

Syllabus

Course Description: WED 593-3 Individual Research. The selection and investigation of a research topic culminating in a paper satisfying the research requirement for a Master of Science in Education degree. Prerequisite: consent of instructor. Restricted to WED majors or consent of Department.

Purpose

The purpose of the on-line WED 593-Individual Research course is to assist students enrolled in the course to complete the research they began in WED 561-Research Methods. The research may take the form of a 1) data-based research paper in which the data are gathered from either a human population/sample or existing body of literature, 2) review of literature or 3) graduate project.

Goals

The goals of the course are to guide the students in:

- ▶ Continuing the research initiated in WED 561-Research Methods and bring it to an acceptable conclusion; that is, completion of the formal writing of a data-based research paper, a review of literature or a graduate project;
- ▶ Provide the necessary on-line and personal instruction and counsel needed by the student to complete their research project.
- ▶ Complete an oral defense of their research;
- ▶ Complete the necessary paper work required by the Graduate School for graduation and submit same on or before the deadline date.

Prerequisites

To satisfy the prerequisites for the WED 593 on-line individual research course, the students must:

- ▶ Be coded in the WED Master of Science in Education degree concentration;
- ▶ Have successfully completed WED 561 - Research Methods; and
- ▶ Have a prospectus in place that serves as the basis for and articulates with the research paper, review of literature or graduate project to be completed in WED 591.

Text

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.) (2001).
Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association. ISBN 1-55798-810-2.

Research Projects

Successful completion of the course will result in writing one of the following types of research projects. Outlines for each appear on the instructor's home page.

- ▶ Research Paper
 - ▶ Source of data: human subjects
 - ▶ Source of data: professional literature
- ▶ Literature Review
- ▶ Graduate Project

Turnitin.com

The SIU Graduate School requires that all research projects be subjected to a "Turnitin.com" evaluation. The software identifies potential plagiarism problems in the student's research project that will need to be remedied *prior to* submission of the project to the department for final approval. Access to the program is made available to WED faculty and students enrolled in the WED Individual Research course by Southern Illinois University.

To assist you in conducting a Turnitin.com evaluation of your research project, the following two hyperlinks will take you to a 1) "Student Quickstart Guide" and 2) "Student Users Manual." The Guide will assist you in starting the process immediately, whereas the Manual will provide you with more detailed information about Turnitin.com as a plagiarism detection program.

Student Quickstart Guide:

http://www.turnitin.com/resources/documentation/turnitin/training/tii_student_qs.pdf

Student User Manual:

http://www.turnitin.com/resources/documentation/turnitin/training/Student_Manual.pdf

For this course, you will be required to submit your research project to Turnitin.com before sending them for comments by the instructor during the course and for final evaluation at the end of the semester. Shortly after you submit your project to Turnitin.com, you will receive an “originality report” which will indicate what portions of your project match content with existing databases and web sites.* If no match occurs, plagiarism is not an issue with *digitized*** resources. If a match does occur, that portion of your project will be highlighted. See Figure 1.

Blue - less than 20 words in the sample
being analyzed
Green - 0~20% matching text
Yellow - 25~49% matching text
Orange - 50~74% matching text
Red - 75~100% matching text

**Figure 1 - Turnitin.com
Color Codes**

The highlighted portion will be coded to the original source. The color codes indicate the degree of originality of the document being evaluated. The color does not indicate plagiarism or copying, but, rather, the percentage of the text that matches an existing document.

Turnitin.com only detects matches between the content of your research project and that of an outside, digitized source(s). The software program cannot determine if the citation is correct or has already been cited. As the author, you will have to review the originality report and determine if citations of the duplicate material are needed. Also, phrases commonly used in

*Existing databases and web sites include a student paper repository, current and archived internet resources and digitized periodicals, journals and other publications.

**The student must be aware that many existing *print-based* materials are not included in the various *digitized* databases. To avoid plagiarism issues, materials from print-based sources must also be properly cited. See the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.) (2001)*.

most types of research reports, that is, “The purpose of this study is. . . ,” “The research questions of the study are as follows:. . . .”, “The central problem being addressed in the study. . . .” “Conclusions”, “Recommendations”, and, so forth, will be highlighted in the Turnitin process. These phrases/terms are universal in their application and are not considered forms of plagiarism.

Instructor

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