

Course Number: EDPSY 399 CASE STUDY RESEARCH METHODS

Methods of intensive study of individual programs, curricula, schools, and persons.

This course is a naturalistic study methods course with emphasis on the case study within education and social service. Topics include: field study, ethnographic observation, issues structuring, program evaluation, epistemology, validation, naturalistic generalization. It is a fieldwork course more than a theory course. One major aim is to discover how ordinary common-sense inquiry needs to be modified and disciplined to provide good qualitative case studies. Reading assignments are to be adapted by the students to suit one's own learning themes and pace. Differences between qualitative and quantitative case studies are examined. Program evaluation gets a mention but students need not work at furthering their understanding and skills in program evaluation. Evaluation of student performance in this work is based on the sophistication shown in producing a substantial case study, completing the projects, and participating in class discussion, with acquaintance with the Topics (such as mentioned above) critical. Of all who have registered for this course in over ten years, about 60% have received a grade of A. The drop rate has been about 20%. A final examination will be held unless students have had ample opportunity earlier to demonstrate their achievement. Credit: 1 unit. Students may register for 1/2 unit now and do the remaining 1/2 unit of field work (Project F) by independent study later.

CASE STUDY RESEARCH METHODS EDPSY 399e, U of ILLINOIS				Spring, 2001 Wed 3-6 pm		Bob Stake Meets in room 187 CRC	
ASSIGNMENT		Small Groups meet as useful			WEEKLY TOPICS		
Begin Project	Hand in Project	Topics for discussion	<b>Read</b>	Rf	Jan 17	Orientation, Cases & Phenomena; Evaluation in Education and Social Services B16,20	
A	A	Stake's Briefings: B1,	Text ch 0,1,3 Briefings B1,	R3	Jan 24	Qualitative/Quantitative modes; Situationality; Particularity; Explanation versus Understanding E	
B		Program Evaluation As Case Study	Text ch 2, 10 B6, 7, 8, 9, 17		Jan 31	Conceptual Structure; Issues; Themes; Evaluation Questions; B11, 43	
C1,2	B	Mabry's Nicole R2	B22, 33		Feb 7	Design; Access; Confidentiality; Human Subjects: SONDA GABRIEL B32, 49	
D E	C1,2	McLean's YNN Evaluation	Text ch 4; B15, 35, 36,	DL 23	Feb 14	Fieldwork; Data gathering; Observation, Patterns Evaluation fundamental ..... B4, 14, 19, 40	
F	E	CSSE B21	Text ch 5 B12. 32	R 13	Feb 21	Analysis, Collective case study .....B10, 18, 37, 38	
G		Scriven Thesaurus R12	Text ch 6, 8 B24, 48	DL 22	Feb 28	Interviewing; Surveys; Evaluation roles, standards.....B23, 25	
	G	Mutirao B34	Gray's Harbor R5		Mar 7	Organizing the report; Educational issues	
					Mar 14	Spring break	
					Mar 21	Field work	
H		Values resolution B43		DL 24	Mar 28	Document review	
J	J	Vignettes B39	Text pp9-11, 21, 115	R8	Apr 4	Assertions, Advocacy, Vignettes; Critical study:	
					Apr 11	AERA meeting in Seattle	
		Anchieta B44	Text ch 10 again B3	R9	Apr 18	Terminating fieldwork; Organizing the report; Comparisons .....B51	
			Text ch 8 again B 30, 31	R4	Apr 25	Telling stories, narrative analysis; Evaluation audiences	
	F	Summary B46	B47		May 2	Reports from students who have finished Proj F; Essentials of case study	

					May 9	Final Examination
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