Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Program
Signature Assignment for EDLD 732
Inferential Data Analysis in Education

Student Learning Outcome(s) Assessed:

SLO #4: Students demonstrate the ability to plan and conduct research and evaluation studies with a clear purpose to improve educational lives of others and based on findings make recommendations to improve future educational practices.

Description of the Signature Assignment

Students will be asked to conduct a research using quantitative data analysis techniques and to write a research paper, including research questions, literature review, methodology, results, and discussion. The purpose of this assignment is for students to develop skills in writing a research paper. The plan must be typed, spell-checked, double-spaced with a standard 12-point font, and submitted in hard copy. Whenever references are used, they must be properly cited using the American Psychological Association (APA) format.

Directions for Students

A Format for a Research Paper

Chapter I: Introduction (1page)

1. Provide an overview of the broad problems in education that lead up to this particular study.

2. Purpose of the Study (1/2-1 page)

    a. Describes what the study will do – a direct response to what needs to be known. The research questions are presented here.

3. Significance of the Study (1/2 page)

    a. Describe what contribution to the broad literature or set of broad educational problems would be made when the study is finished.

Chapter II: Literature Review

1. Introduction (1/2 page)

    a. Provide orientation to the purpose and topics of the chapter.

2. Synthesizing the literature (2 pages).

3. Conclusion (1/2 page)

Chapter III: Methodology

1. Introduction (1/2 page)

    a. Review the purpose and research questions for the study.

2. Subjects (1/2 page)

    a. Provide a detail description of the subjects

3. Instrumentation (1/2-1 page)

    a. Relation of research questions to instruments.

    b. Psychometric issues – reliability and validity.

4. Procedure (1/2-1 page)

    a. Provide a detail description of the data collection process.

5. Data Analysis (1/2 page).

Chapter IV: Results

1. Introduction (1/2 page)

2. Findings by research questions (1 page)

Chapter V: Discussion/Conclusions/Implications

1. Discussion

    a. Compare and contrast your findings to the literature and explain any possible reasons for discrepancies (1 page)

    b. "What do the findings mean" is the issue (1 page)

    c. Limitations and delimitations

        i. Limitations refer to limitations on the study that are beyond the control of the specific researcher.

        ii. Delimitations are limitations that the researcher chose to use.

2. Conclusions (include future research directions) (1/2 page)

3. Implications (1/2 page)

Scoring Rubric:

Chapter I: Introduction

5-Excellent (Concise and all sections are clearly connected), 4-Good (all sections are addressed in detail), 3-Adequate (Wordy and sections are somewhat disconnected), 2-Poor (missing one or more sections)

Chapter II: Literature Review

5-Excellent (synthesized clearly and research problems/questions are clearly connected to lit), 4-Good (research problems/questions are loosely connect to lit), 3-Adequate (missing some key issues), 2-Poor (summaries, not lit review)

Chapter III: Methodology

5-Excellent (Clearly described and linked to research questions), 4-Good (Enough details to replicate the study), 3-Adequate (methods and research questions are somewhat connected), 2-Poor (missing one or more sections and/or methods and research questions are disconnected)

Chapter IV: Results

5-Excellent (answered all research questions based on statistical analyses), 4-Good (most of the research questions are answered), 3-Adequate (missing some supporting statistical results), 2-Poor (research questions are answered not based on the analyses)

Chapter V: Discussion/Conclusions/Implications

5-Excellent (concise and all sections are clearly described), 4-Good (all sections are addressed in detail), 3-Adequate (Wordy and not clearly connected to previous chapters), 2-Poor (missing one or more sections)

Maximum Total Points Possible = 25

Legend

Total Points	College of Education Assessment Scale Equivalent
23 - 25	4 (Exceeds Expectations)
21 - 22.9	3 (Meets Expectations)
19 - 20.9	2 (Meets Some Expectations)
17 - 18.9	1 (Does Not Meet Expectations)
16.9 or below	0 (Can't Score)