

Education 86 Research in the Schools Process for Students

This course offers an opportunity to conduct a specific research project of particular interest to the local schools with which the Department works closely. Below is summary of the process. Students will need to work on their proposals in the term before the EDUC 86 independent study would take place. If the proposed research project involves collecting data from human subjects, the student must seek Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS) approval for his or her project *before beginning it*. As the CPHS approval process can take weeks, students may want to consider taking an EDUC 85, Independent Study before taking EDUC 86 in order to prepare and submit CPHS materials related to the project for EDUC 86.

Prerequisite: EDUC 1

Timeline: Ideally, the entire application process outlined below would be completed in the term prior to the term in which you wish to enroll in EDUC 86. Steps 1 through 8 *must* be completed prior to the beginning of the term in which you wish to enroll in EDUC 86. Step 9 (submitting the final version of the Proposal and Permission Form) *must* be completed no later than the third day of the term in which you wish to enroll in EDUC 86.

1. Contact Sandy White to indicate your interest in EDUC 86 and receive an EDUC 86 Pre-Interview Application Form.
2. Complete the Pre-Interview Application and return it to Sandy White.
3. Meet with the EDUC 86 Faculty Advisor Committee for an interview.
 - a. Discuss your interests and potential research projects.
 - b. Answer any questions you may have.
4. If the Committee determines that you are eligible to continue the EDUC 86 application process, you will be sent an EDUC 86 Post-Interview Form.
5. Complete the Post-Interview Form and return it to Sandy White.
6. If the Committee approves your Post-Interview Form and determines that you are still eligible to continue in the EDUC 86 application process, a Faculty Advisor will be assigned to your project. He or she will give you the Proposal and Permission Form and the name and contact information of the local School Advisor.
7. Set up a proposal review meeting with yourself, your School Advisor, and your Faculty Advisor.
8. At the proposal review meeting with you and your two advisors, you will:
 - a. Meet your School Advisor.
 - b. Discuss the goals and interests of the School Advisor (e.g., why did he or she put the topic on the list; what is the school community hoping to learn?) and your goals and interests in an attempt to find common ground for your project.
 - c. Agree on a specific research topic, schedule, and what the outcomes and assessments will be for your EDUC 86; the EDUC 86 Proposal and Permission Form can be used as a guide for this discussion.
9. Complete the EDUC 86 Proposal and Permission Form and submit it to your Faculty Advisor and School Advisor. This will essentially serve as your syllabus.
Your Faculty Advisor and School Advisor will contact you when your proposal is approved.

Education 86: Research in the Schools Topics for 2009-2010

Interactive technology, especially for special education
Literacy across the disciplines and best practices for teaching writing
Development of goal setting and planning for the future in adolescents
Metacognition in adolescence
Competency based standards and alternative assessment
Research and development mechanisms in schools; benefits and weaknesses of different approaches
Best practices for ESL education
Challenges in newly diverse populations
Poverty and education
Analysis of effect of Mascoma High School's 9th grade Alternative Program
Effects of leveling systems, including relationships with socioeconomic status
Tracking versus inclusive education