

Hi Research Methods Students--

Welcome to EDER 761. I hope you will all find this to be a good way to take a course. My name is Marcy Reisetter, and I am your instructor.

Research Methods is quite intense for an online course, so you won't be able to get behind at all. You will find a course calendar and the syllabus included with these information documents and uploaded in your D2L materials when you begin the course. Be sure to read all directions and resources provided to make the course easier to handle. The calendar is very clear about procedures and due dates, as is the syllabus, but there may be other references within the materials that are still in the old [WebCT or earlier text version] system, despite my best efforts to correct them. So count on the current syllabus and calendar if there is a contradiction. If you downloaded an earlier version of the syllabus from Continuing Ed, be sure to make use of THIS one instead. There are some changes.

I've deliberately designed this course to be *flexible* in the amount of synchronous time necessary. You are required to have three 1 hour blocks during the semester to be in touch with another student [four are scheduled, and it would be best if you can do them all, but only 3 required]. However, I encourage you to meet with your partner frequently to study course content and to prepare for your assessments. Beyond the 3 required hours, YOU get to determine how much contact you need with me and with other students to maximize your learning. **Be sure to check into D2L AT LEAST twice a week** for updates, requests, directives. These will most often be posted in the "News" on your course homepage.

Right now, you should

Get the required textbooks.

Gay, L.R., Mills, G. E., & Airasian, P. (2008). *Educational Research: Competencies for Analysis and Applications*, 9th Edition. Pearson/Merrill, Prentice Hall. ISBN 9780135035016.

Lyne, L. S. . *A Cross Section of Educational Research*, 4th ed. Los Angeles: Pycszak Publishing. ISBN 1-884585-80-9

Sources: Barnes and Nobel at USD, the bookstore located in the Student Union, has the text and optional workbook in stock, which they will mail to you. You can call them at 605-677-6291. Books are also available at Dakota Book on Cherry Street. Or you could order directly from the publisher at www.prenhall.com. Amazon and Barnes and Noble online likely have it as well. Whichever option you choose—**get the book(s) ordered immediately.**

Course Access:

D2L does not allow us to put you into courses ahead of the registration day. So it will be critical that you study your syllabus NOW and plan some time immediately to look through the course materials to take care of any questions you have. Read this letter carefully, the syllabus in detail, and get the due dates and memos recorded from the Calendar document, all attached.

Please be sure to *sign in to D2L AT LEAST twice a week*. Do let me know if you will be unavailable other than on weekends. Be SURE to read the **News Postings**—that's where I post information for all students. Individual information will be sent through the D2L email system, *not* through external email.

If you have any questions, get in touch with me at mreisett@usd.edu before the course begins and through the D2L after that date. After you have course access, *please communicate online with me only through the D2L system*. I can keep a record of all our communications in that forum. You can also telephone me at 605-351-8496.

Happy Learning.

Marcy Reisetter, Ph. D., Associate Professor