



UTTyler™ **SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION**

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY
School of Education

Course prefix and Number	EDUC 5302.060
Course Title	Developing an Educational Research Proposal
Session	Fall, 2026. August 24 – December 12, 2026
Course Meeting	Online
Office Hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m & by appointment. Zoom link here
Instructor	Andrew Kohls, Ed.D akohls@uttyler.edu 254.644.6452 UA2 Rm 107, School of Education

Communication Policy:

Students may email any time when a question arises. Please note for email messages, I typically respond within 24-48 hrs. Please include course number **[EDUC5302]** in the email subject line.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Continuation of EDUC 5301. Students will develop competency in the skills needed to conduct educational research through the systematic review of responsible research practices. Students will be expected to produce, present, and defend a well-developed research proposal at the conclusion of the semester. Online sections of this course will have a per credit hour fee. Please see the official University Catalog for current fee amount and details.

Prerequisite: Formal admission to graduate program, EDUC 5301, consent of advisor

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the primary components of a research proposal.
2. Conduct effective literature reviews and critically evaluate educational research.
3. Develop an educational research project with defensible goals, methods, and analytic plan.
4. Communicate the significance of the proposed results of their research in written fashion.
5. Describe the steps needed to protect the rights and welfare of human subjects when conducting educational research.

Required Student Resources:

Textbook:

Boudah, D. J. (2020). *Conducting educational research: Guide to Completing a thesis, dissertation, or action research project. (2nd Ed)*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN: 9781544351698
Available from the UTT bookstore or online. [FREE]
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uttyler/detail.action?docID=7106558>

Required Software:

JASP (Available for free at <https://jasp-stats.org/download/>)

Additional Readings (to be distributed by instructor):

Bem, D. J. (1987). Writing the empirical journal. *The complete academic: A practical guide for the beginning social scientist*, 171-201.

Burkhardt, H., & Schoenfeld, A. H. (2003). Improving educational research: Toward a more useful, more influential, and better-funded enterprise. *Educational researcher*, 32(9), 3-14.

Campbell, D. T., & Stanley, J. C. (1963). *Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for research*. Rand McNally & Company.

Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative inquiry & research design: Choosing among five approaches (4th Ed)*. Sage Publications

Terrell, S. R. (2016). *Writing a proposal for your dissertation: Guidelines and examples*. The Guilford Press.

Course Policies and Expectations:

Course Environment: This is an online course that is delivered through the Canvas Learning Management System. As such, it is imperative that you check Canvas for necessary information and course materials. If you experience technical problems or have a technical question about this course, you can obtain assistance by emailing itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu. When you email IT Support, be sure to include a complete description of your question or problem including: (1) the title and number of the course, (2) the page in question, (3) If you get an error message, a description and message number, and (4) what you were doing at the time you got the error message

Written Assignments: All written assignments should be typed (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font) and submitted by midnight Central Standard Time on the due date.

All written assignments should be submitted through the assignment link that I will provide. Please name written assignments using the following convention: last name, first initial, assignment title (ex. Last_F_Assignmenttitle). Late assignments **will not be accepted and will receive a score of 0.** Assignments completed for other courses may **NOT** be turned in for this course and will be considered **academic dishonesty.**

Email: Questions and concerns about course content and assignments should be submitted to my email. I will make every effort to respond quickly to your emails. Generally speaking, I check email twice a day during the workweek and less frequently on the weekend. If my schedule makes me unavailable to answer emails for an extended period, I will try to post an announcement so that you can plan accordingly. My priority is communicating with you and providing you with the tools needed to be successful in the course, so if there are any problems, we will work to solve them.

Student Assignments & Projects:

The course is designed to be delivered in a "module format." This means that there will be a few different modules that you will work through that include their own readings, assignments, quizzes, and tests. The modules will be presented in a standardized format. The following are standard activities that will be included in the modules:

Readings: This course requires a considerable degree of independent reading to ensure that you develop content mastery. There will be two main reading requirements throughout the semester. Specifically, you will be required to read selections from the course textbook and research articles that I will assign. All research articles will be available on the Canvas site.

Lecture Videos: The topic of each lecture video(s) will be related to key concepts found within the readings for that week.

Quizzes: There will be several short quizzes in the semester (roughly one per chapter). These will be delivered online and will serve to provide a check of your understanding. Late quizzes **will not be accepted and will receive a score of 0.**

Discussion Boards: You will participate in several discussion board forums across the semester. Late discussion board postings **will not be accepted and will receive a score of 0.**

Buddy System. Each of you has been assigned to a "buddy group" for the duration of the course. This means that you now have a small group of peers to reach out to if you are uncertain about something, you need some help, you are struggling, or you need some words of encouragement. Your job is to help each other succeed in this course. You will receive points for creating a plan to support one another and will be graded on how "well" you support the success of your peers. You will also work with individuals in your buddy group to complete peer reviews of the major paper components.

Literature Review Draft: Students will be expected to create an in-depth literature review organized around a topic(s) relevant to the field of education. The literature review will

conclude with research question(s) that are designed to address a gap in the educational literature. This assignment will be graded on APA format, overall writing quality, and alignment among the literature review and research questions, the testability of the research question(s).

Methodology Draft: Students will be expected to identify a research strategy and method(s) of data collection that will allow them to address their research question effectively. This assignment will be graded on APA format, overall writing quality, and the appropriateness of the research strategy and data collection method(s).

Final proposal: The final assessment for this course will be the completed draft of a high-quality educational research proposal. The final proposal must include an in-depth review of the literature related to an educational topic, research questions, study design, methods of data collection to be used, and analysis procedures. This assignment will be graded on APA format, overall writing quality, alignment among the literature review and research questions, the testability of the research question(s), and the appropriateness of the research strategy, data collection methods, and analytic plan.

Due Date: Unless stated otherwise, all assignments are due before Midnight on Sunday the week that they appear on the course schedule. Stated another way, each week's assignments are due before Midnight on Sunday.

Grade Item	% of Final Grade	Total Points
Quizzes	10%	3 quizzes = 47-50 total points including extra points that can be added to open-ended questions
Discussion Board Posts	10%	5 pts, 10 pts, 25 points, one RCR training 10 points = 50 total points
Data Analysis Assignments	20%	2 Assignments x 25 points = 50 points total
Literature Review Draft	10%	50 Points
Method Section Draft	10%	50 Points
Final Research Proposal	35%	350 points
Online Buddy System Process Overview & evaluation	2.5%	25 Points x 2 = 50 points total
Draft Peer Review	2.5%	25 points x 2 peer reviews= 50 points total
Course Total		Approximately 700 points

Please note: The number, content focus, and point value of all assessments and assignments is an approximation and may change.

Letter Grades: Letter grades will be assigned using the following guidelines:

A: 90.00% of points or above, B: 80.00% -89.999% of points, C: 70.00% - 79.999% of points,
D: 60.00% -69.999% of points, F: 59.999% of points or below

Proposed Semester Schedule					
Week	Topic(s)	Required Reading(s)	Supplemental Readings (Optional)	Discussion Board Post	Assignments
Week 1 Aug 24	Course Orientation & Introduction to Research in Education	Boudah: Chapter 1 Burkhardt, & Schoenfeld, 2003.		Introductions & Syllabus Reconnaissance	Quiz: Educational Research Topic Posting
Week 2 Aug 31	Research Questions, Components of a research Proposal	Boudah: Chapter 2 Terrell: Chapter 1 Terrell: Chapter 2			Topic Review
Week 3 Sept 7	Analyzing empirical sources, & writing the literature review	Boudah: Chapter 3 Terrell: Chapter 3		Problem statement, research question, and hypotheses peer review	
Week 4 Sept 14	Literature Review Peer Review draft submission				
Week 5 Sept 21	Literature Review Draft submission				
Week 6 Sept 28	Validity and Reliability Sampling	Boudah: Chapter 4 Terrell: Chapter 4	Quiz: Validity and Reliability (the schedule may change)		
Week 7 Oct 5	Overview of Experimental Research	Boudah: Chapter 5 Select Portions of Campbell and Stanley (1963) Terrell: Chapter 5	Quiz: Experimental Designs		
Week 8 Oct 12	Overview of Qualitative Research Process	Boudah: Chapter 6 Terrell: Chapter 6 Creswell & Poth: Chapter 7	Quiz: Qualitative Research (the schedule may change)		
Week 9 Oct 19	Designing and Conducting Descriptive Research	Boudah: Chapter 7 Terrell: Chapter 7			
Week 9 Oct 19	Method Section Peer Review submission				
Week 10 Oct 26	Method Section Draft submission				
Week 11 Nov 2	Analyzing & Reporting Experimental Research	Boudah: Chapter 9 Revisit - Terrell: Chapter 5	Experimental Data Analysis Assignment		
Week 12 Nov 9	Analyzing & Reporting Qualitative Research	Boudah: Chapter 10 Creswell & Poth: Chapter 8	Quiz: Analyzing & Reporting Qualitative Research		

		Revisit - Terrell: Chapter 6			
Week 13 Nov 16	Analyzing & Reporting Descriptive Research	Boudah: Chapter 11 Revisit – Terrell Chapter 7	Descriptive, Correlational, and Reliability Data Analysis Assignment Quiz: Descriptive Research (the schedule may change)		
Week 14 Nov 16	Final Research Proposal				
Thanksgiving Nov 23	No Classwork - Office hours will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 24 and cancelled on Thursday, Nov. 26				
Week 15 Nov 30	Buddy System Peer Review				

Note: This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class.

Late day to withdraw from the course: October 30, 2026

Artificial Intelligence Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

In this course,

*You may use AI programs e.g. ChatGPT to help generate ideas and brainstorm. However, you should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Beware that use may also stifle your own independent thinking and creativity.

****You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own.** If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material (with due consideration for the quality of the reference, which may be poor). *****Any plagiarism or other form of cheating will be dealt with severely under relevant UT Tyler policies.**

Technical Support

- UT Tyler Information Technology Hotline 903.565.5555 x2 or itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu
- 24/7 Support inside Canvas >>> Canvas Help

Course Policies

- *Class participation:* This course is designed as an online course and you are required to participate! You will have online modules which include chapter readings, participation activities, and technology projects.

Each module will be available weekly. However, you should expect to spend a minimum of six hours per module. As an online student, log in multiple times a week to participate in the course. The due dates of the assignment/project are posted in CANVAS. You are responsible to check due dates and submit your work on or prior to the due date.

- *Grading Policy:* All assignments are to be submitted on or prior to the due date. **Late work is not accepted without prior permission from the instructor.** Be aware that technical difficulties or lack of Internet access or access to required technologies and software are not accepted as excuses for late work or incomplete work. Thunderstorms are not an excuse for late work. Please proofread assignments carefully so no spelling, grammatical, and/or punctuation errors exist. Points for spelling, grammatical, and/or punctuation are included in the grading scheme for each assignment.
- *Grades of "I"* will only be given when there is a compelling reason (e.g., serious illness). If you have questions or need help, email me at wsung@uttyler.edu
- *Descriptions of all projects and assignments* will be posted on Canvas. Criteria mentioned in these descriptions must be followed in order to receive full credit for your work. All assignments will be turned in through Canvas. Projects are highly encouraged to also be uploaded to your online electronic portfolio.
- *Disposition:* All students in the UT Tyler Teacher Preparation Program must adhere to the professional behaviors outlined in the UT Tyler School of Education Dispositions. These dispositions are listed at the following website:
<https://www.uttyler.edu/education/files/dispositions-all-forms.pdf>

School of Education (SOE) Vision and Mission

Core Purpose of the School of Education

To prepare competent, caring, and qualified professionals in the field of education, psychology, and counseling; to foster discovery; and to advance the knowledge base in our respective disciplines.

Vision: The SOE will be a global leader in responding to needs in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling, with a focus on the East Texas region, by creating innovative academic and scholarly pathways and partnerships.

Mission: The School of Education prepares educators and leaders who transform lives through learning. Through excellence in teaching, scholarship, innovation, and partnership, we strengthen the educator workforce, advance educational opportunity, and improve outcomes for learners, schools, and communities across East Texas and beyond.

UT TYLER'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Texas Education Standards: The School of Education are committed to teaching and implementing the Texas Educator Standards at the highest level. The School of Education faculty use the Texas Education Standards, along with the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) standards used by educator preparation programs throughout the United States.

The list of Texas Education Standards can be accessed [here](#).

Access the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators can be accessed [here](#).

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

For a full list of university policies including information related to the topics listed below, click [here](#).

- Students Rights and Responsibilities
- Campus Carry
- Tobacco-Free University
- Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
- State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
- Disability Services
- Student Absence due to Religious Observance
- Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
- Social Security and FERPA Statement
- Emergency Exits and Evacuation
- Student Standards of Academic Conduct

UT Tyler Resources for Students:

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu, <http://www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/>
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu, <https://www.uttyler.edu/tutoring/>
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, This is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254) <https://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/>

[University Guidelines, Links and Policies](#)