

California State University, San Marcos – Fall 2015 Syllabus <b>PSYC 402: Psychological Testing</b> Section 01 - CRN 41427 – MWF 8:30am - 9:40am Section 02 - CRN 41428 – MWF 10:00am - 11:10am <i>All meetings are in SBSB 3125, except Monday Section 02 is in SBSB 3127</i>  Website: <a href="http://courses.csusm.edu/psyc402md">http://courses.csusm.edu/psyc402md</a>  Prerequisites: PSYC 100, 220, 230, and one Laboratory course (390 thru 396) must be completed with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.	Dr. Michael Diehr <a href="mailto:mdiehr@csusm.edu">mdiehr@csusm.edu</a> Phone: 760-566-6842 Office Hours: MWF between lectures in SBSB 3125 Wednesday 11:15-12:15 in SBSB 3234  Teaching Assistant: Ruby Cuellar cuell001@csusm.edu Office Hours: Friday 11:15a-12:15p Location: SBSB 3232
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**SCHEDULE:** *Subject to change - check your CSUSM email and the course website regularly for updates.*

Wk	Dates	Topic	Reading	Exam/Assignment
1	M Aug 31	Introduction	K01	
	W Sep 02	Introduction	K01	
	F Sep 04	Introduction	K01, G01-02	In-class discussion
2	M Sep 07	<b>HOLIDAY</b>		
	W Sep 09	Statistics & Norms	K02	
	F Sep 11	Statistics & Norms	K02	Exercise 1: Basic Stats
3	M Sep 14	Statistics & Norms	K02	
	W Sep 16	Statistics & Norms	K02	
	F Sep 18	Correlation & Linear Regression	K03*	
4	M Sep 21	Correlation & Linear Regression	K03*	
	W Sep 23	Correlation & Linear Regression	K03*	Exercise 2: GraphPad Prism
	F Sep 25	Correlation & Linear Regression	K03*	Review for Midterm
5	M Sep 28	<b>Exam 1</b>		<b>Exam:</b> K01, K02, K03, G01, G02
	W Sep 30	Reliability	K04	
	F Oct 02	Reliability	K04	
6	M Oct 05	Validity	K05	
	W Oct 07	Validity	K05	
	F Oct 09	Validity	K05	Exercise 3: Literature Search
7	M Oct 12	Test Development	K06	
	W Oct 14	Test Development	K06	
	F Oct 16	Test Development	K06	Exercise 4: Take SII (online)
8	M Oct 19	Test Administration	K07	
	W Oct 21	Test Administration	K07	
	F Oct 23	Test Administration	K07	Review for Midterm
9	M Oct 26	<b>Exam 2</b>		<b>Exam:</b> K04, K05, K06, K07
	W Oct 28	<i>Guest Speaker: SII</i>	K16*	
	F Oct 30	Research Proposal Review		
10	M Nov 02	Clinical & Counseling Testing	K13	
	W Nov 04	Clinical & Counseling Testing	K13	Exercise 5: NEO-FFI (in class)
	F Nov 06	Clinical & Counseling Testing	K13	<b>Research Proposal Due</b>
11	M Nov 09	Intelligence	K09*, G05*	Exercise 6: Survey (online)
	W Nov 11	<b>HOLIDAY</b>		
	F Nov 13	Intelligence	K09*, G05*	
12	M Nov 16	Intelligence – WAIS	K10	
	W Nov 18	Intelligence – Controversy	K19	
	F Nov 20	Intelligence – Controversy	K19	
13	M Nov 23	Intelligence – Controversy	K19, G05 **	
	W Nov 25	Intelligence – Controversy	K19, G***	
	F Nov 27	<b>HOLIDAY</b>		
14	M Nov 30	Projective Testing	K14	
	W Dec 02	Synthesis & Review		
	F Dec 04	Writing Workshop		<b>Research Paper Due</b>
15	M Dec 07	Neuropsychological Assessment	K17*	
	W Dec 09	Computerized Assessment	K15	
	F Dec 11	Review for Final Exam		Review for Final
16	M Dec 14	<b>Final Exam</b> Sec. 01 – 7:30 am <b>Final Exam</b> Sec. 02 – 9:30 am		Topics: see study guide

(\*) see next page for notes about reading assignments.

(\*) Notes about Reading Assignments: *Unless otherwise specified, read the entire chapter.*

K = Kaplan & Saccuzzo (2013) Psychological Testing

Ch 3: Read 65-88, skip 88-100. Ch 9: Read 233-239, Skip 239-242 (The Early Binet Scales), Read 242-253

Ch 16 : Read 442-451 (Strong scales) Ch 17: Read 461-480 (Neuropsychology)

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

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

**Required Text:** Kaplan & Saccuzzo (2013) Psychological Testing: Principles, Applications, and Issues. 8th Edition. Thompson. ISBN 1133492010.

**Optional Text:** Gould, S. (1996) The Mismeasure of Man, Norton, ISBN 0393314251 (selected chapters are also 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. This is a 4-unit course with an expectation that students will spend 8 to 12 additional hours weekly on coursework.

## Course Format:

Class sessions will consist of the following items: Lecture, Group Discussion, and occasional in-class Exercises. You are expected to have completed all readings *before* class in preparation. There will be three exams (multiple choice, closed notes) and one research paper. The research paper will be submitted in two parts (Proposal: 20 points, Paper: 80 points). There will be several online and small written assignments. The CSUSM writing requirement will be met with two APA-format research assignments: A 500 word Project Proposal and a 2000 word Project Paper.

## Components & Grading

The class will include these major components:

Item	Points
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Final Exam	100
Research Paper (proposal 20, paper 80)	100
Exercises (in class, online & take-home)	60
Attendance & Participation	40
Make-up assignment (optional, 10 points)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>

The entire course is graded on a curve, and the cutoff for an A is typically around 87%. Plus and Minus grades (e.g. A-, B+) are given. Feedback on your current point total and estimated grade will be provided regularly. There will be one optional make-up assignment worth 10 points.

## Resources

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

**Email:** Checking your CSUSM email regularly is a requirement.

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

**Phone:** *During office hours I will answer. Leave voicemail if necessary. (Email is better).*

## Policy

### Attendance & Participation

Attendance and class participation are expected and count towards your grade: Every student may have up to two unexcused absences without penalty. Starting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence there will be a 10 point penalty per absence.

(continued...)

### Excused Absences

Death, serious illness or injury to student or immediate family member, with adequate documentation (doctor's note, police report, or note from the Dean's office) may be considered excused at instructor's discretion. Pre-arranged absences for religious, government or university-sanctioned reasons must be arranged with instructor *at least one week in advance*. When an absence is excused, instructor will either accept late work without penalty or allow an alternative assignment.

### Late Assignments

Instructor may, in some circumstances, accept late work. Late assignments will incur a one-letter-grade deduction per missed class session. If you arrive late, *while a quiz is in progress*, you may be allowed to take the quiz in the time remaining, but will incur a one-letter-grade penalty.

### 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. Students are expected to abide by the CSUSM Student Academic Honesty Policy; the instructor will abide by the procedures for reporting violations. Details: [http://www.csusm.edu/policies/active/documents/academic\\_honesty.html](http://www.csusm.edu/policies/active/documents/academic_honesty.html) Please refer to the APA Style Manual for instructions on how to cite your sources.

## **Course Catalog Description**

PSYC 402 (4) Psychological Testing – Principles and practices of group and individual testing in aptitude, intelligence, interest, and personality. Theory, construction, evaluation, interpretation, uses, and limits of psychological tests. Reliability, validity, item analysis, norms, and test construction and selection. Ethical, sociocultural, and gender issues in testing. Prerequisites: PSYC 100, 220, 230 with grades of C (2.0) or better. Enrollment Requirement: One upper-division psychology laboratory course.

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## **Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – Psychology 402**

### *General Expectations*

PSLO1: Describe the major concepts theories, empirical findings, historical trends in psychology and their application to behavioral and mental processes. PSLO2: Describe (as a way of understanding) the scientific approach to psychology and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, quantitative analysis, interpretation and reporting in APA format. PSLO3: Apply creative and critical thinking and employ skeptical inquiry to addressing issues and solving problems related to psychological phenomenon.

### *Specific Targets*

To meet these SLOs: students will review the history of psychological testing, applying their understanding to creating a novel test instrument which will be evaluated for its psychometric properties such as reliability, validity, etc. Students will document these results in an APA-format research paper. Skepticism will be emphasized by reviewing the limitations of psychological testing from both a technical (psychometric) viewpoint as well as a historical / sociocultural approach. Issues pertaining to IQ testing and the law will be a focus for applying critical thinking skills.

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End of Syllabus.