

**ELPS 620**  
**Dissertation Research**

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Spring, 2011  
Saturdays 1030 L T  
by appointment  
M-Th by appointment

**RELATION TO OUR CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK:** Loyola University Chicago's School of Education has adopted and embraced the conceptual framework: **Professionalism in Service of Social Justice**. In this course we will utilize this conceptual framework as a lens through which to examine our understanding of the events, practices, and variable that influence research in the field of educational leadership. Specifically, we will develop the understanding and practice of research as it honors individual and social justice. Through the conduction of valid research and the reporting of findings educational researchers can help shape the policy and practice of the field of educational leadership so that all individuals no matter their ability, race, religions, socio-economic status, age, or gender have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

**DIVERSITY:** At Loyola University Chicago a characteristic of our research is an understanding and awareness of our own values, beliefs, and biases and their influence on the research processes. . Our class will provide the laboratory for exploring and addressing diversity issues as they relate to those biases and to engaging in ethical research practices.

**TECHNOLOGY:** The information pertinent to the ongoing study of educational leadership is always changing. Laws, policies and practices, as well as political, social, and economic issues provide the contexts for our research in educational leadership. Throughout this course, students will develop and practice skills in locating and using on-line resources critical to their research topics. Students will use the Loyola University Chicago library electronic databases to complete reviews of the literature.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION :** This course will focus on the methods and processes involved in developing the concept paper and the literature review for a doctoral dissertation. Specifically, this course will have as its goals the development of:

1) The Dissertation Concept Paper

- Purpose of the dissertation
- Significance of the Study
- Research Questions
- Proposed Methodology
- Proposed Chapters
- Annotated Bibliography

2) Related Literature Review Chapter

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**

Loyola University Chicago School of Education Ed.D. Directions for Student-Managed Submission of Dissertations located on the SOE Forms web page.

For additional information regarding the dissertation process: [http://www.luc.edu/education/servicesandresources\\_forms.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/education/servicesandresources_forms.shtml)

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) American Psychological Association.

**Evaluation:** Grading will be done on the following basis:

**Concept Paper:**

- |                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| • Purpose of the dissertation | 5 points  |
| • Significance of the study   | 5 points  |
| • Research Questions          | 10 points |
| • Proposed Methodology        | 15 points |
| • Proposed Chapters           | 5 points  |
| • Annotated Bibliography      | 10 points |

<b><u>Related Literature Review</u></b>	50 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 points</b>

**Grading Scale:**

<b>90-100</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>80-89</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>70-79</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>60-69</b>	<b>D</b>

**Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is an expression of interpersonal justice, responsibility and care, applicable to Loyola University faculty, students, and staff, which demands that the pursuit of knowledge in the university community be carried out with sincerity and integrity. The School of Education's Policy on Academic Integrity can be found at: [http://www.luc.edu/education/academics\\_policies\\_integrity.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/education/academics_policies_integrity.shtml). For additional academic policies and procedures refer to: [http://www.luc.edu/education/academics\\_policies\\_main.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/education/academics_policies_main.shtml)

**Accessibility**

Students who have disabilities which they believe entitle them to accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) office. To request accommodations, students must schedule an appointment with an SSWD coordinator. Students should contact SSWD at least four weeks before their first semester or term at Loyola. Returning students should schedule an appointment within the first two weeks of the semester or term. The University policy on accommodations and participation in courses is available at: <http://www.luc.edu/sswd/>

## **Harassment (Bias Reporting)**

It is unacceptable and a violation of university policy to harass, discriminate against or abuse any person because of his or her race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, age or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. Such behavior threatens to destroy the environment of tolerance and mutual respect that must prevail for this university to fulfill its educational and health care mission. For this reason, every incident of harassment, discrimination or abuse undermines the aspirations and attacks the ideals of our community. The university qualifies these incidents as incidents of bias.

In order to uphold our mission of being Chicago's Jesuit Catholic University-- a diverse community seeking God in all things and working to expand knowledge in the service of humanity through learning, justice and faith, any incident(s) of bias must be reported and appropriately addressed. Therefore, the Bias Response (BR) Team was created to assist members of the Loyola University Chicago community in bringing incidents of bias to the attention of the university. If you believe you are subject to such bias, you should notify the Bias Response Team at this link: <http://webapps.luc.edu/biasreporting/>

## Course Calendar

### **January 29 Meeting on Campus**

Introduction and Overview of Course  
Introduction to Concept Paper and Lit Review  
Review of Administration Supervision Abstracts  
Discussion of Topic Selections  
Critical Review of Select Dissertations

### **February 9**

Draft of Concept Paper due electronically by noon as a WORD attachment to [jfine@luc.edu](mailto:jfine@luc.edu)

### **February 12 Meeting on Campus**

Concept Paper Draft and Discussions

### **February 23**

Final Draft of Concept Paper due by noon Send as a WORD attachment to [jfine@luc.edu](mailto:jfine@luc.edu)

### **February 26 Meeting on Campus**

Concept Paper Discussions  
Planning for Related Literature Review

### **March 13**

First Draft of Related Lit Review due by 9:00 PM  
Send as a WORD Document to:  
[jfine@luc.edu](mailto:jfine@luc.edu)

### **March 19 Meeting on Campus**

First draft of lit Review Discussions

**April 10**

Second draft of Lit Review due by 9:00 PM

Send as a WORD attachment to

[jfine@luc.edu](mailto:jfine@luc.edu)

**April 16 Meeting on Campus**

Second draft of Lit Review discussions

Summary and Review