Course Description

This course will have a dual focus on 1) the role of scholarship and research in the field of computer-mediated language arts teaching and learning, and 2) on the use of computer technology in research methodologies, data gathering and analysis.

The purpose of this course is to examine the research paradigms and tools being applied to computer technology and literacy (defined as reading, writing, listening, speaking, signing and computing). LRC 645 will involve students in the study of the history and current state of computer-mediated language arts teaching, learning and research, as well as in the examination of new computer software for data gathering and analysis. Issues of access equity, diversity and multi-culturalism will be addressed.

Tasks

The class as a whole will read, present and discuss chapters and articles about learning, literacy, and technology research paradigms. Students will investigate the use of computer-mediated data analysis software.

Students will

Teams of two or three individuals will explore and report on current research studies and/or criteria for software evaluation.

Teams of two or three individuals will present final research design proposals.

Individual students will develop and present annotated bibliographies that relate to their research and develop concepts for original applications and research on technology in the language arts classroom.

The class will address issues of equity and diversity and appropriate delivery of new classroom technology in a multicultural setting.

Course Objectives
a. Understanding of research findings in education, especially those pertaining to the use and evaluation of computer-mediated language arts instruction.

b. Familiarity with computer-mediated data analysis techniques for literacy research.

c. Development of a practical research design relating to computer-mediated language arts teaching and learning.

Course Format
This course will have a lecture, demonstration and discussion format with several “guest researcher” presentations by faculty. We will review the goals of research and basic technical instruction as needed. Students will develop and test evaluation techniques for computer-mediated instruction. Students will research and report on current related research and research tools and design a research study relating to computer-mediated language arts. Individuals will submit research journals and contribute to an annotated bibliography.

Course Assignments:

a. Annotated bibliography of related published research.

b. Research and reflective journal

c. Class research presentations

c. Final Project: Research design

Methods of Evaluation:

The mid-term presentation and final research design projects are the major assignments for this course. Individual reflective papers will establish a line of communication with instructor about each student’s course of study. Annotated bibliographies will allow students to share their research into the literature. Student research journals and paper/presentations. The final course grade will be based on the evaluations as well as on class participation and contributions.

Grading Policy

All work completed satisfactorily = B grade. Evidence of scholarly and unique work beyond the confines of the assignments = A grade. In the final self reflection, justify the grade you believe you have earned.

Grading Policy - The mid-term presentation and final projects created will be evaluated by the instructor against the effective use of the available research methods discussed in class and handouts. The Annotated Bibliographies will be on a pass/fail basis only. These must be completed in order to receive full credit for your other work. Student initiative and participation in class will be an important evaluative tool for the instructor. Final course grades will be based on holistic evaluations based on discussed criteria.

Make it your business to meet with the instructor at least twice during the semester to discuss the course.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required, as is punctuality. If you must miss class, notify the
instructor prior to class.

Text

Required:


Suggested:


Final exam: Check official University schedule [tba]

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