

**PSYC 402: Psychological Testing**

Section 01 - CRN 41864 – Tu/Th 10:00am – 11:50am – SBSB 2107  
 Section 02 - CRN 41865 – Tu/Th 3:00pm – 4:50pm – SBSB 2107  
 Section 03 - CRN 42020 – Tu/Th 7:00pm – 8:50pm – SBSB 1101

Website: <https://csusm.diehr.com/psyc402>

Prerequisites: PSYC 100 (Intro), 220 (Stats), 230 (Methods), and one advanced Lab (390 thru 396) must be completed with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

Dr. Michael Diehr

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Phone: 760-566-6842

Office Hours: SBSB 3236

Tu/Th 11:45a-12:15p

Tu/Th 2:30p-3:00p

Tu/Th 6:30p-7:00p

Teaching Assistant:

Larry Boman [boman004@csusm.edu](mailto:boman004@csusm.edu)

Office Hours: by arrangement

**SCHEDULE:** *Subject to change – please check your CSUSM email and the course website regularly for updates.*

| Wk | Dates                  | Topic                                                                   | Reading                  | Exam/Assignment                                                |
|----|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Tu Aug 28<br>Th Aug 30 | Introduction<br>Introduction                                            | K01<br>K01 G01-02        |                                                                |
| 2  | Tu Sep 04<br>Th Sep 06 | Statistics & Norms<br>Statistics & Norms                                | K02 G01-02<br>K02 G01-02 | Exercise 1: Basic Stats                                        |
| 3  | Tu Sep 11<br>Th Sep 13 | Statistics & Norms<br>Correlation & Linear Regression                   | K02<br>K03*              | Quiz 1                                                         |
| 4  | Tu Sep 18<br>Th Sep 20 | Correlation & Linear Regression<br>Correlation & Linear Regression      | K03*<br>K03*             | Exercise 2: GraphPad Prism<br>Review for Midterm               |
| 5  | Tu Sep 25<br>Th Sep 27 | <b>Exam 1</b><br>Reliability                                            |                          | <b>Exam: K01,K02,K03,G01,G02</b>                               |
| 6  | Tu Oct 02<br>Th Oct 04 | Validity<br>Validity                                                    | K04<br>K05               |                                                                |
| 7  | Tu Oct 09<br>Th Oct 11 | Test Development<br>Test Development                                    | K06<br>K06               |                                                                |
| 8  | Tu Oct 16<br>Th Oct 18 | Test Administration<br>Test Administration                              | K07<br>K07               | Exercise 4: Take SII (online)<br>Review for Midterm            |
| 9  | Tu Oct 23<br>Th Oct 25 | <b>Exam 2</b><br><i>Guest Speaker from Career Center</i>                |                          | Exam: K04, K05, K06, K07                                       |
| 10 | Tu Oct 30<br>Th Nov 01 | Clinical & Counseling Testing<br>Clinical & Counseling Testing          | K13<br>K13               | Exercise 5: NEO-FFI (in class)<br><b>Research Proposal Due</b> |
| 11 | Tu Nov 06<br>Th Nov 08 | Intelligence<br>Intelligence                                            | K09* G05*<br>K09* G05*   | Quiz 2, Exercise 6: (online)<br>Quiz 2, Exercise 6: (online)   |
| 12 | Tu Nov 13<br>Th Nov 15 | Intelligence – Controversy<br>Intelligence – Controversy                | K19 G05**<br>K19         |                                                                |
| 13 | Tu Nov 20<br>Th Nov 22 | Intelligence – Controversy<br><b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>               | K19 G08***               | Quiz 3                                                         |
| 14 | Tu Nov 27<br>Th Nov 29 | Projective Testing<br>Review & Writing Workshop                         | K14                      |                                                                |
| 15 | Tu Dec 04<br>Th Dec 06 | Neuropsychological Assessment<br>Computerized Assessment                | K17*<br>K15              | Exercise Paper Due<br>Review for Final                         |
| 16 | Tu Dec 11              | <b>Final Exam</b> Section 01@11:30am,<br>Sec. 02@4:00pm, Sec. 03@8:30pm |                          | Topics: see study guide                                        |

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

K = Kaplan & Saccuzzo (2018) Psychological Testing

\* Ch 3: skip pages 87-97 (Multivariate Analysis) \* Ch 9: skip 231-238 (Early Binet Scales)

\* Ch 16: read 427-433 (Strong scales)

\* Ch 17: read 444-463 (Neuropsychology)

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

\* Ch 5 (Alfred Binet, p 176-188) \*\* Ch 5 (Goddard, p 188-204)

\*\*\* Ch 8 (Critique of the Bell Curve, p 367-378)

**Required:**

Kaplan & Saccuzzo (2018) Psychological Testing: Principles, Applications, and Issues. 9th Edition. Thompson. ISBN 9781337098137.

**Required:**

Gould, S. (1996) The Mismeasure of Man, Norton, ISBN 0393314251.

Recommended:

APA. (2009) Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. ISBN 9781433805615

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Psyc 402 Fall 2018 Syllabus

<https://csusm.diehr.com/psyc402>

Revised 2018-Nov-15

## 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 8-12 hours per week on coursework outside of class.

## Course Format:

Class sessions will consist of Lecture, Group Discussion, and occasional in-class and online Exercises. You are expected to complete 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) and serves to meet the CSUSM writing requirement of 2500 words.

## 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) | 30         |
| Quizzes                                  | 30         |
| Attendance & Participation               | 40         |
| Make-up assignment (optional, 10 points) |            |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>500</b> |

The course is graded using a traditional grading curve, ranging from 70% for a "C" to 93% for an "A". If necessary, the curve may be adjusted at the instructor's discretion. Plus and Minus grades (e.g. A-, B+) are given. Feedback on your current point total and estimated grade will be provided regularly via email. One or more optional make-up assignments worth up to 10 points will be given.

## Resources

Website: <https://csusm.diehr.com/psyc402>

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

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. *Students who have any absences in the first two weeks may be dropped from the course to make room for a student on the waitlist.*

### 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 10% penalty.

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### 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, meet with *Disability Support Services* first then contact me before week 2.

### 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. See

[https://www.csusm.edu/policies/active/documents/academic\\_honesty\\_policy.html](https://www.csusm.edu/policies/active/documents/academic_honesty_policy.html)

Please refer to the APA Style Manual for instructions on how to cite your sources.

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### Recording

Students may not make audio or video recordings in this class except in accordance with ADA accommodations or with explicit permission of the instructor. Any recordings made are for the student's personal academic use only and may not be distributed in any manner.

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### **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, and 230 and one upper-division PSYC lab course must be completed with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

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

#### *For Psychology Majors*

PSLO1: Describe the major concepts theories, empirical findings, historical trends in psychology and their application to behavioral and mental processes. PSLO2: Describe 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.