

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Revised 9/15

DEPARTMENT: MUSIC

COURSE PREFIX: MUS COURSE NUMBER: 639 CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE: Methods of Research in Music Education

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S): A study of procedures used to locate sources of information, organize and interpret collected data, and apply results of published research in music. A variety of research methods is studied and utilized.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of this course, students will demonstrate through on-task projects the designing and process of studies, through quizzes knowledge/awareness and through a teaching integration project a working ability of the following objectives:

- A.** List and describe the basic steps in the research process;
- B.** Identify and define a researchable problem in music, conduct a review of related literature, and state the problem in terms of a testable hypothesis;
- C.** Analyze and/or construct testing instruments which are reliable and valid;
- D.** Describe the different procedures used in the various types of music research;
- E.** Discriminate between the different types of music research;
- F.** Design and carry out mini-research projects that demonstrate a working knowledge of the various modes of research;
- G.** Perform and/or interpret standard research statistical calculations;
- H.** Identify ethical procedures inherent in conducting research;
- I.** Interpret published research to determine the generalizability of a given study;
- J.** Use the library and access computer data bases for research purposes;
- K.** Distinguish between a research article and an opinion-based article;
- L.** Utilize the American Psychological Association (APA) style in writing a research project.

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:

- A.** Introduction to education research (in general);
- B.** Modes of research: historical, philosophical, descriptive, qualitative, experimental (quantitative and behavioral);
- C.** Research methods and procedures in music: selection and definition of a pertinent problem, preparation and evaluation of a research plan, selection of a sample, selection of a measuring instrument, data analysis and interpretation.

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- A. On-Demand Projects:** There are six (6) projects to be completed by the student. Each task is assigned points that form the basis for evaluation of the task. All tasks must be completed successfully.
- B. Quizzes:** Three quizzes cover interpretation of articles in music journals, master's theses, and doctoral dissertations on music topics. All quizzes must be completed successfully.

C. Research Studies: You are expected to read 6 individual research studies and complete the review form. You will also share what you have learned with the class through oral presentations.

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:
Waterfield Library

VII. RESOURCES and TEXT(S):
Phillips, Kenneth. (2008). *Exploring Research in Music Education and Music Therapy*.
New York: Oxford University Press.
Various Research Journals in Music

VIII. GRADING PROCEDURES: *Grading will be based upon the following tasks:

6 Research Projects @ 25 points	150
3 Library Scavenger Hunts @ 50 points	150
5 Article Analyses @ 10 points	50

Final Grade: **A=** 350-315; **B=** 314-280; **C=** 279-245; **D=** 244-210; **E=** 209-000

** Late work will not be accepted.*

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletin. Attendance for this class is mandatory. Each student will be allowed 1 (one) unexcused absence from class. Any student will fail the class if she/he misses over 25% of the class meetings regardless of reason.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:
Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Equal Opportunity. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Director of Equal Opportunity, 103 Wells Hall. 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889 (TDD).