

Quantitative Research Methods
RSCH 9840
3 SEMESTER HOURS

College of Education
Valdosta State University
Department of Educational Leadership
Conceptual Framework: Guiding Principals
(adapted from the Georgia Systemic Teacher Education Program Accomplished Teacher Framework)

Dispositions Principle: Productive dispositions positively affect learners, professional growth, and the learning environment.

Equity Principle: All learners deserve high expectations and support.

Process Principle: Learning is a lifelong process of development and growth.

Ownership Principle: Professionals are committed to, and assume responsibility for, the future of their disciplines.

Support Principle: Successful engagement in the process of learning requires collaboration among multiple partners.

Impact Principle: Effective practice yields evidence of learning.

Technology Principle: Technology facilitates teaching, learning, community-building, and resource acquisition.

Standards Principle: Evidence-based standards systematically guide professional preparation and development.

Positively Impacting Learning Through Evidence-Based Practices

Course Description:

This graduate level course is designed to introduce students to practical applications of advanced statistical methods. Two goals guide instruction. The first goal is to provide students with the information and skills necessary to interpret research articles in their chosen areas of interest. The second goal is to prepare the students for their dissertation study so that they are able to collect and analyze data and interpret and communicate results appropriately.

Text Requirements:

Mertler, C. A. & Vannatta, R. A. (2005). *Advanced and multivariate statistical methods* [3rd Ed.], Pycszak Publishing, California. ISBN 1-884585-59-0

Holcomb, Z. C. (2004) *Interpreting Basic Statistics* [4th Ed.], Pycszak Publishing, California. ISBN 1-884585-51-5

Optional Materials:

SPSS, Inc. (2005) *SPSS graduate pack for Windows*. [Computer Software] Chicago, IL: SPSS, Inc.

Course Outcomes and Activities:

Objective The student should be able to:	Activity The student will:	Assessment The instructor will:
describe the use of advanced quantitative methods in educational improvement.	participate in a class discussions (face2face and online) about educational research.	note student participation through informal observation.
demonstrate through critical evaluation the ability to interpret results of a research article.	read and critique assigned research articles.	evaluate the critiques based on guidelines provided.
develop a research project that incorporates appropriate quantitative methods on the research question(s).	develop a research proposal.	evaluate the appropriateness of the quantitative methods incorporated.
demonstrate an understanding of advanced statistical procedures and the ability to conduct the procedures independently using SPSS.	complete in-class and out-of-class assignments as given. Students are expected to ask questions if procedures are unclear.	provide feedback on the student's progress.

Attendance Policy:

As doctoral students, you are expected to attend all class meetings. Any absences should be cleared with the professor. If you miss class for any reason, excused or not, you are responsible for making up all assigned work and being prepared for the next class meeting.

Assessment:

You are expected to participate in all class and on-line discussions. In addition, there will be assignments submitted that will be accepted as is and considered *satisfactory* or returned to you for improvement (*needs improvement*). You will have the opportunity to resubmit any assignment that does not receive a satisfactory rating. Therefore, your grade will be determined by participation and satisfactory assignment ratings. You can expect to receive an A unless you never participate in discussions and/or have outstanding assignments that need improvement.

Flexibility:

Our intentions are to accomplish objectives specified in the course syllabus. Circumstances may arise, however, that prohibit us from fulfilling this endeavor. Therefore, this syllabus is subject to change. You will be notified of any change in advance of its occurrence.

POLICY STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Below is information directly quoted from the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures:

Academic integrity is the responsibility of all VSU faculty and students. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity and clearly defining the penalties for cheating and plagiarism in their course syllabi. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the faculty members' syllabi. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics.

The full text of Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures is available in the on the Academic Affairs website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>).

The consequences for acts of academic dishonesty in the Dewar College of Education are:

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. The faculty member will administer an academic response (e.g. resubmit / retake assignment, failure of the assignment, failure of the course).
2. The faculty member will complete a Level Two Dewar College of Education Concern form (<http://www.valdosta.edu/coe/studentsinfo.shtml>).
3. The faculty member will complete a Valdosta State University Report of Academic Dishonesty (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>).

SECOND OFFENSE:

1. The faculty member will administer an academic response (e.g. resubmit / retake assignment, failure of the assignment, failure of the course).

2. The faculty member will complete a Level Two Dewar College of Education Concern form (<http://www.valdosta.edu/coe/studentsinfo.shtml>). According to the Dewar College of Education Concern Form Policy, "a second level two concern form will result in the student being dismissed from his/her program of study. This dismissal will result in an automatic review by the COE Undergraduate Policies Committee."
3. The faculty member will complete a Valdosta State University Report of Academic Dishonesty (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>). According to the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures document, "after a second (or subsequent) Report of Academic Dishonesty has been submitted to the Student Conduct Office in the Dean of Students Office, official charges will be drawn up and the disciplinary matter will be referred to the Valdosta State University Judicial Committee."

SPECIAL NEEDS STATEMENT

Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of the institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin or handicap of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent executive orders as well as Title XI in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in the Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY)

<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>
Dr. Nicole Morgan Gibson Office: Room 238, Spec. Ed. Building Telephone: (229) 333-5633 office (229) 563-3917 cell email: nmgibson@valdosta.edu	Mondays 10:30 am to 2:30 pm Tuesdays 10:30 am to 2:30 pm Wednesdays (in Tifton) 4:00 pm to 5:00pm; 7:45 pm to 8:45 pm Other hours by appointment