

# ASSIGNMENTS

## Introduction to Educational Research

Semester 1: 2016

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.  
**20% 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**

No late assignment will be accepted except under extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances require a medical certificate.

## Reflections

### Assignment One (1)

Reflect on your journey as a teacher researcher. 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 the objectives of your journal entry?
- How are the insights, beliefs and experiences gained through the course impacting your growth as teacher researcher?
- How does the literature support your emergent thoughts?

Each reflection should be **no more** than three pages double spaced. You should submit three (3) reflections.

## Presentation

### 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:

- An introduction and background to the issue of focus
- A review of the literature you have consulted to better understand the issue
- The methodology, including intervention plan, to be utilized in addressing the issue.

## Proposal: 50%

### Assignment 3

You have engaged in the course, Introduction to Educational Research and as a teacher researcher you are required to **work independently** 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 does the problem impact teaching and learning?
  
- **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 may benefit?
  - How may each stakeholder benefit?
  - Include relevant literature and data to support the significance of your research.
  
- **Definition of terms**
  - How do you define key terms in the context of your study?

#### **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. 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 should contain 8 -10 sources which should be reflected on the reference page.**

**c)Methodology**

- Provide an introductory paragraph that links the purpose, research questions and strategies that you propose to use as your intervention.
- Describe your participants. Explain how and why they will be chosen (sampling technique to be used).
- Describe how you propose 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 reliability and validity will be addressed
- Describe how you intend to demonstrate ethical principles.

Your proposal should be **NO MORE** than 15 pages, excluding title and reference pages. Any pages beyond this limit **WILL NOT** be graded.

**Suggested** page guidelines:

- Introduction and background 3-4 pages
- Review of literature 4-6 pages
- Methodology 3-5 pages

Your proposal should adhere to the APA 6<sup>th</sup> Edition format.

For example:

- Times Roman Numeral font, size 12 should be used
- Work should be double spaced
- Pages should be numbered in accordance with APA 6<sup>th</sup> Edition
- There should be a one inch margin around your work
- No decorated borders or title page
- Each paragraph should be indented
- A reference page must be included