

Syllabus: Music 525: Research in Music Education

Spring 2014

Instructor: Dr. Darryl Coan Office: DH 0199 Phone: 618-650-2012 Email: dcoan@siue.edu
 Location: Dunham Hall 0158 Time: Mondays 7:30-9:00 pm

Required Texts:

1. Froehlich, H., and Frierson-Campbell, C. Inquiry in Music Education: Concepts and Methods for the Beginning Researcher. New York, NY: Routledge, 2013.
2. Turabian, Kate L. A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations. 6th ed. Revised by John Grossman and Alice Bennett. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Turabian is the required style for your thesis.)
3. Additional Materials may be supplied by Instructor on Blackboard (bb.siue.edu) or in class.

Graduate Catalog Description: Students use their research and writing skills and their understanding of music teaching and learning to formulate, implement, and assess music education research. Prerequisites: MUS 501.

Course Objectives: By the end of the semester, you will:

- gain weekly practice as a knowledgeable, critical and frequent reader of research (especially in music education)
- learn to understand and carry out core statistical methods commonly used in educational research
- learn the modes and methods of inquiry common to music education research
- learn to identify and frame problems for research
- learn how to formulate, pursue and report research in a scholarly and ethical way
- write a reasoned and reasonable Master's level research proposal that could realistically become the proposal for your thesis (though it doesn't have to be)
- practice the thinking, research and writing to enable you to carry out a Master's Thesis.
- work toward the lifelong goal of continuing to read, critique and pursue research in the field, whether as a practitioner and/or as a future doctoral student.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. You will be reading and reporting on research each and every week. Because the reports will drive class discussions, your presence is vital.

Course Work and Grading: The course will comprise three portions: Subject Matter, Research Reports and the Research Proposal. The subject matter learning involves readings from the required course texts and will be assessed through exams. The Research Reporting portion is carried out through the weekly reading and discussion of scholarly research. The Research Proposal for your Master's Thesis is the culminating assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted unless the instructor determines there are extenuating circumstances.

The **grade** will be calculated by the following formula:

1. Subject Matter Exams—20%;
2. Research Reports and discussion—30%;
3. Research Proposal—50%.

Additional Electronic Course Materials: Special course materials will be available to you on the web-based Blackboard Course Management System. The URL is: <http://bb.siue.edu>. You will need your e-id and password to access the materials.

Plagiarism: (From *SIUE Policies and Procedures*, available online at <http://www.siue.edu>) The University recognizes plagiarism as a serious academic offense. Plagiarism, the act of representing the work of another as one's own, may take two forms. It may consist of copying, paraphrasing or otherwise using the written or oral work of another without acknowledging the source, or it may consist of presenting oral or written course work prepared by another as one's own.

Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of F in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost. In addition, any graduate student who has been found to have committed an act of plagiarism may be dropped from his or her graduate degree program by his or her department. A student who is reported a second time shall be suspended from the University for a period of not less than one term. Should a student who has been suspended for plagiarism be readmitted and be again found guilty of the offense, he/she shall be permanently expelled from the University.

Because this is specifically a research class, incidences of clear plagiarism will result in the student being required to withdraw from the course with a failing grade and the plagiarism will be reported.

MUS 525 Outline/Assignment Schedule:

Readings/Assignments are due on the date indicated in the same row. Unless indicated otherwise, readings are from *Inquiry in Music Education: Concepts and Methods for the Beginning Researcher*. The instructor may assign additional readings not on the outline at any time during the semester.

Date	Reading	Other assignment
1/20	MLK Day, No Class	
1/27	Introduction	
2/3	Chapters 1, 2	Assignments 1,2 p. 38
2/10	Chapter 3	Further Exploration p. 80
2/17	Chapter 4	Assignment 5 p. 91; State general problems in music education from your teaching experience
2/24	Chapter 5	Locate and read two philosophical articles interesting to you from the following journals: <i>Philosophy of Music Education Review (PMER)</i> ; <i>Action, Theory and Research for Music Education (ACT)</i> . Be prepared to explain and critique the articles in class.
2/28	Chapter 6	Read an historical article by Marie McCarthy (the chapter's author) from a peer-reviewed journal. Be prepared to explain and critique the article in class. Does the author seem to follow her own advice from the chapter? How or how not?

3/3	Chapter 7	Locate and read two qualitative studies interesting to you from the following journals: <i>Journal of Research in Music Education (JRME)</i> ; <i>Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education (CRME)</i> . Be prepared to explain and critique the articles in class. Bring a list of 5 questions for Inquiry that you might be interested in pursuing.
3/10	Chapters 9-12	1. Create a draft problem statement for class. 2. Be prepared to discuss the statistical and data gathering methods from the reading.
3/17		Spring Break: No Class
3/24	Chapters 13-14	Draft of related research; improved problem statement, type of study
3/31	Recapitulation	Bulleted methodology as discussed in class
4/7	Appendices A-G	1. be prepared to discuss the reading, especially the “-isms” in Appendix G. 2. Proposal Chapter 1, 2 draft due
4/14		Proposal Chapter 1,2, second draft ; Test on Statistical Measurement
4/21		Proposal Draft Consultation
4/28	Proposal Presentations	Evaluate studies of class members

Final exam, Mon May 5 (8:30-10:10)—Exam will be essay questions on research technique.