

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM & TEACHING
AUBURN UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2011

Course Number: CTMU 8990
Course Title: Research and Dissertation
Credit Hours: 1-10 Semester hours, Course may be repeated for a maximum of 20 credit hours.
Day/Time: To be arranged. Weekly report. Other meetings by appointment.
Instructor: Dr. Kimberly C. Walls
Office Address: 5080 Haley Center
Contact Information: Dept. of Curriculum & Teaching, 5040 Haley Center, Auburn University, AL 36849
(334) 844-6892 kim.walls@auburn.edu (Please use TigerMail for course messages.)
Office Hours: Instructor will post hours for in-office phone or in-person meetings. If you leave a voice message, state your name clearly and enunciate the callback number clearly and slowly. Students may request additional office appointments. The instructor will generally check TigerMail email each afternoon, Sunday-Friday. If for some reason the instructor is not able to do so, students will be informed ahead of time. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response and do not use multiple message for the same inquiry. (For example, use ONE Blackboard email message OR ONE phone message.) The instructor will not respond to multiple versions of the same inquiry.

Texts or Major Resources:

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Sabin, W. (2005). *The Gregg reference manual*. (10th ed). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Irwin.
<http://www.mhhe.com/business/buscom/gregg/>

Guide to preparation and submission of theses and dissertations. Auburn University, AL: Graduate School.

Protocol for the Use of Human Subjects in Research (and accompanying forms) - Auburn University, Office of Vice-President for Research - Samford Hall, Room 202.

APA Guidelines - <http://www.uwsp.edu/psych/apa4bs.htm>

Auburn University Library -<http://www.lib.auburn.edu/socsci/docs/education.htm>

<http://scholar.google.com/>

Course Description: Research formulated, planned, conducted, evaluated, and reported in appropriate written and oral formats under the direction of the student's major professor.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
Formulate, plan, conduct, and report in appropriate written and oral formats original research under the direction of the student's major professor.

Course Content Outline: Course content will follow the sequencing of objectives and course requirements. **The student will bring a proposed detailed checklist with spaces for dates, initials, and signatures to the orientation session.**

Students submit weekly reports via TigerMail reporting progress and attaching agreed documents.

Students meet with the professor in bi-weekly individual appointments in person or via Wimba Live Classroom.

Additional appointments are scheduled via TigerMail.

Course Schedule:

- Week 1: Orientation session to be arranged by telephone
- Week 2: Seminar meeting Friday Jan 21 in Montgomery (see Dr. Kuehne for details)
- Weeks 3-14: Weekly individual appointments with professor or seminar attendance (required)
- Week 15: **Checklist with dates, initials, and signatures due**
- Finals: No final examination

Assignments/Projects: Students are required to complete the following components/activities:

- A. Compile an extensive review of the pertinent literature
- B. Identify and state research questions(s)
- C. Formulate an appropriate research methodology including data analysis
- D. Prepare a research proposal and obtain the approval of the student's graduate advisory committee
- E. Obtain Institutional Review Board approval for research dealing with human subjects
- F. Conduct the proposed research with the concurrence and guidance of the student's graduate advisory committee
- G. Analyze the data and interpret the findings
- H. Write the manuscript following approved guidelines
- I. Defend orally the research, findings, and conclusions

Rubric and Grading Scale: No grades are assigned to the Field Project.

Class Policy Statements:

Attendance: Students are expected to participate in all seminar and on-line discussions and participate in all exercises. Students who anticipate missing more than one on-campus seminar should register for the course as a distance education student (MUSI 7916).

Excused Absences: Students are granted excused absences from class for the following reasons: illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student's immediate family, the death of a member of the student's immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for university classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays. Students who wish to have an excused absence from class for any other reason must contact the instructor in advance of the absence to request permission (use Blackboard mail). The instructor will weigh the merits of the request and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but in no case shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence. Appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required. Please see the *Tiger Cub* for more information on excused absences

Due dates and Formats: Homework and course requirements must be submitted in the format indicated by the instructor, including all parts listed, to receive credit. All materials should be cited in APA format and extensive quoting of material is not acceptable. The instructor reserves the right to assign a grade of 0 for any suggestion of plagiarism. Late submissions will lose 1 letter grade per 24 hours. (Example: an assignment is 23 hours late, so one letter grade is deducted.)

Incompletes: Final semester grades of Incomplete will not be given except in cases of documented illness. Incompletes must be removed by the third week of the following semester.

Loaned materials: Students must return loaned course materials owned by Auburn University to the instructor by the due date given to receive a grade in this course.

Academic Honesty Policy: All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found

in the *Tiger Cub* will apply to university courses. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.

Disability Accommodations: Students who need special accommodations in class, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, should arrange for a confidential meeting with the instructor during office hours in the first week of classes (or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately). The student must bring a copy of their Accommodations Letter and an Instructor Verification Form to the meeting. If the student does not have these forms, they should make an appointment with the Program for Students with Disabilities, 1288 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

Course Contingency: If normal class and/or lab activities are disrupted due to illness, emergency, or crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, an addendum to your syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.

Professionalism: As faculty, staff, and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College's conceptual framework. These professional commitments or disposition are listed below:

- Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices
- Contribute to collaborative learning communities
- Demonstrate a commitment to diversity
- Model and nurture intellectual vitality

Student behavior and participation should adhere to the highest professional standards. Please report any instances of distracting communications from class participants to the instructor. Students should refer to Anti-Harassment & Non-Discrimination for Students, Auburn University Policy on Classroom Behavior, and Policies of the Graduate School, especially those regarding Plagiarism, Academic Progress, and the Graduate School Calendar. Students are also responsible for adhering to university academic deadlines such as those for registration and withdrawal.