

- EDP 640 Individual Assessment of Cognitive Functioning
Syllabus
Fall 2000

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Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to develop skills in the individual assessment of cognition. The majority of the emphasis of this course will be on practical aspects of the assessment process; however, theoretical content will also be discussed. Successful students will become proficient in rapport building, interviewing skills, test administration, test scoring, interpretation, effective communication of evaluative findings, and recommendations in written reports. Final grades will be based upon class discussions, knowledge of readings, practice and observed test administration, written reports, test reviews, final examination, and class attendance.

Textbooks:

Sattler, J. (1992). Assessment of children: The revised and updated third edition. San Diego: Sattler Publishing. (Required).

Reserve Readings:

Various additional required readings will be provided by the instructor throughout the course.

Required Materials:

- *A packet of test protocols and other lab materials will need to be purchased from the CPS clinic
- *A stopwatch is required to administer the tests. Strongly recommended that you purchase your own stopwatch.
- *A clipboard is needed to secure the protocols.
- *Pencils are used for the protocols. You need to have at least two sharpened pencils.
- * A large envelope must be used to turn in all protocols and reports to ensure confidentiality. Put your name and course number on the outside of the envelopes.
- *The School Psychology Clinic will provide test kits. You will sign out these kits from Julia Kovolic after ensuring that all of the pieces are present.

Requirements:

Test Administration and Scoring:

A total of five individual tests of cognitive ability are to be administered and scored (3 WAIS-III, 2 WISC-III) and one test of achievement (1 WIAT or 1 Woodcock Johnson). Your combined administration and scoring of the WISC-III and WAIS-III must reach the mastery level (90%) for you to pass the class. You will be responsible for providing your own subjects for testing. Clients or parents/guardians must sign a permission form before being assessed. A signed form must accompany each protocol and report that you turn in. Forms will be provided in class. All subjects are to be informed before being evaluated that no results can be provided to them or any agency and that these assessments are for instructional purposes only. If you have any concerns about a client based on your results, consult with the instructor. Do not make recommendations to clients or share their test results with anyone. This would involve ethical and legal violations that could result in removal from the class and/or program.

Recording of Test Responses:

Test responses must be recorded verbatim, and it is necessary that test protocols be legible to be graded. Illegible reports must be rewritten before they are scored.

Scoring of Test Responses:

There will be 5 scoring protocols turned in, one with each report. Grading of scoring protocols will consist of taking one point off for mathematical and clear judgment errors and 1/3 of a point will be taken off for minor judgment errors. The protocols turned in with the mastery videotapes will be graded pass/fail according to class guidelines. The other three will be graded according to the class grading scale.

Observed Testing for Mastery:

One WISC-III and WAIS-III administration must be videotaped. You will need to provide your own tape and be sure that the entire administration is viewable. The taping can occur at the CPS clinic or at another location.

Written Reports:

Five written reports (one an integration with the Woodcock Johnson or WIAT) must be completed. The reports must be written according to class guidelines.

Test Review:

Each student will be responsible for reviewing and presenting a test to the class in both written and oral form. A short handout should be provided to every student covering the basic reliability and validity, norms, cost, scoring tips, administration time, and specific populations for which the test is appropriate or inappropriate (overheads are required). Instructor approval is required for test selection.

Final Examination:

A final examination will be administered covering the issues related to cognitive assessment, appropriate procedures in cognitive evaluation, and "best practice" assessment instruments to be utilized based on various referral information. Students will

be expected to choose what instruments they would use in evaluate specific cases, justify their choices, explain pros and cons of the instruments the chose and proceed to explain basic information provided by the instrument that would contribute to possible effective interventions.

Quality Assurance Contract

The Quality Assurance Contract is an honor code in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology. Each student should complete and hand in this contract with his or her assignments. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses that carry with them the minimum penalty of an “E” in the course and maximum penalty of expulsion from the University.

Test Security and Responsibility

Students enrolled in the course are responsible for all test materials loaned to them by the department or the instructor. You will be responsible for **any** damage, loss, or theft that occurs while a test kit is signed out to you. Students are to adhere to the APA ethical principles concerning the use and protection of psychological tests.

Grading

Letter grades will be assigned according to total accumulated points. Students earning points totaling 144-160 will receive an “A”; 128-143 a “B”; 112-127 a “C”; 96-126 a “D”, and below 96, an “F”. An “I” will be given only under exceptional circumstances (as decided by the instructor) and not just on the basis of work that has not yet been completed.

Successful completion of this course will be considered evidence that you are competent to administer individual intelligence tests. Therefore, if you do not achieve mastery of the test administration and scoring, regardless of your point total, you will not receive a passing grade. You may choose to administer additional tests until you achieve mastery; additional protocols must be purchased from the CPS clinic.

Attendance, punctuality, late assignments, and class participation

Regular attendance, punctuality, and class participation are expected. One unexcused absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by 10%. Regular tardiness (more than 2) will also result in the lowering of your final grade by 10%. In addition, you are expected to be prepared for class discussions and to be an active participant (at least once a week) in the discussions. Late assignments will be penalized 10% of the total point value each day the assignment is past due. If you are unclear or having difficulty with an assignment, see the instructor as soon as possible.

Example Tests for Review:

Stanford Binet

Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI)

Kaufman Assessment Battery for Children (K-ABC)

Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Cognitive Ability-Revised (WJ-R Cog)

Hiskey-Nebraska Test of Learning Aptitude (Hiskey)

Test of Nonverbal Intelligence Test –2 (TONI-2)
Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test (K-BIT)
Bender Visual Motor Gestalt Test (Bender)
Woodcock Johnson Scales of Independent Behavior (SIB)
Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales (Vineland)
Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test-Revised (PPVT-R)

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments
8/29	Introduction	Check Out WAIS-III
9/5	Theory	S3-4, K1-2
9/12	Rapport Building/Interviewing/ Behavioral Observations	S5, S16, S17, Mental Status Exam
9/19	Ethics/WAIS-III	S10, WAIS-III Manual, Ethical Guidelines; Test Review Topics due
9/26	Profile Analysis	S10
10/3	Report Writing/Feedback	S18, 23, WAIS-III Manual
10/10	WISC III	S6-7, WISC-III Manual, Appendix I WAIS-III Report #1 due
10/17	WISC-III Profile Analysis	S6-7, Appendix I
10/24	Achievement Testing (WIAT/Woodcock) Learning Disabilities Assessment	S13, 20 WAIS-III Report #2 due
10/31	Additional IQ Measures	S12-13, (WAIS-III videotape due)
11/14	Adaptive Behavior	S15, WAIS-III Report #3 due
11/21	Special Populations	S19-22, (WISC-III videotape due)
11/28	Test Review Presentations	WISC-III Report #1 due
12/5	Wrap Up	WISC-III Report #2 (Integration) due
12/12	Final Exam	