

**EDUCATION 222-2****Educational Psychology Laboratory**

SPRING SEMESTER 1995

M. McGinn

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PREREQUISITE OR COREQUISITE: EDUC 220

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course has been designed as a companion to EDUC 220-3. In EDUC 220, students learn about major theories and findings in educational psychology and how that information applies to teaching. In EDUC 222, we invite students to learn more, not only about the theories studied in EDUC 220, but also about how educational psychologists conduct research to clarify, test, or develop theory. Students will learn how practicing teachers can enhance their professional development by accessing and applying principles discovered in the research conducted by educational psychologists, and by informally, yet systematically, examining their own teaching practice. To learn more about the applicability of research to practice, students will read, interpret, evaluate, participate in, and plan research.

**OBJECTIVES**

Three complementary goals shaped the development of this course: (1) to elaborate students' understandings about selected issues in educational psychology; (2) to teach students how to critically read, interpret, evaluate, and apply findings from the research literature; and (3) to provide students with tools with which to continually expand understandings of learning and teaching both by evaluating knowledge gained from the research of others and through systematic investigations of practice.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Course journal (15%). Students answer short questions on selected weekly readings.
2. Assignment #1 (10%). Students participate in a research study and interpret the results.
3. Assignment #2 (10%). Students interpret statistical results reported in a research article.
4. Assignment #3 (10%). Students compare measurement procedures across two studies.
5. Assignment #4 (15%). Students analyze and compare studies employing different research designs.
6. Assignment #5 (40%). Students design, conduct, and present a research study on a specific topic.

**REQUIRED READINGS**

Smith, M.L., & Glass, G.V. (1987). *Research and evaluation in education and the social sciences*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Selected journal articles and book chapters.