

Syllabus
Techniques of Assessment I
PSYC 5133
Spring 2020

Professor:	David Carlston	Office:	120 O'Donohoe
Office Hours:	MW 9:30-10:30, TR 10:30-12, or by apt	Phone:	904-397-4718
Class Time:	TR 12:30-2:00	Location:	OD 110
E-mail:	david.carlston@msutexas.edu		

Text:

Lichtenberger, E. O. & Kaufman, A. S. (2013). *Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment* (2nd Ed.). New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Flanagan, D. P. & Alfonso, V. C. (2017). *Essentials of WISC-V Assessment*. New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Record Forms (See Barbara - \$60.00)

Schneider, W. J., Lichtenberger, E. O., Mather, N. & Kaufman, N. L. (2018). *Essentials of Assessment Report Writing* (2ⁿ Ed.). New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Goals:

1. Competency in test evaluation and selection
2. Competency in test administration (e.g., compliance with directions, timing, scoring)
3. Competency in interpreting test results and pertinent clinical data
4. Competency in communicating test results

Attendance:

Attendance is required for the course. Each student is allowed two absences without penalty. Each additional absence will result in a 5% reduction in the students' final grade. Being tardy (arriving more than 5 minutes after the designated start time of the class) three times will be considered an absence. Students will be responsible for the material they miss when absent.

Course Requirements:

I would like to impress upon you that a significant amount of time will be required for you to reach the aforementioned goals. You should begin immediately to examine test manuals and materials. Likewise, you should begin to familiarize yourselves with test content as soon as possible. Your grade will be based upon your performance in three areas: exam performance, test administration, and report writing.

Performance Exams:

Two exams will be administered during the semester. These will be performance exams. First, you will be required to demonstrate competence in exam administration. You will schedule a 45 minute time slot to administer portions of each of the three tests covered in this course. The specific subtests to be administered will be selected at the time of the exam. Second, you will be

required to score pre-prepared responses for each of the three tests you will be administering. Exams will be worth 100 points each.

Students are required to earn at least 92 points on each exam. Should a student fail to earn a 92 or higher on an exam at the first administration, s/he will be required to repeat the exam until s/he earns at least a 92. Two caveats: 1) The student's grade for the exam will be his/her score on the first exam administration regardless of subsequent scores. 2) A student may only repeat the exam twice. Should a student not be able to score at least a 92 on one of the three administrations of an exam, s/he will not be allowed to pass the course regardless of performance in other areas of the course.

Assessments/Reports:

You will be required to complete four assessments for this course. Each assessment will consist of a clinical interview and the indicated cognitive and achievement testing. For each assessment you will be required to provide a report which summarizes the pertinent clinical information. Reports will include each of the following sections: identifying information, reason for referral, pertinent history, behavioral observations during testing, list of tests administered, test results/interpretation, summary/conclusion. All reports will be turned in with copies of consent to participate, notes from initial interview, original record forms, and response booklets.

Assessment 1:	WAIS-IV
Assessment 2:	WISC-V
Assessment 3:	WAIS-IV & WIAT-III
Assessment 4:	WISC-V & WIAT-III

Each written report will be worth 100 points each. Students earning greater than 82 points on the initial drafts of the report will be provided an opportunity to rewrite the report or keep the assigned grade. Students earning less than 82 will be required to rewrite the report. Each rewrite will cost seven points. For example, the highest one can earn is 93 on the first rewrite, 86 on the second rewrite, and so on. Students will have one week to complete the rewrite.

All late reports and rewrites will be assessed point penalties according to the following schedule: 1-3 days late: -7; 4-7 days late: -14; 8+ days late: -21. Assessment four may not be turned in late.

Grades:

Grades will be based upon your performance on the exams as well as your completion of written assessments. Grades will be based upon the following scale:

540-600	A
480-539	B
0- 479	F

Course Guidelines:

Materials:

1. As mentioned previously, you are required to purchase test booklets. A packet of the necessary booklets will be provided. *Students must pay Barbara for the test materials at the time they receive their test materials.* (Note that materials must be purchased with cash.) Test booklets are expensive. Be assured that we are not asking you to pay beyond that which you would pay were you to purchase them directly from the test manufacturer.
2. The coordination of test materials is problematic by nature. In an effort to minimize problems, the following steps will be taken.
 - i. You will be assigned a group. Your group will be assigned a specific test kit for your use during the semester. You may not check out any test other than your assigned test.
 - ii. Tests will be kept in the clinic office.
 - iii. All testing must be scheduled on the calendar.
 - iv. Tests may not leave OD Hall.
 - v. Each test must be signed out and back in.
 - vi. If you return an incomplete test you will be held responsible for the purchase of missing items.
 - vii. It is your responsibility to check for completeness of the battery prior to signing out a test. If an item was missing when you checked out the test but you failed to advise the course instructor upon checking out the test, *you* will be held responsible for the item and not the previous user.
 - viii. Do not check out a test unless sufficient tests remain for scheduled administrations.

Recruitment:

1. All participants must be volunteers and **not** clients of either the Psychology Clinic or other service providers unless you have obtained specific permission from the instructor.
2. Do **not** contact school systems, hospitals, training institutions, or any other organization without first obtaining permission from the instructor.
3. No persons, except you and the course instructor are to know the score for any examinee. Furthermore, at no point will your protocols or reports contain the actual name of your examinee.
4. Do not test children or adults with whom you work either as a professional or volunteer.
5. Do not test your own children or family members.
6. Do not test children or family members of close friends or relatives.

7. You are not to represent yourself as a representative of MSU or the Psychology Department at any time during recruitment or examination.
8. Parents must provide consent for all children tested.
9. Parents, children and adult examinees must be told **beforehand** that results will not be disclosed to them or other individuals. Simply tell the parent or adult participant something along these lines, "I am simply learning to administer the test. Given my level of experience with the test, I cannot guarantee the validity of any conclusion that I draw. As a result, I cannot ethically provide any feedback regarding your/your child's performance on the test." Even informal or general comments such as "She did well" are inappropriate and must not be provided. You may comment on the nature of the child's behavior during testing, "She listened well and worked really hard."
10. You are not to make **any** recommendations for psychological or medical treatment to the examinee or parent on the basis of your evaluation. Even recommendations to pursue actual testing must not be made.
11. All testing must be conducted at the university under the supervision of the instructor unless previous permission has been obtained.
12. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE GUIDELINES WILL RESULT IN PROMPT DISMISSAL FROM THE COURSE AND MAY RESULT IN ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE GRADUATE FACULTY.**

Course Schedule:

The reading for each day is the reading that is expected to have been done prior to that date.

Week		Reading	DUE/Additional Info
1/20-1/25	Course Introduction		1/20 – No Class
1/27-1/31	WAIS-IV Intro & Administration	WAIS-IV Ess. Ch 1,2 Administration and Scoring Manual Ch 1-3	
2/3- 2/7	WISC-V Intro & Administration	WISC-V Ch 1, 2 Administration and Scoring Manual Ch 1-3	
2/10-2/14	WIAT-III Intro & Administration	WIAT-III Examiner's Manual Ch 2,3;	
2/17-2/21	Interviewing Report Writing	Provided Readings	
2/24-2/28			Exam #1
3/2- 3/6	Scoring WAIS-IV	WAIS-IV Ess. Ch 3	Exam #1
3/9-3/13	Scoring WISC-V Report Writing	WISC-V Ess. Ch 3	Exam #1
3/16-3/20		SPRING BREAK	
3/23-3/27	WAIS-IV Interpretation	Report Writing Ch 5 WAIS-IV Ess. Ch 4	Exam #2a,b – 3/23
3/30-4/3	WISC-V Interpretation	WISC-V Ch 4, 8	Assessment #1 – 4/2
4/6-4/10	WIAT-III Scoring/Interpretation	WIAT-III Examiner's Manual Ch. 3	
4/13-4/17	WIAT-III Interpretation	WIAT-III Examiner's Manual Ch. 4	Assessment #2 – 4/16
4/20-4/24	Learning Disability Report Writing	Provided Readings	Exam #2c – 4/23
4/27-5/1	Recommendations	Provided Readings	Assessment #3 – 4/30
5/4- 5/8	Test User Qualifications	Provided Readings	
5/15			Assessment #4 – 5/15