

PSYC 402 : Psychological Testing Fall 2010 Syllabus CRN 41349 4 Units Tu Th 1:00pm – 2:50pm in UH 370	Dr. Michael Diehr mdiehr@csusm.edu Phone: see below Office Hours : Tu Th 12pm-12:50pm in Mark 249
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Required Texts: Kaplan & Saccuzzo (2009) Psychological Testing : Principles, Applications, and Issues. 7th Edition. Thompson. ISBN 0495095559

Additional Reading: Gould, S. (1996) The Mismeasure of Man, Norton, ISBN 0393314251 (selected chapters on electronic reserve)

Overview of the Course

Psychological Testing and Assessment are the sub-fields of psychology concerned with accurate measurement and quantification of the human psyche. This course will cover in depth the fundamentals of statistics, reliability, validity, norms, and test development, and will briefly survey most of the major forms of tests in use today, such as personality, cognitive, neuropsychological, educational, and vocational tests. We will focus on the controversy of IQ measurement and genetic determinism.

Prerequisites:

PSYC 100, 220, and 230. Please note: This course is best taken after you have completed at least one advanced laboratory class.

PSYC 402 COURSE SCHEDULE, Fall 2010 (subject to change)

Date	Topic	Reading	Exam/Assignment
Tu Aug 31	Introduction	K01	
Th Sep 02	Introduction	K01, G01-02	
Tu Sep 07	Statistics & Norms	K02	
Th Sep 09	Statistics & Norms	K02, G01-02	
Tu Sep 14	Statistics & Norms	K02	
Th Sep 16	Correlation & Linear Regression	K03	Exercise 02 : MMOM essay - due
Tu Sep 21	Correlation & Linear Regression	K03	
Th Sep 23	Reliability	K04	Exam 1 (K01,K02,K03 and G01,G02)
Tu Sep 28	Reliability	K04	Exercise 03 : Prism – due
Th Sep 30	Validity	K05	
Tu Oct 05	Validity	K05	
Th Oct 07	Test Development	K06	
Tu Oct 12	Test Development	K06	
Th Oct 14	Test Administration	K07	
Tu Oct 19	Test Administration	K07	
Th Oct 21	Exam		Exam 2 (covers K04, K05, K06, K07)
Tu Oct 26	Intelligence	K09*, G05*	Research Proposal Due 11:59pm
Th Oct 28	Intelligence	K09*, G05*	Take SII Online
Tu Nov 02	<i>Guest Speaker SII</i>	K09*, G05*	Online Surveys Due
Th Nov 04	Intelligence – WAIS	K10	
Tu Nov 09	Intelligence - Controversy	K19	
Th Nov 11	Veteran's Day Holiday		
Tu Nov 16	Intelligence – Controversy	K19, G05 **	
Th Nov 18	Intelligence – Controversy	K19, G***	Research Paper Draft Due 11:59pm
Tu Nov 23	Clinical Assessment	K13	
Th Nov 25	Thanksgiving Holiday		
Tu Nov 30	Assessment / Depression	K13, "13b"	
Th Dec 02	Projective Testing	K14	Research Paper Due by 11:59pm
Tu Dec 07	Neuropsychological Assessment	K17*	
Th Dec 09	Computerized Assessment	K15	Review for final
Tu Dec 14	FINAL EXAM		11:30am – 1:30pm

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(*) Notes about Reading Assignments

Unless otherwise specified, read the entire chapter

K = Kaplan & Saccuzzo (2005) Psychological Testing :

Ch 9 : Read 231-236, Skip 236-244 (early Binet Scales), Read 244-251

Ch 17 : Read 476-492

G = Gould, S. (1996) The Mismeasure of Man

Ch 5 : * 176-188. ** 252-263, *** 367-390 (Critique of the Bell Curve)

Components

The class will include these major components:

- Lecture
- Assigned readings from the text and online reserves
- In-class exercises
- Exams (multiple choice)
- Research Paper (2500 words, about 10 pages)

Grading

There are approximately 250 possible points in this course:

1. Exams (100 points). There will be three multiple-choice exams. Two mid-term exams (30 points each) will be on recently covered material; the final exam will be cumulative (40 points)
2. Research Paper (60 points): Every student will complete a 2500 word (approximately 10 page) paper in which you will design, develop and evaluate a novel psychological test or instrument. The paper will be in APA style, and must include a literature review. It will be due in three stages: outline/proposal draft (10 points), rough draft (10 points), and final draft (40 points). You will have ample opportunity to get feedback and improve your writing.
3. Class participation (up to 40 points). Earned by attendance and participating in discussions and in-class exercises.
4. SII (10 points) take the Strong Interest Inventory (SII, a vocational / interest measure) and schedule an appointment to discuss the results with a career counselor. Your course-based fee covers this testing.
5. Make-up assignments – additional assignments worth 10-20 points may be available.

The course will be graded on a curve.

Resources

Class Website: <http://courses.csusm.edu/psyc402md>

Contains class notes, syllabus, and links to resources.

Office Hours: See above. No need to make an appointment, just stop by!

Email: I will be sending out emails to all students from time to time. Checking your email regularly is a requirement of the class.

Phone: *This is a shared phone line among several lecturers. If you call during my office hours I'll answer it. If I don't answer, please send email rather than leaving a voice message. 760-750-8587.*

Textbook Website: The website for the textbook is on the class website (above)

Includes learning objectives, practice tests, flash cards and links to other resources.

Policy

Students with Disabilities

In compliance with federal ADA laws: If you have a need for any in-class accommodations, special test-taking arrangements, or help accessing any class materials because of a verified physical, cognitive, or perceptual limitation, please talk to the disabled students office first then contact me during the first two weeks of class.

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism (presenting the words or ideas of others as your own) or falsification of data will result in failure of the assignment, possible failure of the course, and notification of the offense to the University. Please note that copying material from your sources without proper citation is plagiarism (see the APA manual for instructions on how to cite your sources).