

ASSIGNMENTS

Introduction to Educational Research

Semester 2: 2014

The assignments for this course are developmental in nature and seek to facilitate your growth as a teacher researcher.

- ❖ **Assignment one (1)** requires you to engage in reflection on your journey as a teacher researcher.
15% of the total grade

- ❖ **Assignment two (2)** requires you to engage in an oral presentation on the proposal being created by you as a teacher researcher.
30% of the total grade

- ❖ **Assignment three (3)** requires you to submit individual proposals for your individual action research.
50% of the total grade

- ❖ **Attendance and participation 5%**

Due dates for assignments:

- ❖ Reflective task (five journal entries) to be submitted on **April 30, 2014**.
- ❖ Presentations are scheduled to begin on **April 29, 2014**.
- ❖ Research proposals are due on **May 14, 2014**.

Failure to submit assignments on or before the assigned date and time will result in a penalty of 5%.

Assignments taken in later than five working days after the due date **WILL NOT** be accepted.

Reflections

Assignment One (1)

Reflect on your journey as a teacher researcher on aspects of the course as indicated by the course outline.

Using a reflective format of your choice share your analysis of course related experiences. Use the following questions below as a guide.

As teacher researcher:

- What are your emergent goals and objectives as a teacher researcher?
- How are your emergent beliefs, insights and experiences impacting your growth?
- How does the literature support your emergent thoughts?

Please view rubric.

Each reflection should be **no more** than three pages double spaced.

Presentations

Assignment Two (2)

Engage in a presentation on the research proposal that you are developing as a teacher researcher. In this presentation, you are required to explore the following areas:

- The processes involved in the creation of the research proposal
- The review of literature
- The methods and procedures utilized in the development of the research proposal
- The intervention plan to be utilized

The Research Proposal

Assignment three (3)

You have engaged in the course, Introduction to Research and as a teacher researcher you are required to develop a research proposal ensuring that the following elements are included:

a) Introduction and Background

- **Description of why you focused on the issue/problem**
 - What is happening that needs to be changed?
 - How is the problem being manifested?
 - Who are involved?
 - How extensive is the problem?
- **Clear statement of the purpose**
 - What is the major objective or reason for the study?
- **Research questions**
 - Which 2 or 3 questions will guide your exploration of the purpose statement as you try to address the issue/problem?
- **Significance of your study**
 - Who will benefit?
 - How will each stakeholder benefit?
- **Definition of terms**
 - How do you define each key term in the context of your study?

Include supporting literature and data (for example. school, national, regional, and international statistics) to justify the need for your research.

b) The Review of Related Literature

Remember that the review should address the following question:

What do I need to know in order to address the problem?

- Which areas must I focus on in order to better understand the problem **and** possible solutions?
- Which theories will help me to address the problem (context, participants and possible solution/s)?
- Which current or seminal works will help me to understand **and** address my research problem?
- Which sources share similar **and** divergent views in relation to an area of focus/ subtopic?
- Who has done similar studies? Where were these studies done? Who were the participants? How were these studies done? What were the findings? What were the strengths and limitations of these studies? How relevant are these methodologies, findings and recommendations for my research?

Write your review by:

- Providing an introductory paragraph that states the purpose of the review and highlights the areas of focus/ subheadings. Explain why each subheading is critical to your research. Ensure that the subheadings highlighted reflect the sequence of the review.
- Discussing each area of focus/ subheading by engaging in a critical discussion of the subheading. You therefore need to examine different points of view or perspectives.
- Providing a logical and cohesive review that showcases your **understanding** of literature that is relevant to your research.

Review 10 -15 sources.

c) Methodology

- Provide an introductory paragraph that links the purpose, research questions and strategies that will be used during your intervention.
- Provide a brief and analytical discussion of action research – its characteristics and four (4) benefits for you as a teacher researcher.

- Describe your participants. Explain how and why they will be chosen.
- Describe how you will try to address the problem (action/intervention plan). Explain how you will collect the data.
- Provide justification for the methods and procedures that you will use.
- Describe how you intend to demonstrate ethical behaviours.

d) Data analysis and Presentation

- Describe how you intend to analyze and present the data. (How will you make sense of the data? How will you share it?)

Your proposal should be 15 - 20 pages (*please adhere to the APA 6th Edition*).

Students, the due date for the proposal has been changed to May 14, 2014. Please note that there will be no extension and no grace period. While you may submit before the due date there will be absolutely no leniency for those who fail to submit on May 14, 2014.