Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Required of all candidates for the Doctor of Education degree. Following successful completion of the comprehensive exam, all candidates for the Doctor of Education degree must register for the dissertation seminar each semester, including summer, until successful defense of the dissertation.

RATIONALE
Under the direction of a dissertation chair and committee, the doctoral candidate writes a dissertation proposal and manuscript in preparation for the dissertation defense.

I. PREREQUISITES
   Successful completion of EDUC 970 and 980

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
   Click on the following link to view the required resource for the term in which you are registered:  http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
   A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
   B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
   C. Microsoft Word (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to LU students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
   Upon successful completion of this course, the candidate will be able to:
   A. Read the Doctorate of Education Dissertation Handbook
   B. Describe the primary steps of the dissertation process
   C. Develop a timeline for the completion of the dissertation process
   D. Produce a completed dissertation proposal
   E. Complete a dissertation proposal defense with committee
   F. Execute research and collect data
G. Write a complete dissertation manuscript

V. Course Requirements

A. Read the Dissertation Handbook and Complete Self-directed Reading.

The candidate will read the dissertation handbook and adhere to all polices, guidelines, and procedures in the Dissertation Handbook. The candidate will complete self-directed readings related to his or her dissertation topic, research design, and analysis. The candidate is primarily responsible for choosing readings that correspond with his or her research topic, design, and analysis.

B. Progress Update (Due: Week 1, Week 8, and 15, every semester term)

At least three times throughout the semester, week 1, 8 and week 15, the candidate will send an e-mail or log into his or her “My Dissertation Portal” discussion board and provide a progress update for the committee. The candidate will share with personal victories and challenges as well as progress on the dissertation. The candidate will send the outside committee member an e-mail progress update. At the same time, the candidate will upload the current manuscript to the “Manuscript Library” to demonstrate progress on the manuscript.

C. Dissertation Process Survey (Due: Week 8, every semester term)

the administration and faculty of the School of Education are committed to maintain high standards and to maintain a quality dissertation process. As such, the candidate’s regular feedback about the process is valued. The candidate will provide feedback about his or her semester term experience via Dissertation Portal survey.

D. EDUC 989 Live Text Rubric Fulfillment

In order to pass EDUC 989, the candidate must earn at least 8 points on the Live Text rubric. If the candidate does not earn 8 points, he or she will receive a No Pass in EDUC 989. The rubric is located on Live Text or downloadable as a Word Document in the Dissertation Task area of the Blackboard course. The chair will complete the rubric via Live Text every semester.

E. Safe Assign Submissions (Due: Proposal Defense, Dissertation Defense, and Upon Chair’s Request)

The candidate will develop a dissertation proposal manuscript using the appropriate proposal template (qualitative/quantitative) found in the Dissertation Handbook. The candidate incorporates all feedback from EDUC 980, uses correct APA formatting, ensures alignment within the research plan, supports research design and analysis decisions with research/primary sources, and ensures accurate alignment with the template (e.g. organization, format, page numbers). The candidate ensures that the manuscript is complete, professional, and scholarly. Prior to the submission of the manuscript to the research consultant and again prior to the proposal defense, the candidate will submit his/her proposal to SafeAssign link in Blackboard.
The candidate will develop a dissertation manuscript using the appropriate dissertation template (qualitative/quantitative) in the Dissertation Handbook. The candidate incorporates all feedback from the committee and research consultant at the time of proposal and additional reviews, uses correct APA formatting, ensures alignment within the research plan, supports research design and analysis decisions with research/primary sources, and ensures accurate alignment with the template (e.g. organization, format, page numbers). The candidate ensures that the manuscript is complete, professional, and scholarly. Prior to submission to the research consultant and the defense, the candidate will submit his/her proposal to SafeAssign link in the EDUC 990 Blackboard course.

Additional SafeAssign submissions may be requested by the chair.

F. The Candidate Portal Tasks (Due: Various Dissertation Steps)
Throughout the dissertation process, the candidate will complete the various technology tasks on his or her “My Dissertation Portal” directed by his or her chair. The link to the candidate portal is:
https://community.liberty.edu/Academics/School_Education/Dissertations/Sites/default.aspx

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Grading
This course is a pass/fail grade. To successfully pass the course, the candidate is to demonstrate progress in the dissertation process and adhere to all policies and procedures outlined for the dissertation process. The candidate must earn a minimum of 8 points on the EDUC 989 LiveText Rubric.

B. Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism Policy
Plagiarism will result in expulsion from the program, failing the course, and/or implementation of an intervention plan. Please see the APA manual for information about plagiarism and how it is defined. Additionally, academic misconduct includes not only plagiarism, but academic dishonesty falsification. See http://www.liberty.edu/academics/cafe/index.cfm?PID=15843 for detailed information regarding the plagiarism policies of Liberty University.

C. LiveText Submission Policy
Assignments that are to be submitted to LiveText must be submitted there in order to receive credit for them. This includes assignments that are also submitted in Blackboard, including those submitted to SafeAssign.

D. Late Assignment Policy
If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

E. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact LU Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.