

Texas A&M University- San Antonio
Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation
EDAD 5329: Educational Research

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course addresses concepts associated with the theory and application of research. Emphasis is on graduate level research and experiential learning as applied to problems in educational settings. In this course, students will develop the following areas of research: Methods, Data Collection, Analysis, Findings and Action-Oriented Application. This course is writing and research intensive and follows guidelines for graduate research projects where students will have the opportunity to generate new knowledge in education.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of activities, course readings, and experiences, students will be invited to:

- To explore the application of action research in schools
- To develop skills needed for the development of research
- To use research and reflection to investigate, critically analyze and evaluate ideas, arguments and points of view related to the discipline of educational administration
- Reflect with others on critical issues in education through research teams and group activities
- Develop skills to express ideas orally and in writing

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Introduction to Research
- Basics of Empirical Research
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Research Ethics
- PASL: Performance Assessment of School Leaders
- Action Research
- Literature Reviews
- Professional Writing
- Reflective Practices

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Open Access- Free Resource

Bhattacharjee, A. (2012). Social Science Research: Principles, Methods, and Practices. *Textbooks Collection*. 3.
http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/oa_textbooks/3

GENERAL PASL INFORMATION

The Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL) is an evidence-based performance assessment designed to assess instructional leadership during a candidate's clinical experience prior to receiving a license. This assessment evaluates school leadership candidates on their ability to impact instruction and student learning.

The PASL consists of three tasks. Each of the three tasks will take place during the school leadership candidate's clinical experience and will focus on the principal as instructional leader.