

Abraham S. Fischler College of Education
and School of Criminal Justice
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY



Strategic Research Project (ESRP): An Alternative to Applied Dissertation for Ed.D. Students

Table of Contents

<i>Strategic Research Project Quick Facts</i>	3
<i>Course Descriptions</i>	4
<i>ESRP Frequently Asked Questions (English)</i>	5
<i>ESRP Frequently Asked Questions (Spanish)</i>	7
<i>Speak to an advisor today about the Strategic Research Project Option</i>	9

Strategic Research Project Quick Facts

At the FCE&SCJ, we understand that not all doctoral students wish to write a traditional research-based dissertation. We now offer an alternate opportunity that allows students to solve problems in a real-world setting. The Strategic Research Project (ESRP) is an alternative to the Applied Dissertation.

- Ed.D. students can choose between Applied Dissertation **OR** Strategic Research Project.
- It takes 2 semesters to complete after all of your required Ed.D. courses.
- Your diploma will not read any differently if you choose ESRP instead of Applied Dissertation.
- As a current student, you can switch from Applied Dissertation to Strategic Research Project, but your work may not transfer.
- Get more answers to your questions in the FAQ Section

Course Descriptions

ESRP 9000 Strategic Research Project I (6 credits): This course represents the first phase in the development of the Strategic Research Project (SRP). Students will begin the conceptualization and development of the Strategic Research Project. Students will identify the problem they wish to investigate. The problem can take many forms including but not limited to a problem of practice, challenge, or complex phenomenon in the student's organization or in an organization they choose to study. Students will investigate this problem and provide multiple forms of evidence that demonstrate a need to focus on the problem in the particular organizational context. Students will (a) examine a problematic process/issue in an organization that could be improved through the implementation of planned intervention, (b) identify the specific evidence that serves to define the problem and the potential impact if it is not addressed, (c) determine a potential action, intervention, or change that could be implemented to bring about improvement, (d) review the literature to learn how other organizations have addressed the issue and which actions or interventions have been shown to be most effective, (e) discuss potential actions/interventions with your colleagues, professors, and other key experts in the field to gather additional ideas and feedback. **Prerequisites:** all prior courses

ESRP 9001 Strategic Research Project II (6 credits): This course represents the second phase in the development of the Strategic Research Project (SRP). Students continue to develop their project as they incorporate feedback on the proposed intervention, outline a system of evaluation for the recommended design and integrate the content of the entire project into one narrative and final deliverable. While students are not required to implement the intervention, their final strategic research project should provide a detailed plan and evaluation strategy that, backed by extensive research, would result in the expected improvement in the organization or successfully address the organization's challenges. In addition, the final product will include an insightful reflection piece analyzing what was learned from development of the SRP, what worked and what didn't, and what changes or recommendations for improving the initial strategy resulted from the experiences. **Prerequisite:** ESRP 9000

ESRP Frequently Asked Questions (English)

Q: How long will it take me to complete the SRP?

A: 2 semesters. You will take two classes: 1st term, ESRP 9000, and 2nd term, ESRP 9001.

Q: Do I still have to complete a dissertation if I elect the SRP option to earn my Ed.D.?

A: No

Q: What happens if I do not pass ESRP 9000 (1st SRP class), may I still take ESRP 9001?

A: No, you must retake and pass ESRP 9000 before you can register for ESRP 9001.

Q: How many times can I retake ESRP 9000 if I fail it?

A: You are permitted to retake ESRP two times.

Q: If I choose the Applied Dissertation option, am I permitted to switch midstream?

A: Yes; however, the work that you completed for your applied dissertation may not transfer to your SRP assignments.

Q: Are the grades for SRP Pass/Fail or letter grades?

A: The grades for SRP are P (Pass) and F (Fail)

Q: May I register on my own for SRP or do I need an advisor to register for me?

A: Similar to the Applied Dissertation track, you must have the assistance of an advisor to register for SRP as you must have completed all required course work and have a minimum 3.0 GPA at the time of registration.

Q: Am I permitted to take other classes at the same time that I take SRP classes?

A: No, you must complete all of your required courses before taking SRP classes.

Q: Am I permitted to take both SRP classes together?

A: No, you must take ESRP 9000 first, alone and then ESRP 9001 second, alone.

Q: Do I have to choose an SRP chair?

A: No, the professor teaching your ESRP course will guide you through your project.

Q: Will I get the same instructor for both ESRP courses?

A: Not necessarily. Many sections of ESRP will be offered. Registering early is recommended as it increases the likelihood you will get the professor you prefer.

Q: Do I have to defend my SRP?

A: You will be responsible for a digital presentation along with a final report in ESRP 9001 to your class. This can be done in a virtual format.

Q: Does the SRP need to be about a topic at a workplace or can an external problem-solving topic be examined?

A: Employment site is not critical to the completion of the SRP. Students will have the option to use scenarios.

Q: Will I need IRB approval?

A: Given that you will not be implementing your study, IRB approval is not necessary.

Q: Do I still need to go to Summer Institute if I am electing the SRP option and not the dissertation option?

A: Yes, the Summer Institute is a requirement of the doctoral program. If you have not yet earned your Summer Institute credit, you must attend during the 2nd or 3rd year in the program. The Institute will offer SRP seminars for students who have chosen the SRP option.

Q: Will my diploma read any differently if I choose SRP vs Applied Dissertation?

A: No, your diploma will still read the same.

ESRP Frequently Asked Questions (Spanish)

P: Cuánto tiempo me llevará completar el SRP?

R: 2 semestres. Tomarás dos clases: 1^{er} termino, ESRP 9000 y 2^{do} termino, ESRP 9001.

P: Tengo que completar una disertación si elijo la opción SRP para obtener mi Ed.D.?

R: No

P: Qué sucede si no apruebo ESRP 9000 (primera clase SRP), ¿puedo seguir tomando ESRP 9001?

R: No, debe volver a tomar y aprobar ESRP 9000 antes de poder registrarse en ESRP 9001.

P: Cuántas veces puedo volver a tomar ESRP 9000 si fallo?

R: Se le permite volver a tomar ESRP dos veces.

P: Si elijo la opción de Disertación Aplicada, ¿se me permite cambiar a mitad de camino?

R: Sí; sin embargo, el trabajo que completó para su disertación aplicada puede no transferirse a sus asignaciones de SRP.

P: Son las calificaciones de SRP Pass / Fail o letras?

R: Las calificaciones para SRP son P (Pasar), y F (Fallar)

P: Puedo registrarme por mi cuenta para SRP o necesito un asesor para registrarme?

R: Debe contar con la asistencia de un asesor académico para registrarse en SRP, ya que debe haber completado todos los cursos requeridos y tener un promedio mínimo de 3.0 en el momento de la inscripción.

P: Se me permite tomar otras clases al mismo tiempo que tomo las clases SRP?

R: No, debe completar todos los cursos requeridos antes de tomar las clases de SRP.

P: Se me permite tomar ambas clases de SRP juntas?

R: No, debe tomar ESRP 9000 primero, solo y luego ESRP 9001 segundo, solo.

P: Tengo que elegir un comité de SRP para poder desarrollar el proyecto?

R: No, el profesor que imparte tu curso ESRP te guiará a través de tu proyecto.

P: Recibiré el mismo instructor para ambos cursos de ESRP?

R: No necesariamente. Se ofrecerán muchas secciones de ESRP. Se recomienda registrarse temprano, ya que aumenta la probabilidad de que obtenga el profesor que prefiere.

P: Tengo que defender mi SRP?

R: No, sin embargo, usted será responsable de una presentación digital junto con un informe final en ESRP 9001. Esto se puede hacer en un formato virtual.

P: El SRP debe referirse a un tema en el lugar de trabajo o puede examinarse un tema externo de resolución de problemas?

R: El sitio de empleo no es crítico para completar el SRP. Los estudiantes tendrán la opción de usar escenarios.

P: Necesitaré la aprobación del IRB?

R: Dado que no implementará su estudio, no es necesaria la aprobación del IRB.

P: Todavía necesito ir al Instituto de Verano si elijo la opción SRP y no la opción de disertación?

R: Sí, el Instituto de Verano es un requisito del programa doctoral. Si aún no ha obtenido su crédito del Instituto de Verano, debe de atender durante el 2^{do} o el 3^{er} año en el programa. El Instituto ofrecerá seminarios de SRP para los estudiantes que hayan elegido la opción SRP.

P: Mi diploma leerá algo diferente si elijo SRP vs Disertación Aplicada?

R: No, tu diploma seguirá siendo el mismo.

Speak to an advisor today about the Strategic Research Project Option

Do you still have a question about ESRP?

We want to hear from you!

To speak to an advisor who can answer all of your ESRP questions, send an email to: (FCEAdvise@nova.edu) or call us at (954-262-8500).