

# *EDEC 5370 Research in Early Childhood*

## **Major Course Description/Requirement**

This capstone course provides students the opportunity to complete their Graduate Research Project (GRP) by identifying and investigating school and community-based problems and applying inquiry writing, and research skills to a relevant issue or concern in early childhood. Students develop and implement a relevant research project that includes a problem statement, literature review, data collection, analysis, and summary/application. Alternatively, students pursuing a Master's Thesis may substitute this class for the first 3 credit hours of EDEC 5306 Thesis.

**Prerequisites:** EDEC 5314 and completion of at least 50% of all required core coursework.

**Restrictions:** Undergraduate level students may not enroll.

## **Learning Objectives**

In successful completion of the course, students will:

- Review and summarize relevant research to support the research project,
- Outline the research methodology,
- Conduct ethical research that impacts their family, work or community,
- Analyze research data,
- Compile research findings; and,
- Share research findings within the larger community.

## **Lecture and Discussion Topics**

- Action Research
- Ethical Research
- Data Analysis
- Writing and Publications
- Professional Communication

## **Assignments**

- Quizzes
- Journal Responses
- Graduate Research Project Report

## **National Standards**

NAEYC Standard 6: Becoming a professional

6c: Using professional resources, inquiry skills & research methods to engage in continuous, collaborative learning & investigation relevant to practice & professional role.

6d: Integrating knowledgeable, reflective, & critical perspectives on early education based upon mastery of relevant theory & research.

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6f: Demonstrating a high level of oral, written & technological communication skills with specialization for specific professional role(s) emphasized in the program.

## Required Readings

APA (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7<sup>th</sup> ed.)*. APA.

Other Required Readings as assigned in Blackboard