



Chaminade University

School of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Educational Psychology

EDPSY 903 Dissertation IV: Findings and Discussion

Asynchronous; Online

Credits: #3 Section: #903 Term: Summer 2025

Instructor Information

Instructor: Abby Halston, Ed.D, NCC, LMFT

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Phone: 808-739-4641

Office Hours: By Appointment, Please Email

Communication

The primary form of communication for this course is email. I check my messages regularly and will respond to student inquiries within **24–48 hours** on weekdays. Please use your Chaminade email and include the course name/section in the subject line for clarity. Responses may be delayed over weekends or holidays.

School & Department Information

School of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Office Location: **Brogan Hall, Room 101**

Phone: **(808) 739-8541**

Website: **School of Education and Behavioral Sciences**

If you have questions regarding the **Department of Psychology or Education**, please reach out to your course instructor or contact the **School of Education and Behavioral Sciences** directly at the information provided above.

Course Description & Materials

Catalog Course Description

This is the final course in the dissertation process where participants receive both group and individualized support in completing their dissertation. Participants work directly with their instructor and committee members to finalize and present their dissertation. Prerequisite: EPSY 902.

Time Allocation

This is a three-credit hour course requiring 135 total hours of student engagement, in alignment with Chaminade University's official Credit Hour Policy. Over the course of 15 weeks, students are expected to dedicate time across key academic activities. This includes approximately 10 hours for check-ins and committee meetings, 50 hours completing and revising the full dissertation manuscript (Chapters 1–5), 30 hours preparing the final oral defense presentation, 15 hours practicing and completing the defense and Q&A, and 10 hours completing post-defense revisions. The remaining 20 hours are allocated for reading, formatting, submitting to ProQuest, and optional journal preparation. These activities reflect the rigorous, independent scholarly work expected at the doctoral level.

Recommended Items

Assistance with APA, Formatting, and Writing:

- Chaminade University Sullivan Library: <https://chaminade.edu/sullivan-library/>
- American Psychological Association. (2020). APA style. <http://www.apastyle.org/>
- American Psychological Association. (2023). Handouts and guides. Retrieved from <https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/handouts-guides>
- The Purdue Online Writing Lab. (1995-2016). Retrieved from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
- Warlick, D., & The Landmark Project. (2000–2016). Son of citation machine. Retrieved from <http://citationmachine.net/>

Learning Outcomes

EdD in Educational Psychology Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Educational Psychology students will:

1. Administer psychological and educational assessments and effectively communicate the results to a variety of audiences.
2. Provide an innovative, research-based, and real-world curriculum that focuses on preparing individuals to meet the holistic and mental health needs of PK-12 students.
3. Evaluate scientific knowledge and research regarding the provision of mental health, psychological, and educational interventions and strategies, prevention approaches, wellness approaches, and the use of assessments.
4. Synthesize the value of adaptation and change with applied 21st century leadership, supervision, and consultation knowledge and skills for diverse and complex organizational systems.

Program Linking Statement

This course develops and assesses the skills and competencies for the Psychology program student learning outcome 1) Students will identify key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology (PLO 1), 2) Students will exhibit the value of adaptation and change

through the critical thinking process of interpretation, design, and evaluation of psychological research (PLO 2), 3) Students will exhibit effective writing and oral communication skills within the context of the field of psychology (PLO 3), and 4) Students will exhibit the value of educating the whole person through the description and explanation of the dynamic nature between one's mind, body, and social influences (PLO 4).

Course Learning Outcomes

Educational Psychology students will:

1. Interpret the results of their research.
2. Apply relevant theoretical frameworks to a domain of knowledge.
3. Write the Analysis and Discussion sections of their dissertation.
4. Present their research findings to their committee and others.

Marianist Values

This class represents one component of your education at Chaminade University of Honolulu. An education in the Marianist Tradition is marked by five principles and you should take every opportunity possible to reflect upon the role of these characteristics in your education and development:

1. Education for formation in faith.
2. Provide an integral, quality education.
3. Educate in family spirit.
4. Educate for service, justice and peace, and integrity of creation.
5. Educate for adaptation and change.

By the end of this course, Educational Psychology students will be able to interpret the results of their research using appropriate methodologies and communicate findings clearly and ethically, in alignment with the Marianist value of providing an integral, quality education. Students will apply relevant theoretical frameworks to real-world educational and psychological issues, supporting the Marianist commitment to service, justice, and peace. They will demonstrate their ability to synthesize research findings and craft the Analysis and Discussion sections of their dissertation, reflecting a commitment to adaptation, critical inquiry, and academic excellence. Additionally, students will present their research findings to their dissertation committee and broader audiences, engaging in professional dialogue that fosters collaboration and embodies the Marianist value of educating in family spirit.

Native Hawaiian Values

Education is an integral value in both Marianist and Native Hawaiian culture. Both recognize the transformative effect of a well-rounded, value-centered education on society, particularly in seeking justice for the marginalized, the forgotten, and the oppressed, always with an eye toward God (Ke Akua). This is reflected in the 'Olelo No'eau (Hawaiian proverbs) and Marianist core

beliefs:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Mana) E ola au i ke akua (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 364) May I live by God.
2. Provide an Integral, Quality Education (Na‘auao) Lawe i ka ma‘alea a kū‘ono‘ono (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 1957) Acquire skill and make it deep.
3. Educate in Family Spirit (‘Ohana) ‘Ike aku, ‘ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai; pela iho la ka nohana ‘ohana (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 1200) Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship.
4. Educate for Service, Justice and Peace (Aloha) Ka lama kū o ka no‘eau (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 1430) Education is the standing torch of wisdom.
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change (Aina) ‘A‘ohe pau ka ‘ike i ka hālau ho‘okahi (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 203) All knowledge is not taught in the same school

Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes

	CLO 1 – Interpret research results	CLO 2 – Apply theoretical frameworks	CLO 3 – Write Analysis & Discussion	CLO 4 – Present findings to others
Marianist Values	Provide an Integral, Quality Education	Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace	Educate for Adaptation and Change	Educate in Family Spirit
PLOs	Research Interpretation	Theoretical Application	Scholarly Writing	Professional Communication
Native Hawaiian Values	<i>Na‘auao</i> – Deep Knowledge & Wisdom (<i>Lawe i ka ma‘alea a kū‘ono‘ono</i>)	<i>Aloha</i> – Justice & Compassion (<i>Ka lama kū o ka no‘eau</i>)	<i>‘Āina</i> – Adaptability & Growth (<i>‘A‘ohe pau ka ‘ike i ka hālau ho‘okahi</i>)	<i>‘Ohana</i> – Relational Learning (<i>‘Ike aku, ‘ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai</i>)

Course Activities

Dissertation Chapters 1-5

This assignment requires you to upload your complete dissertation draft (Chapters 1–5) with final edits approved by your Chair, reflecting the cumulative revisions from Dissertation I, II, and III; submission of this approved draft is necessary before scheduling your final oral defense.

Dissertation Defense

Students in Dissertation IV must submit a fully revised dissertation draft (Chapters 1–5), approved by their Chair and reviewed by the full committee. Only after all committee members approve the manuscript may the Final Oral Defense be scheduled. The defense consists of a 30–45 minute presentation and a 15-minute Q&A, followed by a committee vote. Possible outcomes include Approved, Approved with Stipulations, or Resubmission Required, with most students needing to complete minor revisions before final submission.

Dissertation Editing

After your oral defense, you must complete all required revisions based on committee feedback and resubmit the final manuscript to your Chair and committee for approval. Once approved, you will proceed to format editing for submission to **ProQuest Dissertations** and, if applicable, to a **peer-reviewed journal** for publication.

Course Policies

Changes to the Syllabus

While the provisions of this syllabus are as accurate and complete as possible, your instructor reserves the right to change any provision herein at any time. Every effort will be made to keep you advised of such changes, and information about such changes will be available from your instructor.

Grades of Incomplete

Chaminade University's Incomplete ("I") grade policy is designed for situations in which a student is unable to complete a course due to unexpected and documented emergencies. An "I" grade is not meant to serve as a way to improve a grade or avoid failing, but rather is reserved for circumstances that are beyond the student's control and occur near the end of the term. To be eligible for an Incomplete, the student must have completed at least 50% of the course requirements. The instructor has the final authority to determine whether an Incomplete is appropriate.

Once granted, the student is required to complete all outstanding coursework by the end of the next regular semester (excluding summer). If the coursework is not completed by that time, the "I" will automatically convert to an "F" on the student's transcript. For graduate and doctoral students, an extension beyond the standard deadline may be granted, but only in exceptional cases and with formal approval from the appropriate university authority.

Students are encouraged to communicate early and clearly with their instructor if they believe they qualify for an Incomplete grade. Proper documentation and a clear plan for completing the remaining coursework are typically required.

Final Grades

Final grades are submitted to [Self-Service](#):

A = 90% and above

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 59% and below

Important Information

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism, in addition to more obvious dishonesty.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of Academic Division and may include an “F” grade for the work in question, an “F” grade for the course, suspension, or dismissal from the University.

For the most up to date information, please refer to the [Academic Honesty Policy](#) on the Chaminade University Catalog website.

Title IX and Nondiscrimination Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Policy & Notice of Nondiscrimination

Chaminade University of Honolulu does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both and contact information may be found at the [Chaminade University Title IX Office Contact Information and Confidential Resources website](#). On-campus Confidential Resources may also be found here at [CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES](#).

The University's Nondiscrimination Policy and Grievance Procedures can be located on the University webpage at: <https://chaminade.edu/compliance/title-ix-nondiscrimination-policies-procedures/>.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to the [Campus Incident Report form](#).

Chaminade University of Honolulu prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. The NOTICE of NONDISCRIMINATION can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).

CUH Alert Emergency Notification

To get the latest emergency communication from Chaminade University, students' cell numbers will be connected to Chaminade's emergency notification text system. When you log in to the Chaminade portal, you will be asked to provide some emergency contact information. If you provide a cellphone number, you will receive a text from our emergency notification system asking you to confirm your number. You must respond to that message to complete your registration and get emergency notifications on your phone.

Assessment for Student Work

With the goal of continuing to improve the quality of educational services offered to students, Chaminade University conducts assessments of student achievement of course, program, and institutional learning outcomes. Student work is used anonymously as the basis of these assessments, and the work you do in this course may be used in these assessment efforts.

Student with Disabilities Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu offers accommodations for all actively enrolled students with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act (2008).

Students are responsible for contacting Kokua Ike: Center for Student Learning to schedule an appointment. Verification of their disability will be requested through appropriate documentation

and once received it will take up to approximately 2–3 weeks to review them. Appropriate paperwork will be completed by the student before notification will be sent out to their instructors. Accommodation paperwork will not be automatically sent out to instructors each semester, as the student is responsible to notify Kokua Ike via email at ada@chaminade.edu each semester if changes or notifications are needed.

Kōkua ‘Ike: Tutoring & Learning Services

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at Kōkua ‘Ike: Center for Student Learning in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors. Please check [Kōkua ‘Ike’s](#) website for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via Tutor.com. Tutor.com can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click on Account > Tutor.com. For more information, please contact Kōkua ‘Ike at tutoring@chaminade.edu or 808-739-8305.

Readings & Due Dates

Theme	Info	Due Dates
Week	Assignment / Activity	Due Date
Week 1	Submit Full Dissertation Draft (Chapters 1–5) to Chair	7/13/25
Week 2	Chair Review: Editing & Revisions	7/20/25
Week 3	Begin Final Oral Defenses (Chair Schedules Approved Students)	7/27/25
Week 4	Final Oral Defenses Continue	8/3/25
Week 5	Final Oral Defenses Continue	8/10/25
Week 6	Final Oral Defenses Continue	8/17/25
Week 7	Final Oral Defenses Continue	8/24/25
Week 8	Final Oral Defenses Continue	8/31/25
Week 9	Post-Defense Revisions / Final Manuscript Submission Begins	9/7/25
Week 10	Final Formatting for ProQuest Submission (or Journal, if desired)	9/14/25