

California State Polytechnic University
Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion
KIN 695 Master's Degree Project
Spring 2009

Instructor: Dr. P. Vetter **Office:** 43-114
Office Hours: Posted outside office or contact KHP office **Phone:** (909) 869-2764
Class Times: TBA **E-Mail Address:** pvetter@csupomona.edu
Web Site Address: www.csupomona.edu/~pvetter

Course Description: Independent scholarship leading to successful completion of a project. Evidence of originality and independent thinking, appropriate form and organization, and a rationale. Open to all graduate candidates in Adapted Physical Education and Curriculum & Instruction specialization. May be scheduled for a maximum of 9 units

Course Prerequisites: KIN 590 and KIN 591 and Advancement to Candidacy

Text: None required. However, current literature related to the student's research topic will be used.

Course Objectives:

The final outcome of this course is that the student will be expected to have completed the master's project. However, since this course is repeated up to three times, each time the student enrolls in the course will have a different outcome, leading to the culmination of the final project. Individual student plans will be outlined and followed to ensure that after three times or three quarters of work, the student would have completed their mater's degree project.

Steps leading to the final project include:

- a. Critically analyze scholarly literature;
- b. Develop scholarly document that justifies the topic;
- c. Produce a document that articulates the rational and methods of the project;
- d. Defend an oral presentation of the final project.

Course Outline

Project Preliminary Pages

- i. Title Page
- ii. Signature Page
- iii. Acknowledgement Page
- iv. Abstract
- v. Table of Contents

Part I – Chapter 1

- a. **Introduction:** The topic area is introduced and the key scholarly literature is critically reviewed, leading to a statement of the problem and providing a rational for conducting the project.
- b. **Statement of the Problem:** A concise statement of the problem that suggests a need for remedial action.

- c. Purpose of the project: A statement of the purpose of the project explains what the project will attempt to do. Include personal interest as well as other identified needs, which the project will help satisfy.
- d. Scope (description) of the project: Define what the project is in terms of content and format. Include specific information regarding the subject matter, the intended audience, how the project is to be used, and the results or effects expected.
- e. Significance of the project: Explain the significance of the project in the field of study. What new dimensions or concepts have been presented? Emphasize the importance of the project in its use of techniques and specify the intended effects. If the project is designed to be informational, persuasive, or instructional, specify the effects in terms of behavioral objectives.
- f. Limitations of the project: If applicable, present and discuss the content limitations with regard to resources, time, and so forth.
- g. Definition of terms: Define any special terms and establish standard abbreviations, which will be used throughout the text.

Part I – Chapter 2

- h. Review of Related Literature: This section constitutes the major research effort of the project. It provides the source material for the content and puts the present project in context of existing information in the field. Critically review and cite related studies and discuss their strengths and weaknesses pertaining to the purpose of the project. Discuss the theories or techniques examined and their respective implications for the present study. Summarize the review with a synthesis of the literature identifying the various approaches and themes. This section ultimately justifies the need for the project.

Part I – Chapter 3

- i. Methodology: This chapter describes in depth how every aspect of the project was conducted, compiled, or created. It should be in significantly detailed such that the project could be replicated from the written methods. This includes the description of the format and technique used in presenting the material. Techniques, questionnaires, interviews, study sites, and material used to accomplish the study should be described here.

Part I – Chapter 4

- j. Results: There may or may not be a results section, depending on the type of project. If there are findings to report, they should be synthesized for inclusion in this section. Material too detailed to be included in the body of the text should be presented in the appendices.
- k. Discussion: If quantitative or qualitative results are generated in the project, they are to be interpreted, including a discussion of how they relate to the existing literature, what unique contributions is made to the literature, and reasons why the findings differ from those in the literature.
- l. Summary: Present an overview of the project, including any findings, and how the final project addresses issues that have been raised. Reacquaint the reader with the conceptual framework and the design of the study. Basically, this section summarizes the entire project effort. Provide a summary and a detailed analysis and interpretation of the project, including a discussion of the project implementation and outputs or products.
- m. Conclusions: Conclusions presented should validate both the need for the study and explain how the present study responded to that need.
- n. Recommendations: Recommendations should include comments regarding content, technique, and the process of creating a master's project of this type.

References

- o. References: Cite references according to the department style guide, and be sure to include every source cited in the study, including material, which has been adapted for use in tables and figures.

Part II – Project Product

- p. As a general rule, the project itself is placed in Part II. This will allow more freedom in the format of the work.
- q. Suggested Table of Contents for the Project
 - Title Page
 - Dedication
 - Table of Contents
 - Introduction
 - Aspects of the project, handbook, etc. - break into appropriate parts
 - References
 - Appendixes

Grading System:

Individualize instruction, consultation, and help between the student and the graduate faculty to ensure that the student completes the following:

- a. Prepare and present a proposal (first quarter)
- b. Develop project materials; (second and/or third quarter)
- c. Write a final document; (second and/or third quarter)
- d. Prepare a formal presentation. (second and/or third quarter)

Academic Integrity: It is expected that all students are aware of the university policy on academic integrity as outlined in the university catalog.