EDHE 6540

Semester: Spring 2016  
Days: Thursday  
Time: 5:30 PM - 8:20 PM  
Room: Language Building #209  
Professor: P. Daniel Chen, Ph.D.  
Office: Sycamore Hall #288A  
Phone: (940) 369-8062  
E-mail: Daniel.Chen@unt.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE GOAL

This is the second part of a two-semester research seminar (EDHE 6120 & EDHE 6540). This course is designed to prepare advanced doctoral students in the process of designing and conducting independent scholarly research. Students will gain and/or enhance their ability to analyze, synthesize, and integrate conceptual materials from a variety of sources into a cohesive and coherent research proposal. Students will also gain knowledge and skills in designing a research study including the selection of appropriate methodology, choosing appropriate data analysis methods, and conducting data collection and analysis. The second part of the research seminar will allow students to carry out data collection, conduct data analysis, and write up the results and discussions. This course will be useful and applicable to any research effort where the research question, literature review, and integration of materials and methods of research are necessary.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of the seminars, a student of this course will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Explain the structure of a scholarly research in social science
2. Recognize the importance of research ethics and apply appropriate ethical guidelines in every step of research activities
3. Select a research topic, conduct literature study, and construct research questions, hypotheses, and other components of a doctoral dissertation proposal
4. Effectively conduct literature search on the Internet and in the library
5. Critique research literature and evaluate the quality of the research
6. Write a well-crafted literature review as required in a doctoral dissertation
7. Identify and develop a conceptual framework to guide the study
8. Critique the pros and cons of quantitative and qualitative research methods
9. Choose appropriate research methods to study a particular research topic
10. Skillfully present the results of the study and discuss the implications of the results
11. Utilize the resources and assistance available to complete a research project
12. Behave professionally and ethically as a leader and scholar in higher education
13. Be an active and responsible learner and a fervent participant of the class/learning community
15. At the end of this research seminar, you will complete an individual research project and generate a manuscript suitable for conference presentation or journal submission
**Required Textbooks**

There is no required textbook for this class.

**Recommended Books**

I found these books to be great resources and I referred to them a lot in preparing this class. However, you do not need to buy these books. Only purchase them if you find them useful:


**Other Required Readings**

All the other required reading materials can be found at the course web site at [http://learn.unt.edu](http://learn.unt.edu) → Learning Modules → Required Class Reading

**Course Policies and Procedures**

By signing up this course, you agree to observe the following course policies and procedures:

1. **Class Remind**: I use multiple communication tools including text messaging to interact with my students. Please join the class remind by sending a message: @edhe6120 to 81010. If you have any questions, please see the class handout.

2. **Attendance**: A student/learner in the course is expected to attend the class meetings and meet the scheduled due dates for course assignments. There may be times when you have a professional meeting, are ill, or some act of providence prevents you from participating in class, if so, please inform me as soon as you can. My email and office phone number are listed at the beginning of this syllabus.

3. **Absence and tardy policy**: Because we only meet a few times face-to-face, you are required to attend all face-to-face meetings. Any absence will result in a reduction your final grade by 5 point
for each absence. If you are late to the class for more than **30 minutes**, I may consider it as an absence.

4. **Computer in the classroom:** You are encouraged to bring your personal/tablet computer to the classroom for note taking and to follow my lectures and demonstrations. However, please refrain from using your device for other purposes. Checking email or social network sites are **NOT** allowed in class.

5. **Assignment submission:** Unless otherwise instructed, all assignments must be submitted electronically through Turnitin® system on the UNT Blackboard. Any paper that is not submitted through Turnitin® will not be accepted by the instructor and will not be graded. All assignments must be submitted to the instructor by **5:30 p.m. on the due day** to avoid late penalty. Assignments submitted late will be reduced **1/10** of the assignment grade. Assignments submitted after **5:30 p.m. on May 5, 2016**, will **NOT** receive a grade.

6. **Writing Style:** All written work submitted in this course must conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) publication standards unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Students are expected to purchase the *APA Publication Manual (6th edition)* and consistently demonstrate successful application of its content. **Assignments that are not conformed to APA style will have a lower grade.** UNT library has a page on APA style, which can be accessed through [http://tinyurl.com/untAPA](http://tinyurl.com/untAPA).

7. **About grading:** An “A” paper or project is excellent--very strong in every sense. It represents a very solid job in addressing all aspects of the assignment, shows complex thinking and insight, reflects graduate-level writing (including introductory and concluding comments and appropriate transitions linking various sections), and is free of errors (e.g., APA, grammar, spelling, syntax, logic, organization, clarity, style). A “B” paper or project is good. It has some weaknesses in one of more of these areas but captures the essential elements of the assignment. Lower grades (i.e. C, D, and F) are assigned to papers and projects with more significant weaknesses in the areas noted above and do not reflect the quality expected in graduate-level studies. For this course, an “A” paper or project will receive 90%-100% of the total points for that paper or project. A “B” paper or project will receive 80%-90% of the total points. A “C”, “D”, and “F” paper or project will receive 70%-80%, 60%-70%, and 0%-60% of the total points respectively.

8. **About incomplete:** Incompletes are not given except for major emergencies late in the term and only after consultation and mutual agreement upon a contract specifying when the work will be completed. Incompletes will not be granted simply because more time is desired to complete the assignments or one wishes to complete the course during a subsequent semester.

9. **Emergency plan:** Please refer to *Course Contingency & Continuance Policy for Dr. Chen's Classes* in case of campus closure or other emergency situations.

**My Teaching Philosophy and Expectations**

1. I believe that class is a learning community. As a community member, learners are expected to actively participate in class activities, behave civilly and ethically toward each other, challenge each other intellectually, and support each other when necessary.

2. I believe my responsibility as a teacher is to inspire learners, share knowledge and experiences, and facilitate learning habits. The teacher must be a role model of good learning habits as I work hard to advance my knowledge through reading, conducting research, exchanging and sharing knowledge and ideas with others in the profession, and reflecting and writing.
3. I expect the learners of my class to evaluate the validity and reliability of information, remember key facts, analyze and synthesize facts and information, integrate the knowledge and reflect on their own experiences, and apply the knowledge in real-life situations through research and practice.

4. I believe the learning objectives and expected outcomes must be clearly communicated to the learners in the beginning of the semester. All class activities, readings, assignments, assessments, and grading standards must be directly tied to the learning objectives.

5. As future higher education leaders, my students are expected to show professionalism and ethical behaviors in all class-related activities.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity is defined in the UNT Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Academic Dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and sabotage. Any suspected case of Academic Dishonesty will be handled in accordance with University policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of “F” in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. The policy and procedures are available at: [http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm](http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm)

**EagleConnect**

All UNT students should activate and regularly check their EagleConnect (e-mail) account. EagleConnect is used for official communication from the University to students. Many important announcements for the University and College are sent to students via EagleConnect. For information about EagleConnect, including how to activate an account and how to have EagleConnect forwarded to another e-mail address, visit [https://eagleconnect.unt.edu](https://eagleconnect.unt.edu). This is the main electronic contact for all course-related information and/or material.

**Student Perceptions of Teaching**

Completion of an online students’ perceptions of teaching survey is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you close to the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work continually to improve my teaching. I consider your completion of this online survey to be an important part of your participation in this class.

**Student Behavior in the Classroom**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at: [http://www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr)

**Observation of Religious Holy Days**

If you plan to observe a religious holy day that coincides with a class day, please notify me as soon as possible.
Students with Disabilities

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.

Succeed at UNT

Learning Tasks, Due Dates, and Grades

Because the nature of doing individual research projects, this class will be primarily self-paced. You are required to meet with the instructor regularly as specified below. However, if you need more assistance from the instructor, please feel free to schedule meetings with the instructor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings before class</th>
<th>Learning Tasks (before class)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/21</td>
<td>Course Overview&lt;br&gt;Syllabus&lt;br&gt;Review research progress from the EDHE 6120 class&lt;br&gt;Sign up for individual meeting with Dr. Chen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>Meeting with Dr. Chen individually to go review your research proposal and IRB application&lt;br&gt;Submit IRB Application to IRB</td>
<td>• Review your research proposal and IRB application&lt;br&gt;• Identify a research partner from your classmates and report to Dr. Chen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4</td>
<td>Waiting for IRB Approval&lt;br&gt;Prepare to collect data</td>
<td>• If you are doing a qualitative study, you can notify your study participants of a coming study and arrange for future meetings (either individual interviews or focus groups). However, you are NOT allowed to collect data at this moment.&lt;br&gt;• If you are doing a survey research, you should make sure everything is working with your online or paper survey. If you are doing an online survey, you should test it out. You should also collect the contact data.</td>
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</table>
information of your study participants so you can send out the survey on short notice.

- If you are conducting a quantitative secondary data analysis with no personal identifiable information, you can start analyzing the data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</table>
| 2/11 | Waiting for IRB Approval  
Prepare to collect data                                                       | • Identifying a conference to submit your research          |
| 2/18 | Collecting data                                                      |                                                            |
| 2/25 | Collecting data  
Sign up for individual meeting  
with Dr. Chen next week                                                      |                                                            |
| 3/3  | Meeting with Dr. Chen  
individually to discuss data collection progress and issues                  |                                                            |
| 3/10 | Collecting data  
Sign up for individual meeting  
with Dr. Chen in the week of  
March 20th                                                                  |                                                            |
| 3/17 | Finishing data collection  
Spring Break                                                                 | • You should finish data collection by the end of Spring  
break. If you cannot finish data collection by the end of  
Spring break, you should plan to end it as soon possible. |
| 3/24 | Analyzing data  
Individual meeting with Dr. Chen  
to discuss data analysis                                                      |                                                            |
| 3/31 | Analyzing data and writing the  
result and discussion sections                                                  | • Meeting with your research partner do  
discuss data analysis issues                                 |
| 4/7  | Analyzing data and writing the  
result and discussion sections  
Sign up for individual meeting  
with Dr. Chen next week                                                      | • Working with your research partner to  
improve each other’s paper                                    |
| 4/14 | Analyzing data and writing the  
result and discussion sections  
Individual Meeting with Dr. Chen  
to discuss writing progress and any issues                                   | • Research Paper Draft Due                                   |
| 4/21 | Research Presentation (meeting at UNT campus)  
Preparing a conference proposal                                               |                                                            |
| 4/28 | Research Presentation (meeting at UNT campus)  
Preparing a conference proposal                                               | • Review your research partner’s research paper and  
conference proposal                                          |
| 5/5  | Working on research paper and  
conference proposal                                                            | • Research Partner Evaluation                               |
|      |                                                                      | • Research Paper and Conference Proposal Due                |

**Course Tasks and Grades**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Partner: You will identify a research partner at the beginning of the semester to form a research team. The partners will support each other during the research process. These</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
support can include discussing research challenges, helping each other with data collection and writing process, and encouraging each other throughout the research process. At the end of the semester, you will be asked to evaluate your research partner.

**Individual Meetings with Dr. Chen:** Throughout the semester, you will meet either online or face-to-face with Dr. Chen. Besides the required meeting, you can schedule meetings with Dr. Chen as you need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>1/28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Conference Proposal:** Each student must identify a conference to present your research. By the end of the semester, you are required to prepare and submit a conference proposal. You must follow the conference proposal guidelines to prepare and submit the proposal. At the end of the semester, you need to submit your proposal and conference call for proposal to Dr. Chen by 5/5/2016.

**Research Paper Draft**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Task Type</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/14</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

**Final Research Paper and Oral Presentation:** The final paper must follow the UNT dissertation style guidelines and the latest APA Publication Manual. Your research paper should not exceed 30 pages double spaced excluding references. Each of you will make a 20-25 minutes oral presentation of your final research paper. Your presentation should focus on the results and discussions. More details will be provided on Blackboard.

**Presentations:**
- 4/21
- 4/28

**Papers:**
- 5/5

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### Grading Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Partner Evaluation</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Meetings with Dr. Chen</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Proposal</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper Draft</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Research Presentation</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Research Paper</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>230</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>200 points or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>180-199 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>160-179 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>130-159 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Less than 130 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>