

Ed 399 Jumoke Academy Charter School study group
last updated by Jack, January 28, 2008

Spring 2008

Students enrolled in this study group with Professor Dougherty agree to meet weekly to read, design, conduct, and present primary source research regarding Jumoke Academy in Hartford. In particular, we seek to understand the causes behind the rapid increase in achievement scores over time, as well as the culture of the school.

Readings TBA; Each student will produce the equivalent of 20 pages of writing during the semester regarding research design and analysis, to be evaluated using the Ed Studies student research criteria.

Pre-requisite: Ed 308 Cities Suburbs and Schools, or permission of instructor

We usually will meet (location TBA) on alternate Mondays from 1:15-2:45pm on the following dates:

January 21st (6pm dinner at Jack's house)

Feb 4th

Feb 18th

March 3rd

NONE on March 17th (spring break)

March 31st

April 14th

April 28th

Of course, most of your actual research will be conducted at Jumoke Academy (times to be arranged) and we may also move some meetings to Monday evenings in order to meet with school leaders Michael Sharpe and Tim Barber.

Assignments (determined by the group):

One short research proposal (research question and 2 to 3 paragraphs).

- worth 0 points
- due Friday, 1/25 (e-mail to group and Jack) by 3pm

One longer research proposal (5 pages).

- worth 30 points

- evaluated on criteria 1, 2, 3, 7
- due Friday, 2/15 by 3pm [*Note: Students may need to begin data collection before the proposal due date. Also, IRBs may be required if research involves human subjects.*]

One rough draft copy of the final paper (10 to 12 pages).

- worth 30 points
- evaluated on criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 [*Note: This draft will move beyond the previous assignment by incorporating a working thesis statement and some supporting evidence from the primary source data.*]
- due Friday, 3/28 by 3pm

One final paper (20 pages).

- worth 40 points
- evaluated on criteria 1-8
- REVISED DEADLINE Monday May 5th at 3pm [*Note: Jack will consider requests to extend date, depending upon our group presentation date below*]

One POSSIBLE presentation of our findings, whether within the group or including Michael Sharpe and Tim Barber. (5 minutes long).

- worth 0 points
- TENTATIVE: everyone presenting on Monday, 4/28 during meeting time

The late assignment penalty is a 10% reduction for every 12-hour period beyond the deadline, with exceptions granted only for documented medical & family emergencies.

Ed Studies student research project criteria:

- 1) Does the author pose a thought-provoking, researchable question (or hypothesis) and explain its significance to educational studies?
- 2) Does the author connect the question to the existing research literature (secondary sources) and move beyond into new territory?
- 3) Does the author identify the most appropriate primary sources and research methods for this study?
- 4) Does the author present a clear and insightful thesis that directly addresses the research question (or hypothesis)?
- 5) Is the author's thesis persuasive? Is it supported with convincing evidence and analysis?
- 6) Is the author's paper/presentation well-organized, and does it include sufficient background for audiences unfamiliar with the topic?

- 7) Does the author cite sources in an acceptable format so that future readers may easily locate them?
- 8) Does the author follow ethical guidelines for research?