

## **Psychology 470/570: Psychological Assessment**

### **Instructor: Crystal Dehle, Ph.D.**

Class meetings: UH 830-950 in 142 Straub

Office: 326 Straub

Office Hours: M 11:30-12:30, U 10-11 or by appt.

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### **Course Description and Goals**

Welcome to Psychological Assessment! This course examines the application of psychological methods to the study of the individual. We will examine the rationale of test construction and interpretation, problems in the prediction of human behavior, and various psychological assessment techniques. Understanding issues related to psychological testing and assessment will be critical for those of you going on to applied work in psychology (Clinical, I/O, Counseling, School Psych, etc.). In addition, learning these concepts will further hone your critical thinking skills and ability to be a wise consumer of psychological testing and assessment information.

### **Course Pre-Requisite**

Successful completion of Psychology 303 (Research Methods) is a pre-requisite for this course. We will review some concepts as they apply to psychometrics, but I am assuming you have a working knowledge of methods and statistics and that this is not 'new' material for you.

### **Required Textbooks**

Cohen, R.J., & Swerdlik, M.E. (2005). Psychological Testing and Assessment: An Introduction to Tests and Measurement, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. McGraw Hill

Cohen, R. J. (2005). Exercises in Psychological Testing and Assessment, 6th ed. McGraw Hill.

### **Additional Resources**

The publisher of your text maintains an on-line learning center for students with quizzes, flashcards, chapter outlines, exercises, and additional links for relevant content. I encourage you to use the site when note-taking, studying, and preparing for quizzes. The address is [www.mhhe.com/cohentesting6](http://www.mhhe.com/cohentesting6).

### **Course Components and Requirements**

Attendance at lectures is expected and will be an essential part of your success in this course. Students improve their learning when they stay current with the assigned reading and participate actively in discussing issues related to psychological assessment.

The lecture sessions will include review of selected textbook material, elaboration of some topics with information not provided in the text book, and unannounced in-class activities. You must be present to participate in the class activities—they cannot be made up for credit because you missed class. Quizzes will be used to assess your mastery of the lecture and reading material. There will be 4 quizzes in the course and the lowest grade will be dropped before calculating your course grade. If you miss a quiz for any reason, this will serve as the dropped quiz when calculating your course grade. Thus, make-up quizzes will not be scheduled. There will also be 4 homework assignments over the course of the quarter that are designed to help you learn the material and prepare for quizzes. Assignments are due in class on the scheduled due date. Late assignments will be penalized 2 pts. per day late (remember that each assignment is worth 10 pts. maximum).

Students enrolled in Psychology 570 will complete all the requirements described above and a 10-15 page APA style term paper on cultural issues in Psychological Assessment. The paper will be a review of major issues and related empirical research regarding psychological testing and assessment with diverse cultures. The paper is due in class on 11/29/05. Late papers will be penalized 10 pts. per day late.

## Learning Accommodations

Instructors will accommodate students with documented disabilities and will comply with individualized instructions provided by Disabilities Services. However, students must take the initiative in discussing arrangements with the instructor in the first week of class and providing documentation as soon as it is available. Students without a documented disability who are experiencing learning difficulties are encouraged to consult Disabilities Services (164 Oregon Hall; 346-1155). Without documentation, special accommodations are not guaranteed and are to be made at the discretion of the instructor. [Disability Services: [disabsrv@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:disabsrv@darkwing.uoregon.edu), 346-1155; <http://ds.uoregon.edu/> ]

## Academic Honesty

Members of the university community are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one's research, to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own, or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced. It is the official policy of the University of Oregon that all acts of alleged academic dishonesty by students be reported to the Director of Student Judicial Affairs in the Office of Students Life.

## Grading

Quizzes: 30 pts. each for 90 points total (lowest of 4 quiz scores dropped)

In Class Activities: 5 pts. each

Homework Assignments: 80 pts. (20 pts. Each)

Research Paper (PSYC 570 Students ONLY): 75 pts.

A 92-100%	B- 79-81%	D+ 68%
A- 89-91%	C+ 78%	D 62-67%
B+ 88%	C 72-77%	D- 59-61%
B 82-87%	C- 69-71%	F < 59%

## Lecture Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>	<u>Homework Assignments</u>
9/27	Introduction		
9/29	Psychological Testing and Assessment	Ch. 1	
10/4	Historical, Cultural, Legal, Ethical Issues	Ch. 2	Homework 1 Distributed
10/6	Statistics Refresher	Ch. 3	
10/11	Tests and Testing: Important Concepts	Ch. 4	Homework 1 Due
<b>10/13</b>	<b>Quiz 1 (Ch. 1-4 &amp; Lecture)</b>		
10/18	Reliability	Ch. 5	
10/20	Validity	Ch. 6	Homework 2 Distributed
10/25	Test Development	Ch. 7	
10/27	Measuring Intelligence	Ch. 8	Homework 2 Due
<b>11/1</b>	<b>Quiz 2 (Ch. 5-8 &amp; Lecture)</b>		
11/3	Tests of Intelligence	Ch. 9	
11/8	Preschool and Educational Assessment	Ch. 10	Homework 3 Distributed
11/10	Personality Assessment	Ch. 11	
11/15	Personality Assessment Methods	Ch. 12	Homework 3 Due
<b>11/17</b>	<b>Quiz 3 (Ch. 9-12 &amp; Lecture)</b>		
11/22	Clinical and Counseling Assessment	Ch. 13	Homework 4 Distributed
11/24	No Class: Thanksgiving		
11/29	Neuropsychological Assessment	Ch. 14	
12/1	Assessment of People With Disabilities	Ch. 15	Homework 4 Due
<b>12/8</b>	<b>Quiz 4 (Ch. 13-15 &amp; Lecture)</b> <b>8:00-10:00 am</b>		