

Texas A&M University – San Antonio
Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation
EDEC 4302 Action Research

MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

Focuses on preparing early childhood professionals to use empirically based action research to inform their work with young children and/or families. This course requires additional hours of field-based work that can be completed solely to meet the requirements of this course or completed simultaneously while fulfilling the field-based hours for EDEC 4303/Practicum when the courses are taken concurrently. TSI Restriction(s): Reading, Math, and Writing

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Plan and compose a draft explaining the background of the problem and the question they are interested in answering in the action research project.
2. Analyze literature from an action research problem composing a draft on the literature.
3. Explain and compose a draft including the research approach, method, demographics / participants, procedure, data collection and analysis.
4. Analyze the data collected and write a draft.
5. Summarize conclusions from the data collected and write a draft.
6. Utilize professor feedback and writing center feedback to compile a professional final paper, which includes all drafts and APA standards.
7. Complete the Citi Training.
8. Reflect on intentional teaching to understand your professional identity, interests and challenges.
9. Present your Action Research Project to the class.

LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Writing Center
- Ethics in Research and Citi Training
- What is action research
- Intentional teaching and reflecting on your practice
- Developing a Literature Review and Using a Database
- Choosing a methodology
- Data Analysis
- Independent Research Sessions

REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Students will be required to read the following:

- Intentional Teaching in Early Childhood: Ignite your passion for learning and improving outcomes for young children by Sandra Heidemann, Beth Menninga, and Claire Chang.
- Action Research (6 Edition, book). Author(s): Geoffrey E. Mills. Publisher: Pearson