

**WED 593--RESEARCH PAPER
FALL , 2008**

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Course Description: The selection and investigation of a research topic culminating in a paper satisfying the research requirement for a Master of Science in Education Degree.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, the student will have demonstrated the ability to:

- Finalize a topic for the research paper requirement for the M.S. Ed. Degree.
- Identify an appropriate research design.
- Conduct the appropriate research activities.
- Write the final research paper for the M.S. Ed. Degree according to identified guidelines.
- Participate in an oral defense for the research paper requirement for the M.S. Ed. Degree.
- Submit final edited copy of research paper to the Graduate School or to the Department of Workforce Education and Development by the required date.

Course Requirements and Evaluation Components

(15 points) Completion of assignments and adherence to time line assignment _____

(20 points) Evidence that student applies APA formatting and reference citation rules. _____
--Second Session Assignment (5 points)
--Third Session Assignment (5 points)
--APA editing on paper (10 points)

(45 points) Overall research effort and amount of editing on drafts of paper. _____

(10 points) Feedback from outside reader on paper and oral defense. _____

(10 points) Oral defense presentation and discussion. _____

Total (90 - 100 = A 80 - 89 = B 70 - 79 = C) _____

Course Procedures

- The research paper and oral defense must be completed this semester--DEF grades will be recorded only for students who have extreme circumstances, and arrangements must be made before the end of the semester.

- Class will meet as a group for a few sessions as announced by the instructor. After that, students will meet in individual weekly time slots to meet with instructor for discussion and feedback.
- There are three different options for completing your research paper. You may do a research project, a survey research project, or a literature review and synthesis (see attached). If you know which type of project you wish to pursue, download the appropriate model research paper from this site:
<http://wed.siu.edu/public/department/Research%20Reports.php>
- Assignment for 2nd class session:
 - a. Bring model paper to class.
 - b. Develop timeline for completion of research and oral defense.
 - c. Complete these exercises using *APA Publication Manual* (5th Edition)
 - <http://wed.siu.edu/Public/Courses/APA/apa1-8.htm>
 - <http://wed.siu.edu/Public/Courses/APA/apa1-9.htm>
 - d. Prepare Chapters 1, 2, 3 (as completed in WED 561—insert your instructors suggestions for changes) for approval.
- Assignment for 3rd class session:
 - a. Create format structure (outline) for entire paper using model paper or Graduate School templates as a guide: http://www.siu.edu/gradschl/ETD_templates.htm. Use these templates as a minimum: Thesis Title Page, Acknowledgements, Table of Contents, Text (Chapter) Appendix Cover Sheet, Appendix, Vita.
 - b. Determine who will serve as outside reader and will participate in oral defense.
 - c. Materials found at these sites will also be useful.
<http://wed.siu.edu/public/department/Model%20Research%20Papers.php>
<http://wed.siu.edu/public/department/Research%20Paper%20Preparation.php>
- Remaining class sessions: Individual assignments must be in correct format each class session—no attachments will be retrieved except for out-of-town students.

Emergency Procedures:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.** The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.