

DISSERTATION TOPIC MATRIX – EDLD9631: Research Seminar I

Topic	Tractability	Resonance with Organizational Culture	Learning New Methodology	Contribution to Knowledge	Job Search
Developing School Principal Capacity: Professional Learning for School Principals Working in Schools with Children from Diverse Backgrounds in Georgia	Data collection is feasible, as the study will focus on the state of Georgia. All school districts are required to include professional learning (PL); the survey data collection may include information on the current PL of several school districts in GA, and post data on PL implemented.	This study is likely to be related to the organization’s culture of Georgia Southern University and the Georgia Department of Education. I am interested in Dr. Amee Adkins' work on Equity in Education. During my years of work in schools, I have developed a conscious understanding of the needs of linguistically diverse, minority, and diverse-background students.	This research study will use qualitative and quantitative methods to collect information from school principals and teachers. Principals will rate their understanding and preparation before and after PL implementation.	This research study aims to contribute to Georgia school districts by enhancing school leaders' capacity and improving student outcomes.	School leadership positions may include school principal, federal program directors, school district superintendent, independent consultant, and coaching.
Effective Leadership in Rural Schools’ Culture: Creating a Welcoming Environment for Student Success	Data collection for this research study will focus on the state of Georgia's rural schools. The Georgia Department of Education has a Rural Education Department that provides support to rural school districts. This research will seek support from this department and school districts with the same designation. The data collection will be conducted via a survey that may include information on the current Professional Learning models implemented in several school districts in GA, as well as the models to be implemented.	This study is likely to be related to the organization’s culture of Georgia Southern University and the Georgia Department of Education. I am interested in connecting this study to documentary films and culture, which Dr. Daniel Chapman, Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations & Reading, is involved in.	This research study will use qualitative and quantitative methods to collect information from school principals and teachers. Principals will rate their understanding and preparation before and after PL implementation.	This research study aims to contribute to Georgia school districts by enhancing school leaders' capacity and improving student outcomes.	School leadership positions may include school principal, federal program directors, independent consultant, researcher, and school coach.
Reframing Leadership: Analyzing Student Narratives and Culture from Rural Areas and Underserved Populations for Student Achievement.	Data collection for this research study will focus on the state of Georgia's rural schools. The Georgia Department of Education has a Rural Education Department that provides support to rural school districts. This research will seek support from this department and school districts with the same designation. The data collection may include focus groups with school principals from several school districts in GA, as well as surveys on the models to be implemented.	This study is likely to be related to the organization’s culture of Georgia Southern University and the Georgia Department of Education. I am interested in connecting this study to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners, an area of interest for Dr. Kathryn Haughney, Associate Professor, Department of Elementary & Special Education.	This research study will use qualitative and quantitative methods to collect information from school principals and teachers. Principals will rate their understanding and preparation before and after PL implementation.	This research study aims to contribute to Georgia school districts by enhancing school leaders' capacity and improving student outcomes.	School leadership positions may include school principal, federal program directors, independent consultant, researcher, and school coach.

The Role of High School Principals in Promoting High School Student Retention and Success	Data collection for this research study will focus on a sample of schools in Georgia. The Georgia Department of Education's School Improvement Department provides support to school districts. This research will seek support from this department and selected school districts. Data collection will be conducted via a survey of school principals in Georgia.	This study is likely to be related to the organization’s culture of Georgia Southern University and the Georgia Department of Education. I am interested in connecting this study to studies at the high school level; however, I did not encounter any of our university professors whose research focused on this grade band.	This research study will use qualitative and quantitative methods to collect information from school principals and teachers. Principals will provide an overview of what makes them successful school principals.	This research study aims to contribute to Georgia school districts by enhancing school leaders' capacity and improving student outcomes.	School leadership positions may include school principal, federal program directors, independent consultant, researcher, and school coach.
Successful Schools: Narratives of Effective High School Leadership Across Urban and Rural Contexts	Data collection for this research study will focus on a sample of schools in the state of Georgia. The Georgia Department of Education has a School Improvement Department that provides support to school districts. This research will seek support from this department and selected school districts. The data collection will be conducted through a survey of school principals from the highest-performing rural and urban high schools in GA.	This study is likely to be related to the organization’s culture of Georgia Southern University and the Georgia Department of Education. I am interested in connecting this study to studies at the high school level; however, I did not encounter any of our university professors focusing their research on this grade band.	This research study will use qualitative methods to collect information from school principals and teachers. Principals will rate their understanding and preparation of their roles and share what they implement in their schools that contributes to their success. This research study may potentially utilize a documentary-style film to connect with the literature review.	This research study aims to contribute to Georgia school districts by enhancing school leaders' capacity and improving student outcomes. This study will be shared at a professional development event coordinated by the Georgia Department of Education.	School leadership positions may include school principal, federal program directors, independent improvement consultants, researcher, and school coach.

Matrix is based on the following article: Useem, B. (1997). Choosing a dissertation topic. *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 30(2), 213-216.