

MEd in Educational Psychology Framework for the Plan B Project

The Plan B project is an original educational inquiry resulting in a product that informs educational practice.

The general steps for framing your educational inquiry include:

1. Initial identification of a question or problem. [Is the question clear?]
2. Identification of the relevant research and pedagogical/professional educational experience to provide a meaningful context for your inquiry question. [Is the question related to already established knowledge? Does the initial question need to be revised in light of this?]
3. Design the method you will use to conduct your inquiry. Quantitative and/or qualitative methods may be used. [How will the proposed method specifically address your inquiry question?]
4. Students develop a 2-3 page proposal outlining their projects that are then approved by their advisors (Guidelines for Plan B proposals). The development of a Plan B project is concurrent with the selection of a Plan B advisor.

The final format of your Plan B project may be entirely written or it may use a less traditional format (e.g., a video, a website, a web-based presentation, or a CD-ROM). To the extent that the traditional components of educational research (viz., statement of problem, literature review, method, and data analysis) are not directly clear in whatever format you choose to present your findings, you will be required to document in writing how these things are addressed.

You have the option of soliciting a second reader for your project. This may be particularly helpful when your project is interdisciplinary or when you desire the professional expertise of other professionals. A second reader must have obtained a masters degree in a relevant field.

Prior to graduation, you will be required to make a 10-15 minute presentation of your project to the faculty and other interested professional parties at an end-of-semester session.