

EDEC/EDEL/EDMS 9630
Review of Research in
Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle School Education

Spring 2005

Instructor: Dr. Laurie Hart
Office: 427 Aderhold Hall
E-mail: lhart@coe.uga.edu

Office phone: 706-542-4312
Home phone: 706-546-1107

Course Overview

The purpose of EDEC/EDEL/EDMS 9630 is to develop skills in reviewing early childhood, elementary, and middle school education research. Although research calls for a complex array of skills, a key skill is knowing how to ask meaningful and answerable questions in a particular domain. This skill, in turn, requires thorough familiarity with previous theory and research in that domain. Reviewing the literature in a given area is an essential step in the development of a research question. Your task for this semester is to prepare a literature review in an area of interest to you. Ideally, the literature review will serve as a basis for your dissertation.

Required Textbooks and Readings

Creswell, J. W. (2003). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

EDEC/EDEL/EDMS 9630 Bel-Jean Packet of Readings
Bel-Jean Copy/Print Center, 163 E. Broad Street, Downtown Athens, 548-3648

Organization of EDEC/EDEL/EDMS 9630

Unit 1: Purposes and Components of a Literature Review

Dates: January 10, 2005 through February 7, 2005

Assigned Readings: Chapters 1-8 in Creswell
Pellegrini & Smith in Bel-Jean packet
APA Manual, pages 1-76

Unit 2: Identifying and Critiquing the Literature

Dates: February 14, 2005 through February 28, 2005

Assigned Readings: Dunkin; Cooper et al.; Carney & Levin; Mael; Galassi et al.; and Johnson & Johnson in Bel-Jean packet

Unit 3: Organizing, Writing, and Revising a Literature Review

Dates: March 7, 2005 through May 2, 2005

Assigned Readings: APA Manual, pages 77-130 and pages 207-268

Grading Procedure for EDEC/EDEL/EDMS 9630

A total of 150 points can be obtained by means of the following: comparison critique (10 points), critical evaluation (10 points), presentation of outline and rough draft (10 points), presentation of final draft (20 points), and literature review paper (100 points).

Points will be totaled and grades will be assigned according to the following:

A = 135 and above

B = 120 - 134

C = 105 - 119

D = 90 - 104

F = 89 and below

Course Requirements

Comparison Critique

You will write a 1-2 page critique of two **review** articles (10 points). The critique is due on February 7 and will be discussed in detail in class.

Critical Evaluation

You will write a 1-2 page critical evaluation and synthesis of three **research** articles in your area (10 points). The evaluation is due on February 28 and will be discussed in detail in class.

Presentation of Outline and Rough Draft

You will make a short presentation of the outline and rough draft of your paper (10 points). The presentations will be on March 21 and will be discussed in detail in class.

Presentation of Final Draft

You will make a short presentation of the final draft of your paper (20 points). The presentation will be on May 2 and will be discussed in detail in class.

Literature Review

You will write a paper reviewing the research literature in your area (100 points). You must have a topic approved by your major professor in order to take this class! Topics will be discussed at the first class meeting. Your paper must be written in APA style (5th ed.). You will receive verbal and written feedback on various drafts of your paper throughout the semester. Your final draft is due on Monday, May 2. The literature review will be discussed in detail in class.

Attendance, Participation, and Course Policies

1. Attendance at each class meeting is expected. You are responsible for all class meetings (assignments, schedule changes, announcements, etc.) whether you are present or not.

Participation in discussions and activities is crucial in this class. Speak up. We want to know what you think! Class will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Please be on time. If you are not able to attend class, please contact me in advance to let me know.

2. An incomplete will be given only in the case of a documented medical emergency with prior approval of the instructor.
3. The University of Georgia's policies on academic honesty are strictly enforced in this class. Please familiarize yourself with these policies. The policies are presented at the following website: http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm
4. The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.