EDUC 890 Class 1

Welcome! I'm Ben.

Class overview

- Intro activities (true and false; name game)
- Syllabus
- Ch. 1
  - Defining research
  - Identifying research reports
  - Other scholarly writing
  - Types of documents where research reports are found, APA referencing
  - Steps in the research process
  - Homework

1. *I used to work as a professional stage actor*
2. *I once piloted a Tony the Tiger Hot Air Balloon*
3. *I once spoke briefly with Prince William*

Two true one false

- Take a clean piece of paper. Write your name and 3 facts about yourself: 2 true 1 false. Make it tricky to guess which are true and false!
- Give the papers to me.
- When you have a partner, try and guess which is the false fact.
- Then you will introduce your partner to the class along with the two TRUE facts.

Syllabus

- Contact info
- Required text
- APA writing style guides
- Class schedule and readings
- Assignments

Chapter 1

Learning how research is conducted and reported

Defining research

- How do you define research? Write down your definition.
  - *The act of developing new knowledge.*
  - *A process of steps used to collect and analyze information in order to increase our knowledge about a topic or issue.*

1. *posing a question*
2. *collecting data about the question*
3. *analyzing data to answer the question*

Types of scholarly writing

Not all scholarly writing reports research! Scholarly writing also includes…

- Literature reviews
- Theoretical discussions
- Opinion papers
- Program descriptions
- Fiction
- Poetry
- And more!

(see p. 9 for descriptions and examples)

Identifying research

- How can you recognize a research report?
  - The report is identified as research with terms such as study, inquiry, investigation, and research;
  - The report describes the *collection of data;*
  - The report describes the *analysis of data*.

Hold on—what about philosophical research?

- Good question! Our text has a pretty narrow perception of what constitutes research.
- This text is only acknowledging *empirical* research—research that involves the collection and analysis of data. Please be aware of this bias!

Group work 1

- In pairs, find a research article that addresses an education topic.
- Use the table on p. 5 to verify it is research.
- When you've found one, write the title on the board.
- Be prepared to tell the class a little about it.

Group work 2

- In pairs, find a piece of scholarly writing that addresses an education topic that is NOT a research article.
- When you've found one, write the title on the board, and the 'type' of writing in brackets (see table 1.1. on p. 5) and be prepared to tell the class a little about it.
- Then, find another, different 'type' of scholarly writing.

Types of documents where research reports are found

- Early stage materials
  - Conference papers, newsletters, dissertations and theses, papers posted online
- Journal articles
  - Peer reviewed and editor reviewed
- Books
  - Encyclopedias, handbooks, research reports, collections of studies

Group work 3

- In pairs, find an example of each of the three types of documents (early stage material, journal article, book) that addresses an education topic of interest to you
- write an APA reference for each(see page 13).
- You'll hand this in next class (homework).

Steps in the research process

1. identifying a research problem
2. reviewing the literature
3. specifying a purpose
4. choosing a research design
5. selecting participants and collecting data
6. analyzing the data and reporting results
7. drawing conclusions
8. disseminating and evaluating the research

Group work 4

- In trios, work with either the qualitative or quantitative article exemplars and briefly describe with a sentence or two each step as reported in the article, e.g., answer:
  - What was the research problem?
  - What literature was reviewed? (broad overview)
  - What was the purpose?
  - Etc.

Homework

1. Find an example of each of the three types of documents (early stage material, journal article, book) that addresses an education topic of interest to you and write an APA reference (see page 13). One submission from each pair.

2. Write a brief bio (100-200 words) that would be suitable to include along with a submission of academic writing. You can use my bio as an example:

Dr. Benjamin Bolden, music educator and composer, is an associate professor in the Faculty of Education at Queen's University, Canada. His research interests include the learning and teaching of composing, creativity, community music, arts-based research, Web 2.0 technologies in education, teacher knowledge, and teachers' professional learning. As a teacher, Ben has worked with pre-school, elementary, secondary, and university students in Canada, England, and Taiwan. Ben is an associate composer of the Canadian Music Centre and his compositions have been performed by a variety of professional and amateur performing ensembles. Ben was editor of the Canadian Music Educator, journal of the Canadian Music Educators' Association/L'Association canadienne des musiciens éducateurs, from 2007-2014. He is the proud father of three rascally boys.