

**Gleim Summer Research Partnership**  
Optimizing Online Learning Experience for Professional Development

*Funding Agency:* Gleim Publications, Inc.  
*Principal Investigator:* Dr. Bojan Lazarevic

**Scope of work**

The Summer Research Partnership is an initiative focused on expanding the graduate research experience centered around online learning associated with the corporate environment and preparation of professionals for acquiring official certifications. The proposal calls for graduate students who are interested in analyzing primarily quantitative data to generate recommendations for improving asynchronous online instruction. Therefore, the project aim is threefold:

- a) to expose graduate students to the contemporary online learning industry;
- b) to engage students in an action type of research focused on improving various aspects of online course delivery and instructional design, and
- c) to provide opportunities for professional mentorship, networking, and guidance.

Scope of work includes a number of research associated activities including the following:

- a) Obtaining an IRB approval;
- b) Conceptualizing a study that will address the proposed research questions (see the full proposal document);
- c) Collecting and analyzing quantitative data;
- d) Writing a report that will consist of data interpretation and recommendations for instructional improvements;
- e) Preparing a manuscript or presentation for a peer review journal/conference;
- f) Maintain frequent communication with a research mentor and funding agency representatives.