

**University of Manitoba
Faculty of Education**

EDUA 5800 (A02) Introduction To Educational Research

(3 credit hours, CRN: 52181)

Course Outline - January to April 2023

over 5 billion served

Time: Wednesdays 5:30-8:15 p.m.
Wednesday January 11, 2023 to
Wednesday April 12, 2023 (inclusive)

Room: 318 Education

Office Hours: Wednesdays 3:30 to 5:30 or by appointment

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230M Education
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Course Overview:

EDUA 5800 (3): Introduction to Educational Research. A study of scientific inquiry in the field of education. Research and statistical methods are surveyed within the context of educational research. Particularly recommended for students interested in the evaluation and application of research findings. Not to be held with EDUA 5801.

Because the scope of the course is quite broad, it will not be possible to cover all of the research methods in current use. Nevertheless, by the end of the course, you should have a good awareness of the more commonly used procedures (both quantitative and qualitative) that may be applied to different types of research studies and the guidelines to selecting appropriate research methods. Thus, you should be better able to plan and carry out your own research and evaluate the research conducted by others.

More specifically, this course is intended for educators less familiar with the breadth of educational research techniques. The course has the following purposes:

- to acquaint students with nature of disciplined inquiry in education
- to assist students in reading and evaluating the different sections of a research report
- to help students to distinguish between well-done and poorly done research
- to familiarize students with the various ways that research can take place in educational settings
- to give students the opportunity to perform various aspects of conducting research

Required Texts:

Tuckman, B. W. & Harper, B. E. (2012). *Conducting Educational Research*: 6th ed. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Suter, W. N. (2012). *Introduction to educational research: A critical thinking approach*: 2nd ed. SAGE Publications, Inc.

Check, J. & Schutt, R. (2012). *Research methods in education*. SAGE Publications, Inc.

NOTE: All 3 of the above books are available online (for free) at the U of M library (<https://umanitoba.ca/libraries/>). Within the library webpage, copy/paste the book title, which will allow you access to the assigned chapters. You may either read each chapter online, or download the pdf version of the chapter to your computer/device.

Suggested Text:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

Evaluation:

The major course requirements (and weights) are as follows:

1. Class Assignments 70%

There will be 5 assignments with each assignment given every 2-3 weeks (see lesson schedule). Some of these assignments will be done individually, while others will be completed in groups. Each assignment will be given equal weight (i.e., $70 / 5 = 14\%$ each).

2. Final Critique 30%

You will be given two short articles (one quantitative and one qualitative) to critique thoroughly (i.e., the entire articles).

Given that we will cover a significant amount each week, submitting assignments, and especially the final critique on time is crucial. Therefore, unless you have given me a compelling reason for handing in a late assignment, I will subtract 3% from the maximum percentage for each day the written work is late. For example, if an assignment is submitted 2 days late, and the original grade converts to 12/14, then the revised grade would be 6/14.

Lesson Schedule

Wed. Jan. 11	Introduction to the Course	
Wed. Jan. 18	Educators as Critical Thinkers Chap. 1 (Suter)	
Wed. Jan. 25	The Research Problem Chap. 4 (Suter)	
Wed. Feb. 1	Sampling Chap. 5 (C&S)	Assign 1 due: Critique of popular media articles
Wed. Feb. 8	Conceptualization and Measurement Chap. 4 (C&S)	
Wed. Feb. 15	Ethics in Research Chap. 3 (C&S)	Assign 2 due: Method section
Wed. Feb. 22	<i>**NO CLASS - Winter term break</i>	
Wed. Mar. 1	Reviewing the Literature Chap. 3 (T&H)	
Wed. Mar. 8	Nonexperimental Research Designs Chap. 11 (Suter)	Assign 3 due: Ethical issues
Wed. Mar. 15	Experimental Research Designs Chap.10 (Suter)	
Wed. Mar. 22	Understanding Statistical Inferences Chap. 13 (Suter)	
Wed. Mar. 29	Qualitative Methods Chap. 9 (C&S)	Assign 4 due: Interpreting quantitative research
Wed. Apr. 5	Qualitative Data Analysis Chap. 14 (C&S)	
Wed. Apr. 12	Action Research Chap. 16 (T&H) Analyzing and Critiquing a Research Study Chap. 17 (T&H)	Assign 5 due: Collecting qualitative data and interpretation
Wed. Apr. 19	No class	Final Critique due

Expectations

Students are expected to attend all classes and submit assignments by the due dates. If you require any modification to insure your full participation in this course, please talk to me as soon as possible. Given that the material in this course is covered at a fairly rapid rate, missing even a single class can make the process of keeping up with the material and completing the assignment(s) much more difficult, especially when group members are depending on one another. You can expect to receive grades/feedback on each assignment and the take-home exam within 2 weeks after submission.

University policies. The University of Manitoba requires that I point out a number of policies and regulations regarding attendance and withdrawal, academic integrity, and appeals of grades. You will find these explained in the General Academic Regulations section of the 2022-23 General Calendar (<https://umanitoba.ca/registrar/academic-calendar>). Also, please see the University Policies and Procedures section for policies regarding the responsibilities of academic staff with regard to students.

Grading

Letter grades will be assigned according to the Faculty of Education grading conversion scheme:

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Level of Achievement	Percentage Range
A+	4.5	WOW!!	95+
A	4	Excellent	90-94
B+	3.5	Very Good	85-89
B	3	Good	80-84
C+	2.5	Satisfactory	75-79
C	2	Adequate	70-74
D	1	Marginal	60-69
F	0	Failure	Below 60

Course Technology

Students are welcome to use technology (e.g., cellphones, laptops, etc.) during class if the technology is used for relevant educational purposes within this course. Unless a student must either send or respond immediately to an urgent personal message (email, text, or phone), I ask that students refrain from using technology during class for purposes that are not relevant to this course.

Class Communication

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the Electronic Communication with Students Policy. You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university. For full details, please visit

https://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/2021-06/Electronic%20Communication%20with%20Students%20Policy%20-%202013_09_01%20RF.pdf).

Recording Class Meetings

The University of Manitoba and I hold copyright over the course materials, presentations and lectures which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without my permission. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research.

Schedule A - UM Policies and Learner Supports for Students

Schedule A of the Responsibilities of Academic Staff with regards to Students (ROASS) policies of the University of Manitoba lists resources and policies for students. It is important that you familiarize yourself with these policies and supports, some of which are listed below...

- Academic Integrity
- Grade appeals
- Voluntary Withdrawal (March 22 2023)
- Academic Learning Centre
- Health and Wellness
- Student Accessibility Services

The link to Schedule A is posted on my webpage www.robertrenaud.ca.