

**EDUL 8390: Dissertation Research (3 Graduate Credit Hours)**  
**Term 200\_**

**Dr. \_\_\_\_\_, Instructor**

**Office**

Dept. of Educational Leadership  
College of Education  
1201 W. University Drive  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
956/381-3436 or 956/-----  
\_\_\_\_\_@utpa.edu

**Home**

(optional)

**Office Hours:**

<\_\_List\_\_> Other times by appointment.

**EDUL 8390: Dissertation Research.** This course is open to students who have successfully challenged the comprehensive examinations for the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership. The purpose of the course is to assist students in the development and successful defense of a quality dissertation proposal.

**Educational Leadership Doctoral Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)**

- The SLO addressed in this course is the successful defense of a quality research proposal.

**Textbooks (Recommended)**

Bryant, M. T. (2003). *The portable dissertation advisor*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.

Hart, C. (2003). *Doing a literature review: Releasing the social science research imagination*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE

American Psychological Association. (2009) *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.* Washington, DC: Author. (or other style manual appropriate for the type of research being proposed.)

**Course Organization and Delivery.**

- The course runs for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks – <\_\_List dates\_\_>.
- There is no set class meeting schedule.
- Student work will be submitted to the instructor electronically via Blackboard. (This requires that each student have a UTPA e-mail address.)
- The instructor will respond electronically to work submitted by students in the course. Responses will be given to materials in the order in which they are received. Hopefully, this will help encourage students to keep a steady work schedule of submissions for feedback.
- The instructor will meet individually with students as needed on \_\_\_\_\_ days and \_\_\_\_\_ days in her or her campus office.

- All Graduate School and ELDP Guidelines will be followed in the scheduling of the formal proposal defense (committee members, timelines, forms, etc.)
- Information and announcements will be posted on Blackboard. Students are encouraged to check the course site at least once a week.
- Students must work with their major professor(s) (chair or co-chairs of their dissertation committee) on all issues.
- If a student successfully defends a dissertation proposal during this course, they should register for EDUL 8395: Dissertation Writing in the next term. If the proposal is still under development when the semester ends, and the student thinks that he or she will be able to defend the dissertation proposal in the following semester the student should register for EDUL 8390. If the student does not believe that he or she will be able to defend the proposal during the second semester of enrolling in dissertation writing the student may register for one hour of Dissertation Research (EDUL 8190) for the next term. IT A REQUIREMENT TO BE ENROLLED FOR 3 CREDIT HOURS OF DISSERTATION RESEARCH THE SEMESTER A STUDENT DEFENDS HER OR HIS PROPOSAL.

### **Resources**

[www.dissertationdoctor.com/advice/topic.html](http://www.dissertationdoctor.com/advice/topic.html)

Do not hesitate to visit with students who have successfully defended their dissertation proposal. They have excellent advice to share regarding what and what not to do. Among those students recently completing successful proposal defenses are: <\_\_List students>

### **Grading**

Students who are in the process of developing their dissertation research will receive one of the following grades:

S - Satisfactory

U - Unsatisfactory

After a student has successfully defended their proposal before their committee and submitted the revised proposal to the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program office the student will receive a letter grade for EDUL 8390.