Methods of Research in Music Education
MUE 6785

Summer Program 2010

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Course Description
3 credit hours. Intended for graduate students in music education, this course provides a broad
foundation in research design and quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methodologies as they are applied
in music education research. Quantitative and qualitative analytical procedures are introduced.

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge:
Students should be able to use the computer for statistical analyses, and use the library efficiently for
research purposes. Students must bring a laptop to class each day.

Required Text:
Software: IBM® SPSS® Statistics 18 GradPack Base for Windows (6-Mo Rental) or IBM® SPSS®
Statistics 18 GradPack Base for Mac (6-Mo Rental) – for $35.00 (you can opt for a longer rental or
purchase, but for this course the 6-month rental is enough.)

Recommended Texts:
Association.

Additional reference materials:

Course objectives:
Upon completing this course, the student will be able to:
- Describe, explain, and apply the basic experimental quasi-experimental, and qualitative research
designs to music education research;
- Identify and evaluate research designs, methodologies, and statistical procedures in published
research studies;
- Select and apply appropriate analytical techniques for quantitative and qualitative data;
- Express research results clearly and tabulate data appropriately; and
- Develop an effective research proposal.
**Attendance Policy**
Attendance is expected at each class. Absenteeism will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**Grading**
Grading Criteria:
- Assignments (5 @ 5% each) 25%
- Test 1 25%
- Test 2 25%
- Annotated Bibliography 25%

Grading Scale:
- 93-100 = A
- 89-92 = B+
- 86-89 = B
- 82-85 = C+
- 78-81 = C
- 74-77 = D+
- 70-73 = D
- 69 or less = E

**ASSIGNMENTS**

All assignments are self-paced and due by 11:59pm on August 6, 2010, except for the Research Topic paper, which is due June 30, 2010 by 12 noon. Assignments can be found online at [http://lss.at.ufl.edu](http://lss.at.ufl.edu).

**Research Proposal Topic (due on or before Wednesday, June 30, 2010 by 12 noon)**

In this assignment, you will present your research topic in the form of a brief paper, 1-3 pages long. There are many ways to do this, but you should follow this basic plan:

1. Tell about the situation that generated your idea. Where is your idea coming from?
2. Describe the problem you want to explore.
3. OPTIONAL: What might your research questions be?

Write your topic paper as a word document, using 12-point Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, and double spaced. When finished, upload your document to the e-Learning site. Action research projects are welcome.

*Presentation.* You will prepare and present a 10-minute summary of your research topic for the class to be given on July 3, 2008. You should have ready a 1-page handout, and a brief PowerPoint slide show using the template provided. PowerPoint presentations must be submitted electronically by **11:59pm on June 30, 2010** via email to Dr. Brophy. I can also have your handouts printed if I have them by **8:30am on Tuesday, June 29, 2010**.

**Research Summary Assignments (self-paced, due any time before 11:59pm, August 6, 2010)**

You will read five assigned research studies and identify components of their research methodology and design. Your assignment should be in the form of a brief paper that summarizes the following:

1. The research problem
2. The research questions
3. The background of the study
4. The methodology employed
5. The data analysis approach
6. The results of the study
7. Your evaluation of the study design and appropriateness of the data analysis.

Use the template provided online. Papers should be **no longer that 2 pages**, single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins.

**Annotated Bibliography (self-paced, due any time before 11:59pm, August 6, 2010)**

Each student will develop an annotated bibliography of sources based on the topic submitted on or before 11:59pm on August 6, 2010. Instructions for complete this annotated bibliography can be found on the e-Learning site for this course.

**Computer Labs on Campus**

Nearest computer lab to the School of Music is in the Architecture Building directly east of the building on Inner Drive. You can find the locations of the Campus Computer Labs at [http://labs.circa.ufl.edu/website/cbd.php](http://labs.circa.ufl.edu/website/cbd.php).

**University Required Statements:**

**Students Requesting Accommodations due to Disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Academic Honor Policy**

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

"I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."
Course Calendar

This calendar will be adjusted as necessary.

June 14-18: Introduction and Foundations

June 14
Introduction to Educational Research
Introduction to the Online E-learning system
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 1

June 15
Introduction to Educational Research
Johnson and Christensen, Chapters 2, 3 – Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Method research, Developing research questions
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 17, Descriptive statistics

June 16
Planning the Research Study
Johnson and Christensen, Chapters 4, 5, 6 – Proposal preparation, Research ethics, Standardized Measurement and Assessment
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 17, Descriptive statistics
SPSS: graphs, mean, median, mode

June 17
Foundations for Research I
Johnson and Christensen, Chapters 7-8 – How to Construct a Questionnaire, Methods of Data Collection
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 17, Descriptive statistics
SPSS: normal distributions, variance, standard deviation

June 18
Foundations for Research II
Johnson and Christensen, Chapters 9-10 – Sampling, Validity
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 17, Descriptive statistics
SPSS: percentile ranks, z-scores

June 21-25: Research Methods and Designs

June 21
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 11 – Experimental Research
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 17, Descriptive statistics
SPSS: Descriptive Statistics Review

June 22
TEST 1 – Online

June 23
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 12 – Quasi-Experimental and Single Case Designs Research
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 18, Inferential statistics
SPSS: Introduction to Inferential statistics; T-tests

June 24
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 13 – Non-Experimental Quantitative Research
Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 18, Inferential statistics
SPSS: Correlation
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 14 – Qualitative Research</td>
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<td>Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 18, Inferential statistics</td>
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<td>SPSS: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)</td>
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<td>June 28-July 2, Focus on Applications</td>
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<td>June 28</td>
<td>Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 15 – Historical Research</td>
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<td>Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 18, Inferential statistics</td>
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<td>SPSS: Review of Inferential Statistics</td>
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<td>June 29</td>
<td>Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 16 – Mixed model and Mixed Method research</td>
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<td>Johnson and Christensen, Chapter 18, Inferential statistics</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Johnson and Christensen, Review Chapters 11-16</td>
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<td>Designing an Action Research Project in Music Education</td>
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<td><strong>RESEARCH TOPICS DUE!</strong></td>
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<td>July 1</td>
<td><strong>TEST 2 – Online</strong></td>
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<td>July 2</td>
<td>Research Topic Presentations – 10 minutes each</td>
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