

**WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY**  
**Research Methods and Design for Ed Leaders**  
**EDLD 712 SEC 750**  
**Spring 2022 (CRN 46678)**

**Web based**  
**With online components**

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**Pre-requisites**

Admission to Ed.D. program

**Catalog Description**

Quantitative and qualitative research methods and design; survey design and administration; and analysis of research reports. Students will critically read research in educational leadership and critique the applications of the findings.

**Course Description**

EDLD 712 is a doctoral level course in educational research methodology. The course is the first in the sequence of required research classes. The content emphasizes on methods of quantitative design and qualitative design, plus the creation of literature reviews. The class provides opportunities for students to read and discuss research studies from the literature, examining the rationale for the design, methodology, and statistical procedures used by the authors. These skills will aid in the preparation of students' research whether for their dissertation or other demands and opportunities. Students will be required to read, summarize, and report on professional journal articles in their field. Additional course content will include an overview of the research process, identification of possible research topics, and understanding how scholarship helps advance a given field of study. Students will be expected to participate actively in class activities. A brief class presentation based on a complete literature review will be required. At a general level, students will engage in and do exercises related to quality of scholarship, including writing and use of APA--all focused on greater awareness of and skills in self-learning and individual growth.

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to do the following:

1. Formulate research topics that relate to problems in the context of specific settings and connect to an appropriate content knowledge base.
2. Formulate research questions that relate to gaps in the current state of the art for a given knowledge base.
3. Formulate research questions that guide the collection of data vis-à-vis the identified problem/purpose of the study.

4. Identify salient information from research reports
5. Create annotations based on salient information extracted from research reports.
6. Access information and published research from library and on-line sources to perform literature reviews and support data analysis
7. Recognize quantitative and qualitative methods in designs, and how synthesize data sources using mixed methods if necessary
8. Recognize explicitly possible threats to validity or credibility of research and address them to the extent possible
9. Write a literature review that synthesizes past research about a defined topic and highlights gaps in the existing body of theoretical and practical knowledge

### Required Texts

Please get the indicated edition:

- American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.
- Johnson, R. B., & Christensen, L. (2019). *Educational research: Quantitative, qualitative, and mixed approaches* (7th ed.). SAGE. ISBN 978-1-54433-7838

### Grading

5 Unit Readings Assignments (25 pts each)	125
3 Unit Projects (annotations 15 Points each)	75
4 Quizzes (25 points each)	100
Literature Review Paper	150
Literature Review Powerpoint	50
Class Participation (discussions)	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>540</b>

Standard grading scale: 100%-90% - A; 89%-80% - B; 79%-70% - C; 69%-60% - D; 59%-0% - F

## Description of Major Assignments

### Unit Reading Assignments

You will have readings due and a writing assignment related to those readings. The assignment is to be uploaded into Blackboard.

### Unit Projects

You will have a writing assignment related to class activities. This assignment is to be uploaded into Blackboard.

### Literature Review Paper

You will write a literature review and will upload it into Blackboard.

### Literature Review Powerpoint

This is a presentation of your literature review. At this point, you may not have a complete project; however, you can present where you are in the process (should be almost close enough for the audience to have an idea). See Blackboard for more information. Please upload the presentation into Blackboard after class.

### Class Participation

Participation in class is expected. Since we are online, there will be discussion questions.

**Late Assignments** - Late assignments will NOT be accepted *unless* a doctor's note or similar evidence of a verifiable emergency is submitted.

### **Plagiarism (Important)**

It is expected that each student will do his/her own work. Academic dishonesty, including any form of plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated. Be advised that student work may be checked using plagiarism detecting software. Our department (EALR) requires the following:

Before receiving a grade in this course students will be **REQUIRED** to verify in writing (send me an email certifying compliance) that they have completed the Indiana University's Plagiarism and Academic Integrity tutorial: <https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/>

### **Student Policies:**

The following sections are taken from the WKU's Faculty Handbook: <http://www.wku.edu/acaemicaaffairs>

#### Plagiarism:

To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his or her own. One must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is referenced, is also plagiarism.

#### Cheating:

No student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking an examination or in the preparation of an essay, laboratory report, problem assignment, or other project, which is submitted for purposes of grade determination.

**Disposition of Offenses:**

Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the University Disciplinary Committee through the Office of the Dean of Student Life for disciplinary sanctions. A student who believes a faculty member has dealt unfairly with him/her in a course involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the Student Complaint Procedure.

**Other Types of Academic Dishonesty:**

Other types of academic offenses, such as the theft or sale of tests, should be reported to the Office of the Dean of Student Life for disciplinary action.

**Accommodation of Disabilities:**

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at [sarc.connect@wku.edu](mailto:sarc.connect@wku.edu). Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

**Affirmative Action:**

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070)

at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and

Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040)

at [https://wku.edu/policies/hr\\_policies/2040\\_discrimination\\_harassment\\_policy.pdf](https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

**Extra Help:**

The instructor will be available as need is indicated. Students are encouraged to discuss any questions or problems with the instructor.

**Course Adjustments:**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course requirements, schedule, and syllabus. The syllabus and schedule for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. No change will occur, however, *unless* proper and prior notice is given to students.

**Date Prepared and by Whom:**

Course syllabus prepared January 2022 by Lester Archer

**Covid Statement**

All students are strongly encouraged to [get the COVID-19 vaccine](#). Out of respect for the health and safety of the WKU community and in adherence with CDC guidelines and practices of all public universities and colleges in [Kentucky](#), the University requires that a cloth face covering (reusable or disposable) that covers both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times when in public areas within all buildings. Students must properly wear face coverings while in class regardless of the room size or the nature of the classroom activities. Students who fail to wear a face covering as required will be in violation of the WKU Student

Code of Conduct and will be asked to comply or will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the University. Accommodations can be requested in special cases through the Student Accessibility and Resource Center ([SARC](#)): [270-745-5004](tel:270-745-5004) (voice), [270-745-3030](tel:270-745-3030) (TTY), or [270-288-0597](tel:270-288-0597) (video).

All students must immediately report a positive Covid-19 test result or close contact with a person who has tested positive to the Covid-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019. The assistance line is available to answer questions regarding any Covid-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by public health agencies or the office of the governor. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information. [www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill](http://www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill)

### **The Learning Center Peer Tutoring Services**

*The Learning Center (TLC) provides free tutoring services that empower students to achieve academic success. Trained peer tutors are available to review course content, answer questions, and demonstrate effective study strategies. TLC offers individual appointments and group sessions (PASS) for hundreds of undergraduate courses. For more information or to make an appointment, visit [www.wku.edu/tlc](http://www.wku.edu/tlc).*

### Course Timetable

Unit of Study	Reading	Reading Assignment Due	Discussion (weekly)	Quiz/Test	Project Due
<b>Unit 1</b>  <b>Introduction</b>  <b>(Jan 18 – Jan 23)</b>	Introduction to research Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 1 (Intro)</li> <li>Johnson 2 (Quan, qual, mmr intro)</li> </ul>				
<b>Unit 2</b>  <b>Foundations of research</b>  <b>(Jan 24 – Jan 30)</b>	Quantitative Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 8 (data collection)</li> <li>Johnson 9 (Questionnaire construction)</li> </ul>	*			
<b>Unit 3</b>  <b>Selecting a research method</b>  <b>(Jan 31 – Feb 6)</b>	Quantitative Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 12 (Experimental Rsch)</li> <li>APA 7<sup>th</sup> skim read ch 1</li> </ul>			Quiz 1	
<b>Unit 4</b>  <b>Selecting a research method</b>  <b>(Feb 7 – Feb 13)</b>	Quantitative Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 13 (Experimental and quasi)</li> <li>APA 7<sup>th</sup> skim read ch 6</li> </ul>	*			
<b>Unit 5</b>  <b>Selecting a research method</b>  <b>(Feb 14 – Feb 20)</b>	Quantitative Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 14 (non-experimental)</li> <li>APA 7<sup>th</sup> skim read ch 5</li> </ul>				

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Unit of Study	Reading	Reading Assignment Due	Discussion	Quiz/Test	Project Due
<b>Unit 6</b> <b>Analyzing Data</b> <b>(Descriptive Stats)</b> <b>(Feb 21 – Feb 27)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 18 (descriptive statistics)</li> </ul>			Quiz 2	Annotations 1
<b>Unit 7</b> <b>Analyzing Data</b> <b>(Inferential Stats)</b> <b>(Feb 28 – Mar 6)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 19 (inferential statistics)</li> </ul>	*			
<b>Unit 8</b> <b>Qualitative Research</b> <b>(Mar 7 – Mar 13)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 15 (narrative and case study)</li> </ul>	*			
<b>(Mar 14 – Mar 20)</b>	<b>S P R I N G                      B R E A K</b>				
<b>Unit 9</b> <b>Qualitative Research</b> <b>(Mar 21 – Mar 27)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 16 (phenomenology, ethnography, grounded theory)</li> <li>APA 7<sup>th</sup> skim read ch 2</li> </ul>	*		Quiz 3	Annotations 2

Unit of Study	Reading	Reading Assignment Due	Discussion	Quiz/Test	Project Due
<b>Unit 10</b> <b>Mixed Methods</b> <b>(Mar 28 – Apr 3)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 17 (mixed methods)</li> <li>APA 7<sup>th</sup> skim read ch 4</li> </ul>				
<b>Unit 11</b> <b>(Apr 4 – Apr 10)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 6 (research ethics)</li> <li>Johnson 4 (critically read)</li> </ul>	*			
<b>Unit 12</b> <b>(Apr 11 – Apr 17)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 11 (validity)</li> <li>APA 7<sup>th</sup> skim read ch 7</li> </ul>			Quiz 4	Annotations 3
<b>Unit 13</b> <b>(Apr 18 – Apr 24)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson 21 (prepare report)</li> </ul>				
<b>Unit 14</b> <b>(Apr 25 – May 1)</b>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature <b>Review Paper</b> due date will be posted on BlackBoard</li> <li>Literature <b>Presentation</b> due date will be posted on BlackBoard</li> </ul>