

Syllabus for ORR-7100

ORGANIZATIONAL RESEARCH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course acquaints students with important research concepts so they can develop a sound research study. Students apply the research design process to develop a proposal that incorporates appropriate methods of developing a plan and gathering information. This course is specifically designed to prepare students for their capstone course, in which the research plan moves to the implementation stage, culminating with a capstone paper.

COURSE TOPICS

- Importance of research
- Problem statement
- Literature review
- Research plan

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- CO 1** Examine the value and principles of designing an effective research plan.
- CO 2** Develop a research problem statement including the reasons for the study and specific research objectives.
- CO 3** Develop a comprehensive literature review on a research topic.
- CO 4** Analyze the basic research approaches utilized in data collection and analysis.
- CO 5** Write a plan of action for a research study.

COURSE MATERIALS

You will need the following materials to complete your coursework. Some course materials may be free, open source, or available from other providers. You can access free or open-source materials by clicking

the links provided below or in the module details documents. To purchase course materials, please visit the [University's textbook supplier](#).

Required Textbook

- Leedy, P. D., & Ormrod, J. E. (2019). *Practical research: Planning and design* (12th ed.). Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0134775654

COURSE STRUCTURE

Organizational Research is a three-credit online course consisting of **four** modules. Modules include an overview, topics, learning objectives, study materials, and activities. Module titles are listed below.

- **Module 1: The Need for Research in Companies and Organizations**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 1, CO 2
- **Module 2: Developing a Problem Statement**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 1, CO 2, CO 3
- **Module 3: Identifying a Research Design and Understanding Research Methods**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 2, CO 3, CO 4
- **Module 4: Formulating an Effective Research Design**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 4, CO 5

ASSESSMENT METHODS

For your formal work in the course, you are required to participate in online discussion forums and one synchronous event, complete written assignments, application exercises, and a final paper. See below for details.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.

Promoting Originality

One or more of your course activities may utilize a tool designed to promote original work and evaluate your submissions for plagiarism. More information about this tool is available in [this document](#).

Discussion Forums

In addition to an ungraded Introductions Forum, you are required to participate in **four** graded class discussions.

Communication with the mentor and among fellow students is a critical component of online learning. Participation in online discussions involves two distinct activities: an initial response to a discussion question and subsequent comments on classmates' responses.

You will be evaluated on the quality of your responses (i.e., your understanding of readings and concepts as demonstrated by well-articulated, critical thinking) and the quantity of your participation (i.e., the number of times you participate meaningfully in the assigned forums). Responses and comments should be properly proofread and edited, professional, and respectful.

Meaningful participation in online discussions is relevant to the content, adds value, and advances the discussion. Comments such as "I agree" and "ditto" are not considered value-adding participation. Therefore, when you agree or disagree with a classmate, the reading, or your mentor, state **and support** your agreement or disagreement.

Refer to the **Evaluation Rubrics** folder in the course website to view the Discussion Forum rubric for grading.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.



Written Assignments

You are required to complete **three** written assignments. The written assignments are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules. Each of these is described fully in the module details documents of the course. Your answers to the assignment questions should be well developed and should convey your understanding of the readings and concepts. They should also adequately answer the questions posed.

Also, formulate responses in your own words. Do not merely copy answers from your reading materials. When quoting or paraphrasing from the text or other sources, be sure to cite the source of information properly according to [APA](#) guidelines. If you have further questions, your mentor will guide you in accordance with the correct style of documentation.

Grading rubrics for each of the written assignments can be found within the **Evaluation Rubrics** folder.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.



Application Exercises

You are required to complete **two** application exercises. The application exercises are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules. The application exercises enhance the understanding of implementing a sound research study.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.

Synchronous Event (Research Topics)

One synchronous event will be held in Edison Live!, our virtual meeting space, during Module 2. (See the Course Calendar.) During this live event, you will discuss the process of formulating the research study. You will need a microphone and webcam to participate in the event. To access the event, click the Collaboration Space link in the Edison Live! section of the course site a few minutes before the designated time. Use the following link for directions and helpful videos about [how to use the Edison Live! tool in Moodle](#).

Your mentor will work with the class to propose a time that works best and accommodates the majority.

Final Paper

The final paper to this course will assess the problems and challenges in completing the responses to the discussion forum responses and the written assignments. The objective of this final paper is to review the major assignments completed for this course including the introduction, problem statement, and literature review.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- **Discussion forums (4)**—20%
- **Written assignments (3)**—40%
- **Application exercises (2)**—10%
- **Synchronous event (research topics)**—10%
- **Final paper**—20%

All activities will receive a numerical grade of 0–100. You will receive a score of 0 for any work not submitted. Your final grade in the course will be a letter grade. Letter grade equivalents for numerical grades are as follows:

A	=	93–100	C+	=	78–79
A–	=	90–92	C	=	73–77
B+	=	88–89	C–	=	70–72
B	=	83–87	D	=	60–69
B–	=	80–82	F	=	Below 60

To receive credit for the course, you must earn a letter grade of C or better (for an area of study course) or D or better (for a course not in your area of study), based on the weighted average of all assigned course work (e.g., exams, assignments, discussion postings).

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

First Steps to Success

To succeed in this course, take the following first steps:

- Read the entire Syllabus carefully, making sure that all aspects of the course are clear to you and that you have all the materials required for the course.
- Take time to read the entire Online Student Handbook. The Handbook answers many questions about how to proceed through the course and how to get the most from your educational experience at Thomas Edison State University.
- Familiarize yourself with the learning management systems environment—how to navigate it and what the various course areas contain. If you know what to expect as you navigate the course, you can better pace yourself and complete the work on time.
- If you are not familiar with web-based learning, be sure to review the processes for posting responses online and submitting assignments before class begins.

Study Tips

Consider the following study tips for success:

- To stay on track throughout the course, begin each week by consulting the Course Calendar. The Course Calendar provides an overview of the course and indicates due dates for submitting assignments, posting discussions, and submitting the final paper.
- Check Announcements regularly for new course information.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Thomas Edison State University recognizes, values, and relies upon the diversity of our community. We strive to provide equitable, inclusive learning experiences that embrace our students' backgrounds, identities, experiences, abilities, and expertise.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Thomas Edison State University recognizes disability as a facet of diversity and seeks to advance access to its educational offerings. Students with disabilities may seek accommodations by contacting the Office of Student Accessibility Services via email at ada@tesu.edu or phone at (609) 984-1141, ext. 3415. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call the TTY line at (609) 341-3109.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

To ensure success in all your academic endeavors and coursework at Thomas Edison State University, familiarize yourself with all administrative and academic policies including those related to academic integrity, course late submissions, course extensions, and grading policies.

For more, see:

- [University-wide policies](#)
- [Graduate academic policies](#)
- [Graduate course policies](#)
- [Nursing student policies](#)
- [Nursing graduate student policies](#)
- [Academic code of conduct](#)