The Relationships among Black Consciousness, Self-esteem, Self-efficacy and Academic Achievement in African American Students: A Replicated Study

This research aims to examine the relationship between Black consciousness (i.e. ethnic identity), self-esteem, academic self-efficacy and academic achievement. Research reveals that graduation rates of African Americans are below that of Caucasian students. The website College Measures (http://collegemeasures.org) reports that across the Texas A&M System universities in 2011, graduation rates of black students regularly fell behind that of white students. Additionally, when compared to comparable out of state schools, Prairie View A&M University has half of the 4-year graduation rate (10%) of schools such as Arkansas State University (21%) and Central Missouri State University (28%) (PVAMU Accountability Report, 2014). In exploring the discrepant academic achievement of African American students, previous researchers have attempted to investigate factors such as Black consciousness (i.e. ethnic identity), self-esteem, and academic self-efficacy (Okech and Harrington, 2002) with limited results. Therefore, this study will replicate Okech and Harrington’s 2002 study, and will address several limitations, as discussed in their study. Specifically, the present study will shed light on whether these factors are consistent with previous findings within a broader population sample. **Hypothesis 1**: Black consciousness, Self-esteem, and academic self-efficacy are positively and significantly related to academic achievement.

Expected Outcomes:

1. Student recruitment.
2. Upon permission granted, researchers will attend classes and provide students with information about the research study, including details about what student participation will entail. Emphasis will be placed on the voluntariness of the study, and that students are free to withdraw at any time.
3. Data collection through Qualtrics. The Qualtrics survey will include an informed consent form, which students will be required to read and agree to before being allowed to complete the survey.
4. Data analyses: Correlational and regression analyses will be performed on the data to examine the stated hypothesis. Pearson correlation, a two-tailed T test for independent samples, and a standard multiple regression test will be used.
5. Student Powerpoint Presentation will be conducted at the end of Summer Research Program.