

## THE MASTER'S RESEARCH STUDY

Fall 2010

### EdAd 221 & 253

- Institutional Review Board (IRB) application to be submitted
- EdAd 221 guides and supports students as they draft their Master's Research Study during the third semester. Students will continue their research, revise their drafts of Chapters 1, 2, and 3, and begin writing Chapters 4 and 5 with their EdAd 221 professor.

### EdAd 221 & 253 (cont.)

- EdAd 253 is the capstone course for the Master's Research Study; all chapters of the paper are completed during this course: Chapter 1 – Introduction, Chapter 2 – Review of the Literature, Chapter 3 – Methods and Procedures, Chapter 4 - Findings of the Study, Chapter 5 – Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations.

### Overview

#### Five Chapters

- Chapter I – Intro, Background, Setting, Problem Statement, Purpose of the Study, Research Questions, Definitions of Terms, ...
- Chapter II – Literature Review
  - This chapter may go through many edits
- Chapter III – Methodology
  - This chapter describes the type of research design, the step-by-step approach the researcher took, etc.

### Overview (cont.)

- Chapter IV – Data Analysis
- Chapter V – Conclusions & Recommendations

### Alignment – Purpose Statement & Research Questions

#### Example:

The purpose of this study is to was to examine the effect of student recognition programs on student motivation. The second purpose was to examine the effect of student recognition programs on CST scores. (or CELDT) (narrow down even more ...reading comp?) ... up to you, researcher.

#### Research Questions:

1. What impact do student recognition programs have on student motivation?
2. What impact do student recognition programs have on CST scores?

## Correlation – Research questions with survey or interview questions

Research Questions	Survey or Interview Questions
1. What impact does student recognition program have on student motivation?	Survey Questions 3, 5, 6 Interview Questions 1
2. What impact does student recognition programs have on CST scores?	Survey Questions 4 Interview Questions 2

## How does one select a research design?

Consider:

- The nature of the research problem or issue being addressed
- Your personal training & experiences
- Your audience

Three types of designs:

- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Mixed Methods

Creswell, J.W., (2009). Research Design. Los Angeles: Sage.

## Qualitative Research

- A means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem.

Qualitative strategies

- Narrative research
- Ethnographies
- Case studies
- Also - grounded theory & phenomenological research

Creswell, J.W., (2009). Research Design. Los Angeles: Sage.

## Quantitative Research

- A means for testing objective theories by examining the relationship among variables.
- These variables can be measured, typically on instruments, so that numbered data can be analyzed using statistical procedures.

Quantitative strategies

- Surveys
- Experimental research

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## Mixed Methods

- An approach to inquiry that combines both qualitative and quantitative forms.

Mixed Methods strategies:

- Sequential mixed methods – when the researcher seeks to elaborate on or expand on the findings of one method with another.
- Concurrent mixed methods – Both sets of data are collected simultaneously & integrates the information in the interpretation.
- Transformative mixed methods – Use of a theoretical lens (see chapter 3)...the lens provides a framework for topics of interest, data collection methods, and outcomes.

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