



Education and Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods (ARM) – Certificate

Overview

The Advanced Research Methods (ARM) Certificate is a stand-alone graduate-level certificate in Education & Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods (ARM), offered by the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University. The program allows graduate and non-degree seeking students the opportunity to gain additional training in research methodology and to obtain academic validation for their efforts. The Certificate testifies to a student’s successful mastery of advanced competencies in education and social sciences research methods, with emphasis on quantitative or qualitative approaches. The ARM certificate facilitates students' initiation into the academic publication process, and allows them to become more 'marketable' in today's competitive hiring practices, especially in the context of Research Universities with Very High Research Activity.

Contents

Overview1
Certificate Eligibility: Who can obtain the ARM Certificate?2
Non-degree Seeking Student Application Requirements2
Certificate Completion Requirements2
Student Certificate Portfolio3
Integrative Reflection Essay3
Education and Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods (ARM) – Certificate4
Approved Courses4
Graduate Certificate in Education & Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods5
Intent Form5
Graduate Certificate in Education & Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods Application6
Advanced Research Methods Certificate Portfolio Rubric7

Certificate Eligibility: Who can obtain the ARM Certificate?

- Graduate students in all departments within CEHD
- Graduate students in all departments outside of CEHD, at Texas A&M University who wish to add to their social science research training, or
- Non-degree seeking students who wish to improve their advanced research skills.

Non-degree Seeking Student Application Requirements

- You must have a graduate degree in any field of study from an accredited college or university.
- Complete the Graduate Application and submit application fees. More information can be found here <https://admissions.tamu.edu/graduate/apply>.
- The Spring application deadline is October 15. Summer and Fall application deadlines are April 15.
- Submit official college transcripts from each institution attended, which must be received by application deadline date. Submit a professional resume or curricula vitae along with your application.

Certificate Completion Requirements

1. In consultation with your committee chair (where applicable) and graduate advisor, discuss and select additional advanced research methods courses (**four (4)** courses for 12-credit hours total) to be included in your degree plan or ARM Certificate Plan as a non-degree seeking student (in this case, contact the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs).
2. Students should complete the ARM Intent Form and the Additional Curriculum Request Form on the next page. (See Appendix A) and submit a copy of the form to the Dean's Office. It is the student's responsibility to verify course availability the semester prior to enrollment.
3. In alignment with your program guidelines if you are a TAMU student, an intent to complete the ARM certificate coursework will be included in the official degree plan (as a certificate) submitted on file to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.
4. For students who have already taken **all** twelve credit hours of coursework, please contact regarding instructions on how to receive the certificate.
5. Under rare circumstances, students may petition the CEHD Graduate Instruction Council to take a course not listed above to suffice ARM requirements. **Only one substitution may be allowed with permission.** **Prior to** planned course enrollment, students must receive approval from the CEHD Graduate Instruction Committee, which deems whether a request is considered an **advanced** research methods course. The committee will not consider course requests while a student is currently enrolled in the course or after the student has completed the course. This policy applies to courses at TAMU that are outside of CEHD (e.g. such as in Statistics, Sociology, Psychology, and the School of Public Health). Contact the **Office of Academic Affairs** at ARMcertificate@tamu.edu for more information.
6. Enrollment in the advanced courses will require the completion of established prerequisites where applicable (designated in the *Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional Catalog*).
7. Perform at a satisfactory level in all research methods courses; grades lower than a *B* and (*U* grades) will not be accepted for certificate courses.
8. Engage in research, either one's own study, or as part of a research team. Provide evidence of submission that a manuscript is submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, in which the student is **listed as an author**.
9. Students will submit a Certificate portfolio and submit it along with their ARM Application (See Appendix B) once they have satisfied coursework and manuscript requirements.

Student Certificate Portfolio

- Manuscript of original research in which the student is listed **as an author**. The manuscript **must** use elements of methodological processes gained from **one or more** of the courses taken for the ARM certificate. While what constitutes as research-based reporting may vary across fields, journal articles formatted as commentaries, letters-to-the-editor, teaching tips, or non-systematic reviews of the literature are **not** eligible to fulfill the ARM journal article submission requirement. Additionally, book chapters will not be accepted. Systematic literature reviews and meta-analyses do count, however. The submitted article can come from the student's thesis or dissertation, or a paper written for class.
- Evidence that the manuscript was submitted for review to a peer-reviewed journal. Acceptance for publication is **not** a requirement.
- Submit a **two (2) page**, double-spaced integrative reflection essay. See specific criteria below.
- Portfolio format includes:
 - Title page that includes name, college, department, program, and committee chair
 - Table of Contents
 - Manuscript submitted for publication
 - Evidence of journal submission
 - Two page reflective essay
- Submit in one PDF or DOC. file to ARMcertificate@tamu.edu.
- The portfolio will be scored using the Advanced Research Methods Certificate Rubric. (See Appendix C).
- Students will submit their portfolio along with an ARM application.

Integrative Reflection Essay

Reflect on the research manuscript you submitted for publication. Briefly describe your research in lay terms. What knowledge, skills, and competencies from the certificate courses did you apply to the research manuscript? Refer to a specific page number in your manuscript that outlines the use of said skills. How will those knowledge, skills, and competencies be helpful beyond your current academic program?

Format: The reflection should be a maximum of two-pages, 12-point font, double-spaced.

Contact the Office of Academic Affairs at 979-845-5313 or ARMcertificate@tamu.edu for more questions.

Education and Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods (ARM) – Certificate Approved Courses

Educational Administration and Human Resource Development

EDAD 623	Advanced Fieldwork Methods	3
EHRD 656	Narrative Analysis	3
EHRD 657	Life History Research	3

Educational Psychology

EPSY 626	Advanced Psychometric Theory	3
EPSY 637	Grounded Theory Methodology	3
EPSY 642	Meta-Analysis of Behavioral Research	3
EPSY 643	Applied Multivariate Methods	3
EPSY 650	Multiple Regression and Other Linear Models in Education Research	3
EPSY 651	Theory of Structural Equation Modeling	3
EPSY 652	Theory of hierarchical Linear Models	3
EPSY 653	Advanced Structural Equation Modeling	3
EPSY 654	Longitudinal Data Analysis	3
EPSY 655	Item Response Theory	3
EPSY 661	Data Analysis for Single-Case Experimental Design in Educational Research	3
EPSY 656	Survey Instrument Development	3

Teaching, Learning, and Culture

EDCI 627	Teaching and Learning Data Analysis and Uncertainty Concepts	3
EDCI 628	Analyzing and Reporting Field Based Research	3
EDCI 661	Mixed Methods Research in Curriculum and Instruction	3
EDCI 688	Research Methods in EDCI III	3
EDCI 706	Narrative Inquiry in Curriculum and Instruction I	3
EDCI 707	Narrative Inquiry in Curriculum and Instruction II	3

*Under rare circumstances, students may petition the CEHD Graduate Instruction Council to take a course not listed above to suffice ARM requirements. **Only one substitution may be allowed. Prior to** planned course enrollment, students must receive approval from the CEHD Graduate Instruction Committee, which deems whether a request is considered an **advanced** research methods course. The committee will not consider course requests while a student is currently enrolled in the course or after the student has completed the course. This policy applies to courses at TAMU that are outside of CEHD (e.g. such as in Statistics, Sociology, Psychology, and the School of Public Health). Contact the Office of Academic Affairs at ARMcertificate@tamu.edu for more information.

Appendix A
Graduate Certificate in Education & Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods
Intent Form

This form is for students who have an interest in completing the CEHD Graduate Certificate in Education & Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods. In consultation with your committee chair (if applicable) and graduate advisor, discuss and select additional research methods courses **four (4)** courses for 12-credit hours total) to be included in your degree plan. It is the student's responsibility to verify course availability the semester prior to enrollment.

Also, please complete the Additional Curriculum Request Form [linked here](#). You will upload a copy of the signed curriculum request form in the electronic Qualtrics form.

[Click here to complete the electronic ARM Intent Form.](#)

Or copy and paste the link into your browser:
https://tamucehd.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_doOGKTbvCoFE817

Appendix B

Graduate Certificate in Education & Social Sciences Advanced Research Methods Application

Name:	Date:
College:	Department:
Student Type (Circle One): Master's, Doctoral, Non-degree seeking (G6)	UIN:
Graduate Advisor Name & Email: _____	

COURSES TAKEN TO SATISFY CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS*				
Semester/Year	Course Name	Course Title	Credits	Grade

*Required: 12 credit hours of advanced-level research methods courses with grades A, B or S.

Please attach your Research Portfolio, which includes:

- Title page that includes name, college, department, program, committee chair
- Table of Contents
 - Manuscript submitted for publication
 - Evidence of journal submission
 - Two page reflective essay
- Submit in **one** PDF or DOC. file to the Office of Academic Affairs at ARMcertificate@tamu.edu .

Please refer to the Advanced Research Methods Overview for more details on portfolio contents.

Needed Approval Signatures

Graduate Advisor:	Date:
Committee Chair:	Date:

FOR USE BY ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OFFICE ONLY

Portfolio Completion Status:

- Submitted, Complete.
- Submitted, Incomplete.
- Not Submitted.

Portfolio Rubric Score:**

- Domain 1 _____
- Domain 2 _____
- Domain 3 _____

Assoc. Dean for Academic Affairs (signature) _____

Date: _____

Students must score a one (1) or above **in each rubric category to earn the certificate.



Advanced Research Methods Certificate Portfolio Rubric

Student Name: _____

Student UIN: _____

Students must score a one (1) or above **in each** rubric category to earn the certificate.

	Exceed Expectations (2)	Meets Expectations (1)	Does Not Meet Expectations (0)	Total
<p>Research Manuscript</p> <p>Student adapts and applies ability, skills, knowledge, and competencies gained from ARM coursework into research manuscript.</p>	<p>Student adapts and applies skills, abilities, knowledge, and competencies from two or more ARM certificate courses in submitted manuscript.</p>	<p>Student adapts and applies skills, abilities, knowledge, and competencies from at least one ARM certificate course in submitted manuscript.</p>	<p>Student does not adapt and apply skills, abilities, knowledge, and competencies from at least one ARM certificate course in submitted manuscript.</p>	
<p>Design Process¹</p> <p>Methodological design process of manuscript.</p>	<p>High quality, creative, study design that demonstrates manifests a deep understanding of the methodology; clear explanation of methodological choices, iteratively explores questions raised by the data or theoretical analysis; Discussion of connection between methodology and data analysis clearly and concisely.</p>	<p>Appropriate methodology and study design; Discussion of connection between methodology and proposed data analysis is clear and concise.</p>	<p>Shows basic competence in understanding methodology and study design; connection between the methodology and the proposed data analysis discussed may not be clearly developed.</p>	
<p>Reflection²</p> <p>Student reflects on experience completing the certificate, examining in what ways it enhanced growth and development beyond current academic program.</p>	<p>Student reviews prior learning experiences in depth to reveal significantly changed perspectives about educational experiences, knowledge and growth over time.</p>	<p>Student reviews prior learning experiences with some depth, revealing clarified meaning or indicating a somewhat broader perspective about educational experiences, knowledge and growth over time.</p>	<p>Student does not review prior learning experiences, or reviews them at a surface level, without revealing clarifying meaning or indicating a broader perspective about educational experiences, knowledge and growth over time. OR Reflection is not included.</p>	
Total				

Comments:

¹ Adapted from Chapman University Attallah College of Educational Studies Dissertation Rubric

² Domain description adapted from AAC&U Foundation and Skills for Lifelong Learning Value Rubric. Updated: 6/12/2019