Instructor: Christopher Bayer, Ed.D.  
Email: christopher.bayer@sfasu.edu

Office: Virtual  
Course Time & Location: Online

Cell Number: (817) 721-8636  
Credits: 3

Office hours: Tu/W/Th 6:00 pm or by request

“Further advance will require complete abandonment of the customary isolation of the word from the man speaking, and likewise of the word from the thing spoken of or named.”

(Dewey & Bentley, Knowing and the Known, 1949, p. 50)

Contact Info Note:
Since this is an online class, I will not get “to see” you. Please make sure that you contact me ANY time via email if you have questions or need information. Any graduate course requires constant communication and exchange of ideas.

1- Course Nature: completely online via D2L

2- Course Prerequisites: Admission into the Principal Preparation Program

3. Course Description:
This course serves as an introduction to educational research where students are engaged in learning about educational research philosophies, methodological traditions, and research design variations. The students design, conduct, and report a research protocol that is of authentic and original value to their own educational setting and that result in the production of an improvement plan.

This is a fully online 3 credit course that spans about 15 7-days weeks. The course contains extensive written content that includes the same information students in a face-to-face lecture course receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least three hours per week. In addition to extensive readings, students are required to participate in multiple discussion forums, take multiple quizzes, and complete multiple assignments. All these cumulate in a capstone research project that requires extensive research, synthesis, and writing. For every hour a student spends engaging with the content, he/she spends at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.
4- Course’s Vision, Mission, and Core Values:

This course is aligned with the Perkins College of education’s Vision, Mission, and Core Values. More specifically, this course aims to prepare competent, successful, caring and enthusiastic professionals from diverse backgrounds dedicated to responsible service, leadership, social justice and continued professional and intellectual development in an interconnected global society. In addition, the course is aligned to the Department of Secondary Education & Educational Leadership’s vision, one that seeks to prepare teachers as school leaders committed to youth, scholarship and lifelong learning through a scholar-practitioner learning community characterized by a learner-centered curriculum, field experience, mentoring, and practical inquiry.

5- Program Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will apply skills, content knowledge, and knowledge of necessary dispositions regarding the role of an effective school leader.
2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles and foundations of school leadership.
3. The student will demonstrate instructional leadership skills in working with faculty on issues of instruction, curriculum, culture, and professional development.
4. The student will demonstrate and apply leadership skills through school-level practicum experiences.
5. The student will demonstrate building level leadership skills in supporting P-12 student learning within a school.
6. The student will exhibit school leadership skills in organizational management and community relations developing effective school-based management and resource systems and school-community partnerships.

6- PLOs’ aligned Course Instructional Objectives:

In this course, a student is intended to:

1. Differentiate between various philosophical traditions of educational research (PLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6).
2. Differentiate between various methodological traditions of educational research (PLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6).
3. Identify different steps of educational research (PLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6).
4. Elaborate essential research skills including identifying problems and questions, creating research instruments, analyzing data, and using research findings to create school improvement plans (PLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6).
5. Be proficient in doing academic searches and using APA styles

Secondary objectives of this course include:
1. Reading online resources that are useful to understanding the theory and practice of educational leadership and school administration (PLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6).
2. Locating online resources that are useful to understanding the theory and practice of educational leadership and school administration (PLO 1, 2, 3, 5, 6).

7. Alignment to Texas and Professional Standards:

This course is aligned to the National Policy Board for Educational Administration's Professional Standards for Educational Leaders. More specifically, this course is aligned to the following standards: S1. (a, c, e). S2 (a, b, d, f), S3 (a, b, e, g), S5 (a, b).

This course is aligned to the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation’s Standards for Advanced Programs. More specifically, this course is aligned to the following standard: A.1.

This course is aligned to the Texas Principal Evaluation System Standards. More specifically, this course is aligned to the following indicators: 1c, 4a, 4d.

This course is aligned to the following Principal Standards as related to Test #268: 1, 3, 4.
## 8. Course Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment(s) due with grade %</th>
<th>% grade</th>
<th>Unit to Read</th>
<th>Due by midnight of</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Data Form (Dropbox)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Unit I</td>
<td>October 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESiER Acknowledgement Quiz (Quiz)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Unit I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timeline and Syllabus Acknowledgement Quiz (Quiz)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Unit I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Search Assignment (Dropbox)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unit II</td>
<td>September 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA Referencing Quiz (Quiz)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unit III</td>
<td>October 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steps in Educational Research Assignment (Dropbox)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unit IV</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Problem and Questions Forum</strong></td>
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<td>You may start working on this as soon as you want (early submissions are encouraged)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make first submission before midnight of October 28 (mandatory)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Literature Review (Dropbox)</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Unit VI</td>
<td>November 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submit initial list of articles to Dropbox by November 1 (mandatory)</td>
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<td>Your list of articles should be approved by November 3 (mandatory)</td>
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<td>Your first article summary should be approved by November 5 (mandatory)</td>
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<td>This will leave you six days to work on the rest of the assignment (due November 11)</td>
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<td><strong>Research Instrument One (Dropbox)</strong></td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Unit VII</td>
<td>November 14</td>
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<td>Submit as soon as possible to Dropbox (revisions might be needed)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research Instrument Two (Dropbox)</strong></td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Unit VIII</td>
<td>November 10</td>
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<td>Submit as soon as possible to Dropbox (revisions might be needed)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research Instrument Three (Dropbox)</strong></td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Unit IX</td>
<td>December 13</td>
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<td>Submit as soon as possible to Dropbox (revisions might be needed)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Data Collection Assignment (Dropbox)</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Unit X</td>
<td>December 15</td>
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<td>Sharing sample work on Dropbox is encouraged</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Data Analysis Assignment (Dropbox)</strong></td>
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<td>Sharing sample work on Dropbox is encouraged</td>
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<td><strong>Research-Based Action Planning (Dropbox)</strong></td>
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9. Grade scale

A = 90-100    B = 80-89    C = 70-79    D = 60-69    F (below 60%)

10. Readings/Texts

A. Required Texts:
No textbook is required for this course. All readings will be made available online.

B. Readings made available through DesiretoLearn:

*D2L HTML pages*: Navigating the Steen Library

*D2L PDF readings* by instructor:

1. APA Referencing Guide,
2. Classical Steps in Educational Research
3. Sample Problem & Questions

*D2L PDF other readings*:

2. The Research Questions (pages 29-34 of Fraenkel & Wallen’s *How to Design and Evaluate Research in Education*, 2009)
7. Pages 87-92 of Criteria for Evaluating the Review of Literature

Webpages:

1. Interview Research I  
2. Interview Research II ([http://www.qualres.org/HomeLnte-3595.html](http://www.qualres.org/HomeLnte-3595.html))
6. Observation Research I ([http://www.qualres.org/HomeObse-3594.html](http://www.qualres.org/HomeObse-3594.html))

C. Course Bibliography:

*Educational research:*


*Qualitative research:*


*Action research (general):*


Action research (education):


11. Course Policies:

**Course Grades (Including WH), Policy 5.5**

**Final Course Grade Appeals by Students, Policy 6.3**

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities, Policy 6.1**

**Appeal Procedure Relating to the Provision of accommodations for students with Disabilities, Policy 6.6**

**Class Attendance, Policy 6.7**

**Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, Policy 10.4**

***Other SFA Policy Information***

*Academic expectations*: this is a synthetic and integrated graduate course that requires an investment on your behalf of time and effort. To stay in control, please be as organized as you could. Planning your time properly cannot be more important for any course you take, and especially so for online courses. You are expected to submit assignments of good quality and respond promptly to communications by course instructor and other colleagues.

*Intellectual expectations*: in this course, you are expected to demonstrate some essential intellectual characteristics including but not limited to those of inquiry, critique, openness, reflexivity, and rigor.

*Personal expectations*: in this course, you are expected to treat everybody with respect and good manners. Your communications should meet professional standards expected from a graduate student and an aspiring pre-service educational leader. "Netiquette" is always a good idea!

*Work quality*: as a graduate student, you are expected to put your best in completing the course work. Assignments should be completed with care, meet
all assignment criteria, and show authenticity, inventiveness, and depth. Your writing is expected to be coherent, creative, and does not include spelling, syntax, or grammar mistakes (please let me know should you require any help with your writing so that we find ways to do this). You are expected to use APA style for formatting, citation, and referencing at all times. I try my best to give assignment feedback within a week after your submission.

**Participation and engagement:** in this course, you are expected to engage with course materials, your colleagues, and your instructor in authentic ways that will contribute to your growth and other students in the class. As a rule of thumb, a 3 credit online graduate course may require something between 6 and 9 hours of work every week.

**Late and missing work:**
1) All major assignments must be completed in order to receive an A in the course.
2) Assignments not completed by the due date may only receive up to 80% of the total grade. For example, if you would have otherwise made a 100 on a late assignment, then you will receive an 80. Had you made a 90, then you will receive a 70.

**Hints for success:** be organized and manage your time properly. Be proactive. Communicate if you need to. Always reflect on this experience against your intellectual, professional, and personal reality and aspirations.

**Instructor support:** I am here to help you WHenever you need help, and it does NOT matter how many times you will need it! Please communicate with me as frequent as you need to. This is my job here! It will be my pleasure to answer an email of yours, communicate with you via Skype, or meet you in person if you need to.

**Course Evaluation:** Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the Perkins College of Education electronically evaluate courses taken within the PCOE. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including:
1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation;
2. Instruction evaluation purposes; and
3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay, and retention.
As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the PCOE faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical!"
In the Perkins College of Education, the course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and summarized data will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

**TEA Educators’ Code of Ethics:** Please refer to the following link.
**Mental Health:** SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
(1) SFASU Counseling Services  
[www.sfasu.edu/counseling](http://www.sfasu.edu/counseling)  
Tucker Building (Southeast corner of Raguet and East College streets)  
936-468-2401  
(2) SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic  
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)  
Human Services Room 202  
936-468-1041  
(3) The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)  
[www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents)  
936.468.7249  
[dos@sfasu.edu](mailto:dos@sfasu.edu)  
(4) The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”  
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.  
To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:  
- Health Services  
- Counseling Services  
- Student Outreach and Support  
- Food Pantry  
- Wellness Coaching  
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education  
[www.sfasu.edu/thehub](http://www.sfasu.edu/thehub)  
936.468.4008  
[thehub@sfasu.edu](mailto:thehub@sfasu.edu)

**Crisis Resources:**  
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343  
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)  
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741  
National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8

A complete list of mental health resources for students can be found at: [https://www.sfasu.edu/info-for/current-students/mental-health-resources](https://www.sfasu.edu/info-for/current-students/mental-health-resources)  
More information about student wellness and support options can be found on the Health and Wellness Hub ([https://www.sfasu.edu/thehub](https://www.sfasu.edu/thehub)) and the Lumberjacks Wellness Network ([https://www.sfasu.edu/lwn](https://www.sfasu.edu/lwn)).

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to revise, alter and/or amend this syllabus, as necessary. Students will be notified in writing and/or by email of any such revisions, alterations and/or amendments.