

PSYC 402: Psychological Testing

Section 01 - CRN 41907 – 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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Office Hours: SBSB 3236

Tu/Th 3:15pm-3:45pm

Tu 5:45 pm-6:45pm

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Office Hours: email to arrange

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 27 Th Aug 29	Introduction Introduction	K01 K01 G01-02	
2	Tu Sep 03 Th Sep 05	Statistics & Norms Statistics & Norms	K02 G01-02 K02 G01-02	Exercise 1: Basic Stats
3	Tu Sep 10 Th Sep 12	Statistics & Norms Correlation & Linear Regression	K02 K03*	Quiz 1
4	Tu Sep 17 Th Sep 19	Correlation & Linear Regression Correlation & Linear Regression	K03* K03*	Exercise 2: GraphPad Prism Review for Midterm
5	Tu Sep 24 Th Sep 26	Exam 1 Reliability		Exam: K01,K02,K03,G01,G02
6	Tu Oct 01 Th Oct 03	Validity Validity	K05 K05	
7	Tu Oct 08 Th Oct 10	Test Development Test Development	K06 K06	Exercise 3: Literature Search Exercise 4: Take SII (online)
8	Tu Oct 15 Th Oct 17	Test Administration Test Administration	K07 K07	Review for Midterm
9	Tu Oct 22 Th Oct 24	Exam 2 Research Proposal		Exam: K04, K05, K06, K07 Exercise 5: NEO-FFI (in class)
10	Tu Oct 29 Th Oct 31	Clinical & Counseling Testing Clinical & Counseling Testing	K13 K13	Exercise 5: NEO-FFI (in class) Research Proposal Due
11	Tu Nov 05 Th Nov 07	Intelligence Intelligence	K09* G05* K09* G05*	Exercise 6: (online), Quiz 2 Quiz 2
12	Tu Nov 12 Th Nov 14	Intelligence – Controversy Intelligence – Controversy	K19 G05** K19	
13	Tu Nov 19 Th Nov 21	Intelligence – Controversy Projective Testing	K19 G08*** K14	Quiz 3
14	Tu Nov 26 Th Nov 28	Review & Writing Workshop Thanksgiving Holiday		Research Paper Due
15	Tu Dec 03 Th Dec 05	Neuropsychological Assessment Computerized Assessment	K17* K15	Review for Final
16	Tu Dec 10	Final Exam Section 01 Tuesday 8:30pm		<i>Topics: see study guide</i>

(*) 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)

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Overview of the Course

Psychological Testing and Assessment are the 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.*

Textbooks

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* 6th Ed. ISBN 9781433805615

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).*

Course Format:

Class will consist of lecture, discussions, and in-class exercises. Please complete readings *before* class in preparation for lectures and quizzes. There will be three exams (multiple choice, closed notes). The research proposal and research paper meet the CSUSM writing requirement of 2500+ words.

Grading

Item	Points
Midterm Exam 1	100
Midterm Exam 2	100
Final Exam	100
Research Paper (proposal 50, paper 100)	150
Exercises (in class & take-home)	30
Quizzes (in class)	30
Attendance & Participation	40
Make-up assignment (optional, 10 points)	
Total	450

Exams

There are 3 exams and your lowest exam score will be dropped. This means:

- If you miss or fail a Midterm, you can still pass the class if you do well on the Final.
- If you do well on both Midterms and are satisfied with your grade, you could skip the Final.

Points and Grades

Grades are on a traditional grading curve (70% = "C" ... 93% = "A"). The curve will be adjusted at the instructor's discretion. Plus and Minus grades (e.g. A-, B+) are given. You will receive frequent email updates with your estimated grade. An optional 10 point make-up assignment will be available.

Policy

Attendance

Attendance and class participation are expected and count towards your grade: You get two unexcused absences without penalty. Starting with the 3rd unexcused absence, there is 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.*

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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, late work will be accepted without penalty and/or an alternative or make-up will be given.

Late Assignments

Unexcused late assignments will incur a one-letter-grade deduction per missed class session. If you arrive late, *while a quiz is in progress*, you will be allowed to take the quiz with a 10% 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, 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

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

Recording

Students may not record or stream audio or video from this class except in accordance with ADA accommodations or with explicit permission of the instructor. If allowed, these are for the student's personal academic use only and may not be distributed in any manner.

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.

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.

End of Syllabus.