation in all aspects of the class is essential for everyone's learning. This course is one which **cannot** be made up through outside reading. While styles of participation are an individual trait, active participation in small group interactions is essential to the learning process. If you are absent once (excused or unexcused), your grade will **not** be impacted. Two or more absences will impact your grade for the semester (5 points deducted for each absence). Also, arriving to class on time and remaining present for the duration of the class is vital. Late arrivals and early departures will result in a deduction of points and will have impact on your final grade (3 tardies and/or early departures will result in one absence). If you know you will be absent or encounter an emergency please be certain to inform me prior to your absence. Absences and tardies **WILL** affect your grade. For extenuating circumstances, please contact me (**work, child care, dr. apt. etc.** are NOT extenuating circumstances – please make prior arrangements).

Technology: Due to the format of the class being a Hybrid course, there will be online assignment requirements that you will have to complete outside of the course meeting times. However, cell phones should be turned on silent during class time. If there is an emergency or concern, the cell phone may be placed on vibrate during class. If you **MUST** take a call, please step outside of the classroom to take the call. Please refrain from texting, viewing social media, emailing, etc. in respect for the course content and your classmates. If computers or tablet devices are necessary for a class meeting time, I will inform you prior. Also, all correspondence for this course will be via your Jaguar email account. **Remember it is your responsibility to make sure you can receive email through your Jaguar account.**

Responsibility: As a teacher, you are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility. Therefore, you **MUST** be responsible for verifying due dates, expectations, and quality of work. **If there is something you do not understand, please ask.** Also, you must be aware of the TAMUSA academic calendar available on website.

Professionalism: This course is designed to meet your needs. Much planning and preparation has gone in to the course development. If you have a concern, problem, or question, please schedule a time to meet with me individually to discuss.

Assignments:

1. Research Summary Statement: Based on your literature review from EDRG 5329 and with a focus on your school site, identify a research topic to explore further. Due to the nature of this course, students will have a variety of topics related to one of the overall themes of Culturally Relevant Pedagogy/Literature OR Spelling Instruction. It is encouraged to think critically about what your campus needs are based on the students, staff, families, and administration (i.e., teacher knowledge of spelling instruction, family engagement through CRP, content analysis of materials for instruction, grade level spelling instruction data). A 1-page research summary statement will be submitted and approved by the professor prior to the start of your Action Research. You will need to outline the statement of the problem (what you will explore, research question, methodology, and significance to your campus). This will allow the instructors to determine if you truly understand your research study. It will aid the instructor in providing support where necessary. **5 points**
2. Action Research on School Campus: Once your research summary statement has been *approved* by the faculty, you will be responsible for executing your research study as designed in your research statement. Your methodology will vary based on the population of your sample (i.e., teachers, grade level groups, administration, reading specialist or instructional coaches, etc.). It is vital that you meet the deadlines for this assignment as you will need the data collected to complete your final Graduate Research Project. **21 points**
3. Graduate Research Project: This is a final document of your research work at A&M-San Antonio. While data is collected through this Action Research class, you should note that it is the Office of Graduate Studies that will be the final assessor. This document will be turned in to the Office of Graduate Studies in the final form during the first week of December. The completion of this document will partially decide your graduation. At the conclusion of this class the entire Graduate Research Project document will be due. This document will be formatted as dictated at <http://www.tamusa.edu/graduatestudiesandresearch/graduate-students/deadlines.html>. **Failure to meet this deadline will inhibit your ability to pass this course, as well as change your graduation date. 54 points**

Assignment	Points Possible
1-page Summary of your Research	5 points
Action Research on School Campus	21 points
Graduate Research Project (In order to receive full credit, each section must be submitted ON TIME and must be complete minus <u>minor</u> mechanical errors. The 5 points per section are for spot-checks to ensure you meet your target.) You must adhere to the guidelines from the GRP manual. THE GRP	

COUNTS AS 54 TOTAL POINTS. SEE RUBRIC BELOW (Section Score [spot-checks]- 30 and Overall Score [see rubric]- 24 = 54 points)	
a. Title Pages b. Table of Contents c. Abstract (150 words with key words) d. References (APA)	5 points
e. Chapter 1: Introduction	5 points
f. Chapter 2: Literature Review (revised based upon feedback from EDRG 5329 instructor)	5 points
g. Chapter 3: Method section	5 points
h. Chapter 4: SMART Goals & Action Plan (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timely).	5 points
i. References	5 points
Peer Editing	20 points
Total Points	100 points

Grade: 100 – 90 = A 89 – 80 = B 79 – 70 = C 69 – 60 = D 59 -50 = F