Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction
Project Overview and Guidelines
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
University of Arkansas

Project Purpose:

The primary purpose of the Ed.S. Project is for students to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge gained in relation to data analysis as well as their specific area of study. This project serves as a comprehensive examination requirement for the Ed.S. In Curriculum and Instruction and is a designated measure for program evaluation.

Description of the Ed.S. Project:

Pre-Requisite Coursework:

The Ed.S. Project is to be completed after the majority of coursework in the students program of study and the student can enroll and begin work on the project after the completing the following:*

- 9 credits of Curriculum Coursework consisting of: (Effective Spring 2015)
    - CIED 5423: C & I Models and Implementation
    - CIED 6053: C & I Learner Assessment and Program Evaluation
    - CIED 6013-Curriculum Theory, Development and Evaluation or CIED 5633-Analysis of Instruction
- 9 credits of Research Core Coursework consisting of:
    - One designated course in quantitative research methods
    - One designated course in qualitative research methods
    - One designated course in mixed research methods
- At least 6 of the 12-18 credits in one of the following Areas of Study:
    - Autism Spectrum Disorders
    - Applied Behavioral Analysis
    - Educational Technology
    - Special Education Leadership
    - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
    - Gifted and Talented

***Concurrent enrollment in the Ed.S. Project and Area of Study coursework is permissible only after the completion of Curriculum Coursework, Research Core Coursework and at least 6 credits of courses in the Area of Study**

Project Requirements:

The Ed.S. Project is an investigation or inquiry of the students own design which demonstrates their capacity to design, implement and evaluate an intervention independently. The project does not have to be original research in nature and can consist of an application of concepts or best practices, but does require the student to utilize skills obtained through their Research Core Coursework to collect and/or analyze data and evaluate the effectiveness of an intervention related to their chosen field of study.

Project Steps:

- Present and receive approval of a ***Preliminary Proposal*** to the student's advisor and Ed.S. Program Coordinator outlining the project prior to the semester of enrollment in the Ed.S. Project credit hours.

- Establish an ***Ed.S. Project Committee*** consisting of at a minimum the student's advisor and two additional faculty members. Faculty should consist of at least two members within the CIED department (advisor included) and every effort should be made to obtain faculty who have an understanding of the project content area.
    - Project Proposal Form (to be submitted by the student and advisor)
- Obtain approval from ***Research Compliance*** (if applicable) for the collection of data in the appropriate setting.
    - Research Compliance Page
- Implement the intervention, collect and/or analyze data on its effectiveness.
- Present a ***Final Presentation*** to the student's advisor, Ed.S. Program Coordinator and committee members and defend their project effectively by addressing committee concerns.
    - Project Completion Form (to be submitted by student and advisor)

Preliminary Proposal

- The following should be completed by the student as part of the ***Preliminary Proposal*** for the Ed.S. Project:
    - Submission of a written summary and presentation (via streaming media or face-to face) which provides an overview of the project. The written summary is to be a maximum of five pages in length (not including the reference list) and the presentation should be a maximum of ten minutes in length with an additional five minutes of time allotted for questions by the committee. The content of the proposal and presentation should discuss the following:
        - Introduction
            - Discusses the rationale for the project; provides a brief overview of the most relevant and related literature or related results of related interventions and guiding questions that are to be investigated in the project.
        - Methods
            - Discusses participants; setting, materials/measures/instruments to be used; procedures; and data analysis methods.
    - Approval of proposal by the students Ed.S. Project Committee and the Ed.S. Program Coordinator.

Final Presentation

- The final presentation is to be conducted using live streaming and/or face-to-face formats and requires to the student to summarize the key findings from their project. The presentation is to be a maximum of 20 minutes in length with 15 minutes provided for discussing their project and results and a 5 minute question and answer portion. The content should summarize the following and utilize these elements:
    - The use of a Power-Point, Prezi, Google Slides or other medium for presentation of content. The slides are to be distributed to the Ed.S. Project Committee at least 48 hours before the presentation.
    - A discussion using streaming video/voice over which provides an overview of the following:

        - A review of the rationale for the project; an overview of the most relevant and related literature or results from related interventions and guiding questions that were investigated in their project.
        - Presentation of the results and/or findings from their project. These should be related to the questions that guided their inquiry or intervention.
        - Recommendations for further study or modifications to interventions that could be the topics of inquiry for future investigations.
    - Presentation of a final summary paper which is a minimum of 10 pages in length (excluding reference pages) which builds upon the Preliminary Proposal paper. All components of the paper are to be in APA format and the goal is to prepare a manuscript similar to one that would be seen in a practitioners journal and contains the following sections:
        - Introduction
            - Discusses the rationale for the project; provides a brief overview of the most relevant and related literature or results of related interventions and questions that were investigated in the project.
        - Methods
            - Discusses participants; setting, materials/measures/instruments that were used; procedures; and data analysis methods.
        - Results
            - Provides descriptive data and findings related to the guiding questions of the project.
        - Discussion
            - Interpretation of findings, implications for practitioners in the field, suggestions for future study or interventions
        - Conclusion
- All final presentation components must be approved by the Ed.S. Project Committee and final drafts of the paper after revisions submitted to the committee chair and the Ed.S. Program Coordinator.
- Final Project Evaluation Instruments:
    - Ed.S. Project Presentation Scoring Guide
    - Ed.S. Project Written Summary Scoring Guide