

EDAD 8191 - Seminar in Educational Research--Dissertation: Review of Literature

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section A01, CRN 42543,

Credit hours: 2

Instructor

Melissa Mlakar

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Melissa Mlakar

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

- Ed. D., Educational Leadership, Youngstown State University
- Master's, Specific Learning Disabilities, Cleveland State University
- Bachelor's, Elementary Education, University of Cincinnati
- Permanent Teaching License, 1-8
- Superintendent and Principal Licenses

Instructor Office Location: N/A

Instructor Office Phone: N/A

Course Description

8191. Seminar in Educational Research--Dissertation: Review of Literature. Students will build knowledge and skills in conducting a literature review to complete Chapter 2 of their dissertation. Writing will be broken down into manageable milestones, following the guidelines set forth by the YSU Educational Leadership Dissertation Guidelines and template. Prereq.: FOUN 8104, FOUN 8111, and FOUN 8112 or EDAD 8105, EDAD 8114, and EDAD 8115. 2 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association	American Psychological Association	978-1-4338-3216-1

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Module 1 Due Aug. 29	Understanding the purpose and components of the Literature Review. Candidates will: Identify key components of a quality Literature Review. (LO1) Articulate the purpose of the Literature Review as it relates to their research. (LO2)	1. Personal literature review purpose statement: Explain the purpose of your literature review as it relates to your research 2. Practice: Outline of existing dissertation
8/31	Module 2 Due Sept. 5	Research techniques and resources. Candidates will: Identify key components of a quality Literature Review. (LO1) Utilize a variety of online research tools to uncover studies related to selected topic (LO4) Apply APA writing conventions to scholarly writing (LO5)	1. Personal literature review timeline: Gantt Chart for dissertation completion 2. Practice: APA formatting practice 3. Practice: Outline of existing dissertation

9/7	Module 3 Due Sept. 12	Developing your Literature Review outline. Candidates will: Design an outline that communicates the intent of their research and the underlying theory of that research (LO3)	1. Personal literature review outline: 2. Proposed outline of dissertation
10/12	Module 4 Due Oct. 14	Candidates will: Utilize a variety of online research tools to uncover studies related to the selected topic (LO4) Apply APA writing conventions to their scholarly writing (LO5) Complete Chapter 2: Literature Review for inclusion in their dissertation (LO6)	1. First draft of Literature Review 2. Schedule review meeting with instructor
11/16	Module 5 Due Nov. 18	Candidates will: Utilize a variety of online research tools to uncover studies related to the selected topic (LO4) Apply APA writing conventions to their scholarly writing (LO5) Complete Chapter 2: Literature Review for inclusion in their dissertation (LO6)	1. Second draft of Literature Review 2. Schedule review meeting with instructor
11/30	FINAL PAPER Due Dec. 2	Candidates will: Utilize a variety of online research tools to uncover studies related to the selected topic (LO4) Apply APA writing conventions to their scholarly writing (LO5) Complete Chapter 2: Literature Review for inclusion in their dissertation (LO6)	1. Final paper with any and all final edits

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.