

**Assessment**  
**PSY 610 | Spring 2019**

Time: Wednesday 12:00-1:50 pm  
Location: Straub 299

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Office Hours: By appointment

**Course Overview.** This course is designed to give students an introduction to assessment issues and approaches by integrating: (1) the students' beginning experience with assessment, (2) the empirical evidence regarding the validity of these tools, and (3) practice-based perspectives on their utility in answering clinically important questions. We will focus primarily on the assessment of cognitive abilities. Topics covered will include fundamental principles of assessment, basic concepts of test construction, reliability and validity, psychometrics, test selection and rationale, ethical considerations, and multicultural issues in assessment, with an emphasis on the development of skills in test administration, scoring, interpretation, and report writing. Students will learn through readings, didactics, and applied formats. Students will be evaluated on participation and the completion of several graded assignments and one pass/no pass assignment.

APA core competency 'Readiness for practicum' benchmarks that students will strive to achieve in this class:

- Demonstrates basic knowledge of the scientific, theoretical, and contextual basis of test construction and interviewing
- Demonstrates basic knowledge of administration and scoring of traditional assessment measures, models and techniques
- Demonstrates knowledge, awareness, and understanding of one's own dimensions of diversity and attitudes towards diverse others

**Course Texts**

1. Lichtenberger, E. O., & Kaufman, A. S. (2012). Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment (2<sup>nd</sup> ed). Wiley.
2. Sattler, J. M., & Ryan, J. J. (2009). Assessment with the WAIS IV
3. Sattler, J. M. (2018). Assessment of Children: Cognitive Foundations (6<sup>th</sup> ed)
4. WAIS-IV technical manual
5. WISC-5 technical manual
6. Additional readings on Canvas

**Class evaluation.** Students' total grade will be derived from 7 assignments. There are a total of 100 points in this course. Points for each assignment are listed in the assignment descriptions below.

**Assignment #1: Clinical and Statistical Prediction** Students will read four articles pertaining to “statistical versus clinical prediction” and write a short reaction paper. 10 points.

**Assignment #2: Evaluating and Selecting Measures** Students will conduct a focused review on a measurement instrument of their choice, with particular emphasis on reliability and validity. 10 points.

**Assignment #3: Cultural formulation (ADDRESSING).** Students will be evaluated on their emerging self-awareness of identity dimensions and reflections on the use of the ADDRESSING framework in clinical assessment. 10 points. Pass/no pass.

**Assignment #4: WAIS subtest.** Students will complete a WAIS subtest on another student outside of class. Students will be evaluated on the accuracy of their administration. 10 points.

**Assignment #5: WAIS.** Administer and score a WAIS with classmate outside of class. 20 points.

**Assignment #6: WISC.** Students will be assigned a child to conduct a full “mock WISC.” Students will be responsible for scheduling an assessment time with their mock client and will administer and record a complete WISC prior to June 5. In class (June 5) Students will hand in the completed WISC response sheet, including the Summary Score Sheet, as well as their recording and a brief response paper in which they will answer the following questions: 1) *What did you like about the interview you conducted?* 2) *What would you like to have done differently in the interview?* And 3) *What do you still need to do in order to prepare for your first WISC with a client?* In class on June 5, each student will choose a subtest from their testing session to review and discuss in class. 15 points for reviewing

**Assignment #7: WISC.** Students will draft a brief report based on their behavioral observations and test results from their mock WISC administration. The write-up will be due during exam week and will be based on an example provided in class. 25 points.

Grades will be based on the total points earned:

94-100 points = A

90-93 points = A-

87-89 points = B+

84-86 points = B

80-83 points = B-

Earning less than 80 points is considered failing.

Week	Topic/Concepts	Assignments
1. April 3	Course Overview Introduction to Assessment	
2. April 10	Applied Psychometrics	<b>Assignment 1 due</b>
3. April 17	Cultural Considerations Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues	<b>Assignment 2 due</b>
4. April 24	Introduction to Cognitive Assessment (WAIS)	<b>Assignment 3 due</b>
5. May 1	WAIS cont.	
6. May 8	WAIS cont.	<b>Assignment 4 due</b>
7. May 15	Introduction to assessing children and the WISC	<b>Assignment 5 due</b>
8. May 22	WISC cont.	
9. May 29	Report Writing Learning Disabilities and Achievement Tests	
10. June 5	Neuropsychological Assessment WISC subtest presentations	<b>Assignment 6 due</b>
Finals	No class	<b>Assignment 7 due</b>