EDSP 994 Introduction to the Dissertation-DEAdd-2018-09-

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*Indicates a required field

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Proposing Department/Unit*	EDSP	Contact Phone*	7-5591

Distance Education Section

- Complete this section only if adding Distance Education to a New or Existing Course

Course Prefix /Number*	EDSP 994
Course Title*	Introduction to the Dissertation
Type of Proposal*	See CBA, Art. 42.D.1 for Definition online

Brief Course Outline*

Give an outline of sufficient detail to communicate the course content to faculty across campus. It is not necessary to include specific readings, calendar or assignments

As outlined by the federal definition of a "credit hour", the following should be a consideration regarding student work - For every one hour of classroom or

direct faculty instruction, there should be a minimum of two hours of out of class student work.

Designed to introduce students to the dissertation and the dissertation process; university and department policies and procedures related to the dissertation; and resources across the university for engaging in research; as well as facilitate topic selection; review of the literature; and Institutional Review Board (IRB) requirements and procedures. By the end of this course, students will have chosen an advisor (if not done so already) and committee, completed several of the initial requirements of the dissertation process, as well as produced a reasonable and appropriate timeline for completion of the dissertation and their degree program.

Specific topics to be covered include the following:

- 1. Reviewing exemplar completed dissertations and research articles
- 2. Demystifying the dissertation process
- 3. Understanding the dissertation mindset
- 4. Reviewing university dissertation policies, procedures, and requirements
- 5. Reviewing departmental dissertation policies, procedures, and requirements
- 6. Using research tools effectively
- 7. Applying research design, methodology, and statistical knowledge to the dissertation
- 8. Understanding how to effectively use editors and technology for presentations during the dissertation process
- 9. Setting goals, goal assessment, assigning and meeting deadlines, and tracking time
- 10. Reviewing IRB purpose, policies, procedures, and requirements, as well as completing CITI training

Rationale for Proposal (Required Questions from CBA)

How is/are the instructor (s) qualified

in the Distance Education delivery

method as well as the discipline?*

Lynanne Black, PhD. is qualified in the distance education delivery method having successfully completed D2L Boot Camp courses through ITS at IUP including Content and Navigation in D2L, D2L Discussions and Dropbox, D2L Grades, and D2L Quizzes. Dr. Black has also received training in synchronous instructional modalities, e.g., Zoom, via the College of Education and Communications Technology Day workshops. Additionally, Dr. Black teaches many distance education courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as regularly supplements her face-to-face courses using D2L. These training experiences along with practical application suggest that Dr. Black is qualified to teach distance education courses.

Dr. Black is qualified in her discipline of school psychology to teach the content of this course. She earned her PhD in School Psychology from Temple University and is a certified school psychologist in the states of PA and DE. Also, Dr. Black has advised and /or served on committees for at least 55 dissertations at IUP, most within, but several outside of, the Department of Educational and School Psychology. Dr. Black has extensive training and experience in the field that make her more than minimally qualified to teach EDSP 994.

For each outcome in the course, describe

how the outcome will be achieved using

Distance Education technologies.

Course Objective	Distance Technologies Utilized
Apply knowledge and skills from previous research related coursework to the dissertation process in the Department of Educational and School Psychology (EDSP) and Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP).	Participate in private discussion board on LMS with instructor for consultation. Participate in public discussion board on LMS with classmates for discussion. Upload RTAF summary to LMS for instructor feedback.
Develop advanced skills and knowledge of writing academic papers by reviewing the practice of professional writing using the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Manual (current edition).	Work in small groups on LMS to read assigned articles and dissertations to critique and analyze the research design and methodology, as well as format and style. View presentation on APA manual and style and complete practice assignments uploaded to LMS for instructor feedback. Quiz on APA format and style on LMS.

Comprehend the dissertation process, including writing the document, as well as university and department policies and procedures related to the dissertation.	 Participate in private discussion board on LMS with instructor for consultation. Participate in public discussion board on LMS with classmates for discussion. Use Excel spreadsheet to design a tracking system for semester work. Track semester work using that Excel spreadsheet and upload completed spreadsheet periodically to LMS.
Apply theoretical and methodological understanding from previous research-related coursework to choosing a feasible and relevant research topic and devising specific research questions and hypotheses.	 Participate in private discussion board on LMS with instructor for consultation. Participate in public discussion board on LMS with classmates for discussion. Upload RTAF summary to LMS for instructor feedback. Upload attendance record for presentations /webinars to LMS for instructor review.
Conduct a thorough and focused review of the literature, create an appropriate conceptual framework, and develop a feasible and suitable research design.	 Participate in private discussion board on LMS with instructor for consultation. Participate in public discussion board on LMS with classmates for discussion. Upload RTAF summary to LMS for instructor feedback. Upload attendance record for presentations /webinars to LMS for instructor review.
Use effective and efficient oral and written communication skills to discuss research ideas.	 Participate in private discussion board on LMS with instructor for consultation. Participate in public discussion board on LMS with classmates for discussion. Upload RTAF summary to LMS for instructor feedback. Upload recorded presentation for viewing by instructor and classmates. Provide feedback to classmates regarding content and articulation of their presentations. Upload attendance record for presentations /webinars to LMS for instructor review.
Understand the demands of the dissertation process including stress, time, and project management, chair/advisor selection, committee selection, dissertation proposal and defense, deadlines, and human subjects review.	Work in small groups on LMS. Participate in public discussion board on LMS with classmates for discussion. Use Excel spreadsheet to design a tracking system for semester work. Track semester work using that Excel spreadsheet and upload completed spreadsheet periodically to LMS. Upload attendance record for presentations /webinars to LMS for instructor review.
Complete the mandated Institutional Review Board (IRB) training.	Upload CITI training completion certificates to LMS.
Examine and increase awareness of university and departmental resources for all aspects of the research process.	Upload attendance record for presentations /webinars to LMS for instructor review.

	Apply legal and ethical principles to the dissertation process.	 Upload CITI training completion certificates to LMS. Upload recorded presentation for viewing by instructor and classmates. Provide feedback to classmates regarding content and articulation of their presentations. Work in groups on LMS to complete case study reviews and upload assignments to LMS for instructor feedback.
How will the	Instructor-ctudent interaction will occur in a variety of modes with asynchronic	propose Discussion Roard and ILIP amail being the primary

How will the instructorstudent and

studentstudent interaction take place?*

(if applicable)

Instructor-student interaction will occur in a variety of modes with asynchronous Discussion Board and IUP email being the primary methods utilized. A general discussion board will be provided for students to use that is for questions and will not be graded by the instructor. Topical discussion boards will be required assignments. Also, instructor-student interaction will occur via students submitting assignments each week and the instructor providing prompt feedback on those assignments. Synchronous interaction on various topics will be offered by the instructor of record, as well as guest speakers from the field, utilizing zoom, or some other appropriate, technology.

Communications between students and the instructor that are of a more personal/private nature will be honored primarily through IUP email or phone conversation, though in-person/face-to-face meetings can occur if necessary and feasible. Office hours will be offered each week, and these office hours will be in compliance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

Student-student interaction will occur in a number of ways. First, students can communicate via the general discussion board that is not graded by the instructor, but allows students to ask each other questions, etc. and the instructor to comment and weigh in should that be necessary. Second, students will provide responses to instructor-provided prompts and reflect on each others' comments for these discussion boards. Third, students will be required to work together (in a virtual or traditional manner) on activities /presentations required for the course. In summary, there will be a variety of means through which students will be required to interact with each other during the course.

How will student achievement be evaluated?

Course Objective	Achievement of Objective	
Apply knowledge and skills from previous research related coursework to the dissertation process in the Department of Educational and School Psychology (EDSP) and Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP).	Develop a preliminary research design and anticipated statistical approach for dissertation as articulated in the Prospectus document/Research Topic Approval Form Summary.	
Develop advanced skills and knowledge of writing academic papers by reviewing the practice of professional writing using the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Manual (current edition).	 Evaluate and critique dissertations and scholarly articles. Adopt the professional writing style of the APA using the current style manual. 	
Comprehend the dissertation process, including writing the document, as well as university and department policies and procedures related to the dissertation.	 Create a reasonable and realistic timeline for completion of the dissertation within a time frame selected by the student and instructor. Track work completed during this course using a spreadsheet or another information tracking tool. 	
Apply theoretical and methodological understanding from previous research-related coursework to choosing a feasible and relevant research topic and devising specific research questions and hypotheses.	 Produce a Prospectus document/Research Topic Approval Form Summary that describes the research topic, lists the research questions, and outlines the hypotheses. Document attendance at presentations/webinars using attendance records, I-card swipe, and/or login information, if available OR produce a summary of the material covered in the presentation. 	

Conduct a thorough and focused review of the literature, create an appropriate conceptual framework, and develop a feasible and suitable research design.	 Produce in written form an outline for the dissertati literature review based on the chosen topic. Produce in writing an appropriate research design based on the chosen topic. Produce in writing an appropriate research plan ba on the chosen research design. Document attendance at presentations/webinars u attendance records, I-card swipe, and/or login information, if available OR produce a summary of material covered in the presentation.
Use effective and efficient oral and written communication skills to discuss research ideas.	 Produce documentation from the Writing Center or SGSR that student has attended a session. Schedule and participate in a one-to-one editing session with the instructor regarding a class assignment. Conduct a presentation on chosen research topic. Document attendance at presentations/webinars u attendance records, I-card swipe, and/or login information, if available OR produce a summary of material covered in the presentation.
Understand the demands of the dissertation process including stress, time, and project management, chair/advisor selection, committee selection, dissertation proposal and defense, deadlines, and human subjects review.	 Track work completed during this class using a spreadsheet or another information tracking tool. Participate in small group work sessions outside of class time. Document attendance at presentations/webinars u attendance records, I-card swipe, and/or login information, if available OR produce a summary of material covered in the presentation.
Complete the mandated Institutional Review Board (IRB) training.	Produce CITI training completion certificates.
Examine and increase awareness of university and departmental resources for all aspects of the research process.	Document attendance at presentations/webinars u attendance records, I-card swipe, and/or login information, if available OR produce a summary of material covered in the presentation.
Apply legal and ethical principles to the dissertation process.	Produce CITI training completion certificates. Conduct presentation on one aspect of legal and ethical guidelines as it pertains to the dissertation process. Complete case study reviews.

How will academic honesty for tests

and assignments be addressed?*

Students will take all quizzes and upload all assignments to an LMS system. Only IUP students registered for the course will have access to the course via LMS. Also, all communication with students by the instructor will take place via a LMS or using IUP email, the university's official form of communication. One on one consultations sessions with the instructor will take place using Zoom, Skype, etc. with each individual student. Some classes will necessitate synchronous attendance by all student registered for the course via Zoom or some other appropriate technology.

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