

Northern Kentucky University  
College of Health & Human Services  
Graduate Program in Counselor Education

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COU 680 Research Methods and Program Evaluation

*Development of skills for critically evaluating the professional literature; hypothesis generation & testing; examination of quantitative and qualitative research designs; outcome & program evaluation; basic statistical procedures for analyzing data; professional communication of research results.*

CACREP Core Area: *Research & Program Evaluation*

Semester: Spring 2020

Location: MEP 204

Meeting Times: Mondays from 6:15pm to 9:00pm

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Instructor: Greg Hatchett, Ph.D., LPCC-S, NCC

Office Location: MEP 203G

Office Hours: posted on door & by appointment

Phone #: 859-572-6195

Email: hatchettg@nku.edu (easiest way to reach me). If I do not respond to your email within 24 hours during the regular workweek (Monday-Friday), please email me again.

**Required Textbooks:**

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American*

*Psychological Association* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Heppner, P. P., Wampold, B. E., Owen, J., & Thompson, M. N. (2016). *Research design in*

*counseling* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Cengage.

Salkind, N. J. (2014). *Statistics for people who (think they) hate statistics* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.).

Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

**Planned Course Outline:**

<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Content Areas:</b>	<b>Related Assignments:</b>
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>x Course Orientation</li><li>x Epistemology: Positivism vs. Social Constructivism</li><li>x Overview of Basic Research Designs</li></ul>	
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>x Nature &amp; Value of Counseling Research</li><li>x Research Training</li></ul>	Canvas Quiz on Chapters 1-2

### Evaluation Procedures:

***In-Class Examinations.*** Students will complete three in-class examinations, including a comprehensive final examination. Exam items will primarily be constructed-response (e.g., short-answer, application, short essay), but I may also include a few forced-choice items (e.g., true-false, multiple choice, matching). Responses to the constructed-response items will be scored using criterion- and norm-referenced grading procedures. The in-class examinations are quite lengthy and typically take students 90 to 180 minutes to complete. (II.G.8.a,b,c,d,e,f; III.I.1,2,3)

***Policy on Missed Exams.*** A student will be permitted to complete a missed examination only as a result of extraordinary

**Course assignments will be given the following weights:**

Average of Canvas Quizzes	10%
Research Proposal	20%
Examination #1	20%
Examination #2	20%
Final Exam	30%

**Grading Scale:**

Graduate Plus – Minus scale		
Letter Grade	% Equal to or Greater than	Grade Point
A	93-100	4.00
A-	90-92.99	3.67
B+	87-89.99	3.33
B	83-86.99	3.00
B-	80-82.99	2.67
C+	77-79.99	2.33
C	70-76.99	2.00
F	0-69.99	0

**Expectations for Students:**

- f* Read the assigned materials before the scheduled class meeting.
- f* Attend every class meeting and be on time.
- f* Complete assignments on time; **late work will not be accepted.**
- f* Be willing to share your ideas and ask difficult questions. The academic classroom should serve as an environment where diverse, and sometimes controversial, ideas can be discussed and evaluated. *The classroom will serve as a free-speech zone in which students will not be penalized for their viewpoints or opinions.* [NKU's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities states the following: "The professor has an obligation to encourage free discussion, inquiry, and expression. He/she may not evaluate student performance based on opinions (such as religious belief or political views) or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards. Should students feel their performance has not been judged on solely academic grounds or that their grade does not reflect the quality of their work, they may appeal the professor's decision using the Academic Appeals Procedure outlined subsequently."]
- f* Please turn off or place on silent mode all potentially disruptive electronic devices, such as cell phones and pagers.

## Credit Hour Policy Statement

In accordance with federal policy, NKU defines a credit hour as the amount of work represented in the achievement of student learning outcomes (verified by evidence of student achievement) that reasonably approximates one hour (50 minutes) of classroom ins

misconduct to the office of Student Conduct Rights and Advocacy. While academic in scope, a violation of the NKU Honor Code may be considered a violation of the NKU Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities and will follow the adjudication processes described therein.

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Once grades are submitted, all evaluations are read not only by the instructor, but also by the instructor's department chairperson.

- x Evaluations not only provide feedback to your instructor, but also provide information to the department chair for use in performance evaluations. This information affects reappointments, promotions, salaries, and teaching assignments.

### **Flexibility Clause**

This syllabus should be regarded as a tentative document and subject to change. Any changes to the syllabus or course structure will be announced in class. Because students will be held accountable for any changes in the syllabus, it is incumbent upon students to attend all class meetings.

CACREP 2016 Standards

Standards evaluated in connection with CACREP Key Objective Assessments are in bold.

Students will have knowledge of:	CACREP	Class Assignments	Crosscurricular experiences
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use of accountability data to inform decision making	5.G.3.n	Readings; exams; quizzes	COU 660, 654
use of data to advocate for programs and students	5.G.3.o	Readings; exams; quizzes	COU 660, 654

CACREP Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs Standards