

EDU 4999 Honors Thesis (3 credits)
Urban Institute for Teacher Education (UITE)
SPRING 2025
Days/times/locations to be arranged by instructor

Instructor	Professor Mary D. Burbank mary.burbank@utah.edu
Consultation	Office Hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By Appointment.
Required Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No required text Adherence to the Honors College Thesis/Project Requirements Thesis to be submitted to the Honors College by spring 2025 timelines https://www.honors.utah.edu/thesis/ Near final document to be submitted to instructor by March 30, 2025
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admitted student in the Honors Program. Completed Honors Project steps leading to the Honors and Research Criteria.
Event	Date
Classes begin	Monday, January 6
Last day to add without a permission code	Friday, January 10
Last day to wait list	Friday, January 10
Last day to add, drop, audit, and elect CR/NC	Friday, January 17
Last day to withdraw from classes	Friday, February 28
Last day to reverse CR/NC option	Friday, April 18
Classes end	Tuesday, April 22
Reading Day	Wednesday, April 23
<u>Final exam period</u>	Thurs.- Wed., April 24-30

Course Description

This course provides the opportunity to apply knowledge from previous coursework to an honors thesis or honors project. There are a variety of options available for elementary education students completing their honors thesis, including traditional long-format theses, performance/exhibition with statement, policy-based work, etc.). Students may participate in research projects, applied projects, and collaborative projects that demonstrate knowledge gained from their coursework in educational psychology. The project should allow students to gain a deeper understanding of an area of educational psychology that is of particular interest to them. Students will utilize all of the knowledge and experience they have received during their undergraduate coursework to apply to this project. Projects will reflect the appropriate depth of understanding of the topics and concepts they have learned about in courses.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Develop an honors thesis or project that reflects the application of knowledge gained through their undergraduate coursework.
2. Successfully complete an honors thesis or project, provide a permanent product in alignment with College of Education and Honor College requirements.
 - a. CITI Training, as required by project
 - b. IRB clearance, as required by project

Expectations

The University of Utah ([Policy 6-100](#)) expects that you will spend an average of three “clock hours” of work per credit hour, broken down into one hour of class work and two hours of work outside class for *each credit*.

For a three-credit class, this expectation means 3 hours of in-class time plus 6 hours of work outside of class per week. It is expected that your weekly time demands for this course will fluctuate around this **nine-hour average**. Some weeks will demand much less time, some weeks will demand a bit more (particularly when project deadlines loom). Please make an appointment with your instructor if you are experiencing a heavier work load on a consistent basis and need assistance in finding manageable processes.

Evaluation

Professionalism in responding to feedback	100 points
Substantive updates based upon feedback	100 points
Completed thesis within the timelines listed above	400 points

Point Distribution:

Total = 600 points	600-564 = A	503-480 = B-	419-402 = D+
	563-540 = A-	479-462 = C+	401-384 = D
	539-522 = B +	461-444 = C	
	521-504 = B	443-420 = C-	

Email Correspondence

You are welcome to email me with questions or comments about your thesis. I will answer your emails in a timely manner and I also expect that students also will respond to my emails in a timely fashion. I respond to emails within 24 hours, but no later than 48 hours Monday through Friday and by Tuesday following a weekend/ holiday email. Please do not hesitate to resend your email if you do not receive a response in this time frame.

Student Technology Support

The University of Utah seeks to ensure that all students have access to the technology that they need to succeed in classes, research, and scholarship.

The College of Education’s Office of Technology Services and Support (OTSS) offers laptops, multimedia resources (e.g., microphones), and other technology equipment (e.g., adaptors) for checkout to students in the college. See the [OTSS website](#) for available equipment and checkout instructions.

Marriott Library also has a wide range of technology equipment (cables, tablets, cameras, game controllers, etc.) available for student checkout ([see online list](#)). Consult the [Student Checkout Equipment FAQ online](#) for policies and procedures.

If you are experiencing challenges in off-campus online access that makes it difficult to complete your coursework, Marriott Library has mobile hotspots available for checkout to students for 7 days. You also may want to check out access to free public wifi spots from [Xfinity](#) and [Utopia Fiber](#).

Online Communications & the Student Code

Discussion threads, e-mails, and chat rooms are all considered to be equivalent to classrooms, and student behavior within all instructional contexts (in-person and digital) shall conform to the [University of Utah Student Code](#). Offensive language or photos are never appropriate. Abusive language is not acceptable and will be dealt with according to the Student Code. Students are expected to adhere to standards of behavior outlined in the Student Code.

Course emails and other online course communications are part of the classroom and, as such, are University property and subject to the Student Code. Privacy regarding these communications between correspondents must not be assumed.

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in writing.

Additional Resources, Policies/Rules, Statements, and Procedures

Academic Misconduct and Student Code: It is expected that students adhere to University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Students are expected to adhere to the prescribed professional and ethical standards of the profession/discipline for which they are preparing. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty or who violates the professional and ethical standards for their profession/discipline may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: <https://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-410.php> Please note: The University of Utah Student Code articulates the rights and responsibilities of students at the University of Utah. You are responsible for reading and following the [Student Code](#).

The Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the [Center for Disability Services](#), Student Services Building, Room 65 (basement level)—this is a temporary office while CDS moves into a permanent location in the Student Services Building in Fall 2024. Please visit the CDS website online for its current location: <https://disability.utah.edu/>

CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services. In compliance with ADA requirements, some students may need to record course content. Recordings of course content are for personal use only, should not be shared, and should not be made publicly available. In addition, recordings should be destroyed at the conclusion of the course.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which Includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses

against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the [Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action](#), 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the [Center for Student Wellness](#), 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the [Department of Public Safety](#), 801-585-2677(COPS).

Lauren's Promise: Lauren's Promise is a vow that anyone – faculty, staff, students, parents, and community members – can take to indicate to others that they represent a safe haven for sharing incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking. Anyone who makes Lauren's Promise vows to: 1) listen to and believe those individuals who are being threatened or experiencing sexual assault, dating violence or stalking; 2) represent a safe haven for sharing incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking; and 3) change campus culture that responds poorly to dating violence and stalking. By making Lauren's Promise, individuals are helping to change campus cultures that respond poorly to dating violence and stalking throughout the nation.

Drop/Withdrawal Policies: Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A "W" grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade "W" is not used in calculating the student's GPA. For deadlines to withdraw from full-term, first, and second session classes, see the U's [Academic Calendar](#).

Support for Students: Your success at the University of Utah is important to all of us here! If you feel like you need extra support in academics, overcoming personal difficulties, or finding community, the U is here for you. Please refer to the [Student Support Services page](#) for the U for updated information.

Student Basic Needs: Success at The University of Utah includes learning about and using available resources. The [Basic Needs Collective](#) (BNC) is a coordinated resource referral hub. They educate about and connect students to campus and community resources to help them meet their basic needs. As a central location for resource referrals related to food, housing, health insurance, managing finances, legal services, mental health, etc., any student experiencing difficulty with basic needs is encouraged to contact them. Drop into their office located in the Union basement or schedule with them online for an in-person or virtual visit through their webpage: <https://basicneeds.utah.edu/index.php>.

University Safety Statement: The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu. IF YOU ARE IN DANGER, DIAL 911.

Wellness: Your personal health and wellness are essential to your success as a student. Personal concerns like stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, or cross-cultural differences can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in this course and at the University of Utah. Please feel welcome to reach out to your instructor or TAs to handle issues regarding your coursework. For helpful resources to manage your personal wellness and counseling options, contact:

Center for Student Wellness: 801-581-7776, wellness.utah.edu
2100 Eccles Student Life Center, 1836 Student Life Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84112