

Psychology 609
Adult Assessment Practicum

Professor: Gordon C. Nagayama Hall
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Purpose of the Course: This course has two primary objectives. The first is to introduce students to psychological assessment as a process for solving important clinical problems. The second is to familiarize students with the administration, scoring, and interpretation of major assessment methods. Theory and research on assessment systems and methods in the areas of clinical interviews, objective personality assessment, projective personality assessment, and behavioral assessment will be reviewed and critiqued. The cultural relevance of assessment theories and research across diverse populations will also be addressed. The history of assessment, contemporary issues, and problems in assessment will be surveyed. Students will learn skills in administering and interpreting the SCID and MMPI-2.

Texts:

- First, M. B., Spitzer, R. L., Gibbon, M., & Williams, J. B. W. (1997). Structured clinical interview for DSM-IV, Axis I disorders (SCID-I), clinician version. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press.
- Graham, J. R. (1999). MMPI-2: Assessing personality and psychopathology. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Lanyon, R. I., & Goodstein, L. D. (1997). Personality assessment, 3rd edition. New York: Wiley.
- Suzuki, L. A., Ponterotto, J. G., & Meller, P. J. (2001). Handbook of multicultural assessment, 2nd edition. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Course Outline		
Week	Topic	Readings
1	Clinical Interviews: History and systems	Lanyon/Goodstein: 6, 8; Suzuki/Ponterotto/Meller: 3
2	Cultural Competence in Assessment	SPM: 1, 2
3	Measurement Issues	L/G: 7; SPM: 14
4-6	SCID-I Administer SCID	First/Spitzer/Gibbon/Williams
Mid-term exam		
7	Objective Assessment: History and systems	LG: 3; SPM 13
8	MMPI-2: Introduction	G: 1, 2
9	MMPI-2: Validity Scales	G: 3, 4
10	MMPI-2: Interpretation Administer MMPI-2	G: 5, 6, 7, 10
Final exam		
Exams:	The mid-term and final exams will be short answer essay questions based on the readings and lectures.	
Grading:	Grading will be based on completion of class projects and the final exam.	