

**COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE ADULT
PSYCHOLOGY 541b-001
FALL 2009**

Professor: Danice Brown, Ph.D
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Class Location: Alumni Hall 0333
Class Days: Wednesday
Time: 1:30pm – 4:20pm
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00am – 1:00pm, and
by appointment

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Lisa Pellegrin
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Office Hours: Mon. 9-12, Thurs. 1-4

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce masters-level students in clinical psychology to the fundamentals of objective assessment in adults. The following assessment techniques will be reviewed in this course: clinical interviewing, administration, scoring, and interpretation of cognitive tests, writing integrated reports, and providing feedback. Cultural, historical, and ethical considerations will be discussed as well.

The specific test receiving the most emphasis will be the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-IV (WAIS-IV). Other tests examined will include the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale: 5th edition (SB), the Wechsler Memory Scale-III (WMS-III), the Wide Range Achievement Test-IV (WRAT-IV), the Mini Mental Status Exam (MMSE) and the Bender Visual Motor Gestalt II (Bender-II).

Course Objectives:

Students who successfully meet the objectives of this course will be able to proficiently:

- Distinguish between an observation and an inference
- Understand and follow the ethical guidelines relevant to cognitive assessment
- Conduct clinical interviews
- Perform professional, standardized administrations of the above tests
- Score and interpret these administrations
- Integrate findings and make specific recommendations in “official” psychological reports
- Provide feedback to examinees in a simulated feedback session

Required Texts/Readings:

- Kaufman, A.S., & Lichtenberger, E.O. (2009). *Essentials of WAIS-IV assessment*. New York: Wiley.
- Readings:
 1. American Psychological Association. (2002). Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct. *American Psychologist*, 57, 1060-1073.

2. American Psychological Association, et al. (1993). The 86 elements of competent test use. In Responsible test use (Appendix E). Washington, DC: Author.
 3. American Psychological Association (2003) Guidelines of multicultural education, training, research, practice, and organizational change for psychologists. *American Psychologist*, 58, 377-402.
 4. Benson, E. (2003). Intelligent intelligence testing. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34 (2), 48-51.
 5. Benson, E. (2003). Breaking new ground. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34 (2), 52-54.
 6. Benson, E. (2003). Intelligence across cultures. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34 (2), 56-58.
 7. Chapter 14 from Walsh, W. B. & Betz, N. E. (2001). *Tests and Assessment (4th Edition)*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall
 8. Chapters 1-6, 21 and 17 pages 576-578, 583-584 from Sattler, J.M. (1999). *Assessment of children: Cognitive applications (4th Edition)*. San Diego: Author
 9. Chapter 1 from Berman, P.S. (2005). *Interviewing and Diagnostic Exercises for Clinical and Counseling Skills Building*. London: Lawrence Erlbaum
 10. Stanford-Binet: Pages 194-197 from Gregory, R.J. (2003). *Psychological testing: History, principles and applications (4th ed.)*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon
 11. The Oral Presentation from Morrison, J. (1995). *The first interview*. New York: Guilford Press
- Handouts for most class sessions will be available on **BlackBoard** and should be printed out and brought to the appropriate class session.

Course Requirements

Grades will be based upon performance on the following:

Graded Activity	Points
Ethics Quiz	10
Mock Clinical Interview	10
Team Presentation	3
Team Paper	7
Stanford Binet Quiz	5
Mock Feedback Session	5
WAIS-IV Scored Protocols*	20 (5 points each)
WAIS-IV Reports (2, 3, 4)	21 (7 points each)
Observed WAIS-IV Administration**	10
WRAT-IV Scored Protocol	5
WMS-IV Scored Protocol	5
MMSE Scored Protocol	2
Bender-II Scored Protocol	3
<p>*Note: for WAIS protocol #: if you made a mistake, but caught it and clearly marked what you should have done, it won't count against you</p> <p>**Note: you must earn at least 6 points on the observed WAIS administration in order to pass the class</p>	

106 points total to be earned

A = 95 - 106

B = 85 - 94

C = 74 - 84

D = 64 - 73

F = 0 - 63

Course Expectations:

- **Blackboard:** All lecture notes, handouts, and assignments will be put on Blackboard. Please download and print lectures and handouts before class. There may be times when I need to communicate with you and I will use the Blackboard email system to do so. Please check your e-mail regularly (e.g., at least once per day on business days). Also, the department utilizes all psychology major's SIUE e-mail accounts to keep you informed of important announcements and events.
- **Attendance and Participation:** Students are required to attend class regularly and to be on time. If you are absent for more than **20%** of the classes, you will be docked one letter grade. **If you miss class you are still responsible for the material covered that day.** Participation in class activities and discussions is strongly encouraged. Appropriate comments and questions are welcomed. However, **disrespect for others opinions and ideas will not be tolerated.**
- **Ethical Considerations** – There are also two very important ethical considerations in this class. The first is your status as a student. Your role in this class is to learn, therefore all examinees must have it explicitly stated to them that your test administrations are for training purposes and practice. To aid in this, all examinees must sign a consent form, which we will review further in class. Also, for the same reasons, giving feedback of any sort to your examinees is expressly prohibited! The second is the protected nature of psychological tests. Unless you are administering a practice exam to someone, you may not share any portion of these tests with anyone other than your classmates in 541b. Doing so will compromise the validity of these tests. You MUST get informed consent before working with the undergraduate volunteers, and you must turn in a completed informed consent slip with your assignment, by the due date and time. If you do not, you will receive a 0 for the entire assignment! Giving feedback or sharing portions of the tests will result in you failing this course. Again, the burden is on you to not put yourself in any position that looks suspicious.
- **Professionalism** – The PRC has limited resources. As this mirrors “real-life” settings, this will give you a good opportunity to practice your professional courtesy skills (sharing and communication). I’m asking the class as a whole to please **look ahead in the syllabus and identify and circumvent potential conflicts**. Classes in years past have been able to successfully handle this challenge, and I expect that you will also.
- **Assignments:** All assignments must be typed, double-spaced and stapled (not paper-clipped). Assignments must be handed in—**e-mail copies will not be accepted unless previously arranged with me**. Late Assignments will generally not be considered unless there is a major, documented illness or emergency, in which case they may be handled on a case by case basis. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date! An assignment not turned in at the start of class is considered late and results in the loss of a letter grade for the assignment. One letter grade will be lost for each subsequent day the assignment is late.* **Please note that while you are welcome to share your life experiences you are not required to share personal information regarding sexual history, history of abuse and neglect, psychological treatment, or relationships with parents, peers, or partners.**
- **If you are having difficulty with any aspects of the course, see me as soon as possible. Students can come to office hours, set up an appointment, or email me.**
- You are expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate manner, respecting the rights of your instructor and fellow students. Disruptions are not conducive to the learning process of your fellow classmates, and impede my ability to cover the material in an efficient manner.

Department Policies

Psychology Department Policy on Incomplete Grades, Pass-No Credit Option, and Withdrawal:

It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from a course through the Enrollment Office by the dates set by the university if the student is not intending to complete the course. Students who do not withdraw and have not completed the course will receive an Unauthorized Withdrawal (UW). Only under special circumstances may a faculty member agree to give the student an Incomplete (INC) grade in order to allow the student to complete the remaining work for the course no later than the end of the following semester. An INC is never automatic but must be approved by the instructor. If an instructor agrees to give a student an INC grade, the instructor and student will fill out a form (Memorandum of Incomplete Grade) indicating why an INC is being given. One copy of the completed form will be given to the student, one copy will be given to the instructor, and one copy will be kept by the Department of Psychology secretary. If the work is not completed by the specified time, the grade will be changed from INC to F.

Psychology Department Policy on Plagiarism: Plagiarism includes either presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source) or presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source. If you plagiarize, your instructor cannot evaluate your understanding of the topic. When paraphrasing from another source, at the very least the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. University policy states that "Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of 'F' in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost."

(<http://www.siue.edu/POLICIES/1i6.html>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University. To insure that you understand how to avoid plagiarism, we encourage you to review the information on plagiarism provided on the Department of Psychology web page at <http://www.siue.edu/PSYCHOLOGY/plagiarism.htm>.

Students with Special Needs: If you have special physical or educational needs, I am ready to accommodate you. You will need to do the following: A. Speak with me during the first week of class. B. Provide documentation of your need. C. Work with the Office of the Coordinator of Disability Support Services, Student Success Center, Room 1270.

According to SIUE safety and procedures policies, students with disabilities have the option of developing a written plan for evacuation in the unlikely event of an emergency that requires evacuation. If any student with a disability would like to develop a written evacuation plan for this class, please contact the instructor.

Class Schedule				
*Schedule subject to change at the discretion of the professor				
WK	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment Due
1	8/26	Introduction Observation vs. Inference		
2	9/2	Ethics and Multicultural Issues	Readings: 1,2,3,6, 7 Sattler: 3 (Just skim)	
3	9/9	Cognitive Assessment: The Basics, Theories of Intelligence, Special Issues	Sattler: 1,2,4,5,6 Readings: 4,5	Ethics Quiz
4	9/16	The Clinical Interview (May begin discussing WAIS)	Reading: 9 Blackboard handouts	Blackboard handouts
5	9/23	WAIS-IV: Administration and Scoring	WAIS-IV Manual Kaufman: 1,2,3 Blackboard handouts	WAIS kit, protocol and symbol search sheet Blackboard handouts
6	9/30	Mock Clinical Interviews		Mock Clinical Interview
7	10/7	WAIS-IV: Interpretation	Kaufman: 4,5, 9	1st WAIS Scored protocol
8	10/14	Report Writing Bender-Gestalt-II, MMSE	Sattler: 21 Kaufman: 10 Blackboard handout MMSE readings	Bender (3 forms) and MMSE (1 form) protocols to class
9	10/21	WAIS-IV Presentations	Team Presentations	2nd WAIS Scored Protocol
10	10/28	Observed WAIS-IV Administration (1)		
11	11/4	Observed WAIS-IV Administration (2)		
12	11/11	WMS-IV	WMS-IV manual	3rd WAIS Scored Protocol 1st WAIS Report WMS kit and protocol
13	11/18	WRAT-IV	Sattler 17 WRAT-IV manual	WRAT kit and protocol 2nd WAIS Report
14	11/25	Thanksgiving Break	NO CLASS	
15	12/2	The Stanford-Binet, Giving Feedback	Stanford-Binet reading, The Oral Presentation Handout	4th WAIS protocol
16	12/9	Final Exam - Mock Feedback Sessions		Stanford-Binet Quiz 3rd WAIS report WRAT-IV, WMS-IV, MMSE & Bender-II protocols

