

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
MUS 671 Research in Music
Education –
3 credits

Instructor:

Office:

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide the graduate student with a practical and historical survey of research in the area of music education and education, in general. Required texts, class assignments, and research will explore world and cultural events, historical underpinnings, and current political and socio-political trends which have influenced and continue to influence research design and practice in America.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

- Read and discuss the integrated nature of research and curricular thought in educational action or inaction.
- Analyze and write about current music education research, position papers, and bibliographies (APA Format).
- Read, analyze and discuss effective research practices.
- Critically read and evaluate (from a curricular perspective) educational policy and research.

Course Structure and Approach:

The format of this course will be primarily discussion, shared research, listening, and lecture. As a graduate course, attendance and class participation is expected and required. High quality work and musicianship is expected, as are regular and punctual attendance, neatness, diligence, and similar signs of professionalism. All reading assignments are to be finished by the assigned lecture/discussion date.

Texts and Required Materials:

Required: Gall, M.D., Gall, J. P. & Borg, W. R. *Educational Research*, Eighth Edition, Pearson Publishers

Required: *Journal Readings as assigned*

Required: Access to Lied Library (Electronic access strongly recommended)

Required: Notebook for class and research notes, assignments, and commonplace book.

Required: Photocopies of all presentation materials, including citations, for community distribution.

Optional and Suggested Texts: Students will need to select a style manual for papers. The following is recommended:

The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th edition)

Visit the APA style guide site for downloads of helpers and guides at <http://www.apastyle.org>

Evaluation Methods: Class Participation: 20%, Class Assignments: 40%, Final Project: 20%
Evaluations/Assessments/Quizzes: 20%

Class participation is essential to this course whether through class discussion, online discussion forums and blogs, or e-mail. Failure to participate may result in deduction of points from the final grade.

Grading System: A = 100 - 91, B = 90 - 81, C = 80 - 71, D = 70 - 61.

Please note: Points will be subtracted from your assignments for errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and syntax. All assignments must be handed in on time. A late assignment will lose 10% of the total points possible for each day the assignment is late. If you are having a difficult time completing assignments on time, please arrange a conference with me.

COURSE POLICIES

- **Final Exam:** The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.
- **Electronics Policy (Face-to-face classes only):** Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off or placed in silent mode during class, with the exception of notebook computers used for the purpose of taking notes during class. No other electronic devices whatsoever may be used during class or exams without the instructor's permission. Frivolous use (i.e., not immediately related to class activities) of computers (Web surfing, checking e-mail, etc.) is distracting to students and instructors, and interferes with delivery and quality of instruction; a student found engaged in such behavior even once may be administratively disenrolled from the course at the instructor's discretion.
- **Attendance Policy:** Consistent class attendance is indicative of professional interest, and will be expected of all students. Students will be expected to attend every class period. Unexcused absences will result in a lowered grade. All make-up assignments and exams must be initiated by the student.
- **Religious Holidays Policy:** Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of the first two weeks of classes of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.
- **Tutoring:** The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling 702-895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at: <http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/>.
- **UNLV Writing Center:** One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>
- **Copyright Policy:** The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.
- **Disability Resource Center (DRC) :** The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

- **Incomplete Grades** - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.
- **E-mail Policy:** By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**
- **Student Conduct:** The students enrolled in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in accordance with UNLV’s Student Academic Misconduct Policy and in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution. <http://studentlife.unlv.edu/judicial/misconductPolicy.html>
- **Academic Misconduct/Dishonesty:** Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html>.
- **Consensual Relationships**– UNLV prohibits romantic or sexual relationships between members of the university community when one of the individuals involved has direct professional influence or direct authority over the other. For further information, see: <http://hr.unlv.edu/Policy/consensual.html>

Course Topics

Introductions, Syllabus, Definitions, Relevance of Curricular Design in Modern Education
 Overview APA Bibliography format, History of Research in Music Education, Orientation and Planning of
 Research reviews, in-class cooperative exercise in review.

Assignments:

Project A - Written Purpose and Problems and Review of Literature
 Project B - Article Review 1 – Historical
 Project C – Article Review 2 – Experimental
 Project D – Article Review 3 – Choice – preferably Survey/Descriptive
 Last Day of Class – Final Presentations of Projects E – thesis proposal
 Quizzes

This document is a guideline only. Instructor reserves the right to alter content or schedule as needed.