

PSY554: Psychological Assessment I: Cognitive Assessment
(Clinical Psychology Area Required Content Course)
Section 001
Fall 2004

Professor: Tania Giovannetti, Ph.D.
Office: Weiss Hall Room 475
Office hours: Monday 4:00- 5:00; Tuesday 12:00-1:00PM;
Wednesday 12:00PM - 1:00PM; or by appointment
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Prerequisite: You must be a doctoral student enrolled in Temple University's Clinical Psychology program. If you are not enrolled in this program, you must have special permission to take this course.

Course time: Tuesday 1:30 PM - 4:30PM

Location: Weiss Hall Room 416

Course objectives: Assessment is an essential skill for psychologists in clinical and research settings. This course will cover the fundamentals of cognitive assessment, including test administration, scoring, interpretation, and report writing. The Weschler tests (WAIS-III, WISC-IV, WPPSI-III) are the most frequently used measures in clinical psychology, and they will be highlighted in this course. In addition, adult and pediatric tests of memory, attention and academic achievement will be reviewed. We will also discuss the importance of interviewing and history taking. Finally, clinical disorders that are diagnosed following careful cognitive assessment, including Mental Retardation, Attention Deficit (Hyperactivity) Disorder, Learning Disabilities, Alzheimer's Disease, etc. will be discussed in detail.

By the end of the semester, students will attain knowledge and competency in the following:

- 1) history and purpose of intelligence tests
- 2) administration of the Wechsler Intelligence tests (i.e., WIPPSI-III, WISC-IV and WAIS-III);
- 3) report writing and the oral communication of assessment results;
- 4) formulation of recommendations based on cognitive assessment;

- 5) classic presentations of common psychological disorders on cognitive tests;
- 6) psychiatric symptoms and cultural issues that influence cognitive assessment/performance; and
- 7) ethical considerations in the use of assessment procedures.

Course readings & supplies: Books are available at the Temple University Bookstore (in the Student Center) and Zavelle Bookstore (1520 N. Broad St.). You can also purchase books through various on-line vendors.

Required textbooks:

Kaufman, A.S., & Lichtenberger, E.O. (1999). *Essentials of WAIS-III Assessment*. John Wiley & Sons Inc. New York.

Sattler, J.M. (2001). *Assessment of Children: Cognitive Applications*, 4th Ed., Jerome M. Sattler Publisher, San Diego.

The instructor will supply additional readings in class.

Optional textbooks:

Kaufman, A.S., & Lichtenberger, E.O. (2000). *Essentials of WISC-III and WPPSI-R Assessment*. John Wiley & Sons Inc. New York.

Course Requirements:

Class attendance and participation: Attendance is mandatory. Please meet with me if you miss or cannot attend class.

Assignments: A total of 8 assignments will be required throughout the semester.

Assignment 1/WAIS-III "Patient B" (5 points): You will be given a completed WAIS-III protocol in class. This assignment requires you to score the responses for all 14 subtests, calculate raw scores, age-adjusted scaled scores, VIQ, PIQ, FSIQ, and Index Scores (and all percentile ranks).

Assignment 2/WAIS-III Buddy Protocol (10 points): For this assignment your classmate will administer the WAIS-III and you will respond according to a detailed script that will be given to you in class. You will also have to administer the WAIS-III to your classmate, score the test, and write results in a brief report.

Assignment 3/ WAIS-III/WMS-III "Patient 5" (10 points): You will be given a brief history, completed WAIS-III, and WMS-III

subtests in class. You will score and interpret the protocol, and write a full report of your findings.

Assignment 4/WPPSI-III "Patient F" (5 points): You will be given a completed WPPSI-III protocol in class. This assignment requires you to score the responses for all 14 subtests, calculate raw scores, age-adjusted scaled scores, VIQ, PIQ, FSIQ, and Index Scores (and all percentile ranks).

Assignment 5/Participant Protocol (10 points): You will administer the WAIS-III to a PSY60 student who has volunteered for testing for course credit, or you will administer the WISC-IV or WPSI-III to a child that you know. You will be responsible for setting up the testing session, a brief interview, and the entire test administration. This assignment also requires that you score the test and write a full report of your findings.

Assignment 6/Shadow PSC student (15 points): For this assignment you (and a classmate) will arrange to view a PSC assessment (either through a one-way mirror or on videotape). You will discuss the case with the PSC student and attend their supervision session of the case (clinic team). You will be required to attend or watch the student's feedback session, read and review the student's report and write a short paper describing the experience, what you learned, the usefulness of the measures, assessment, and the report, and what you would have done differently (3 single-spaced pages maximum).

Assignment 7 PSC Client (25 points): You will be responsible for scheduling an assessment client in the PSC. You will perform the interview, administer and score tests, integrate the clinical data, and write a full report under my supervision. (Note that report revisions and/or feedback sessions may be required which may extend beyond the last day of class.)

Quizzes (10 points each): Two quizzes will be administered in class. The first quiz will be on WAIS-III administration. Each student will be called on to administer at least one WAIS-III subtest to the instructor. The second quiz will be on the WISC-IV and WPSI-III and will follow the same format as Quiz 1.

Educational Videotapes (0 points): Videotapes and CDs that review test administration procedures are available in the PSC. The course schedule recommends when you should view these videos. If you decide to view the material, you must sign the tapes out of the PSC. Please coordinate with your classmates

and be considerate of others by not keeping the videos for an extended period of time.

Grading:

Quiz/Assignment	point value
Quiz 1	10
Quiz 2	10
Assignment 1	5
Assignment 2	10
Assignment 3	10
Assignment 4	5
Assignment 5	10
Assignment 6	15
Assignment 7	25
Total	100

The final course grade is based on total points:

Total Points	Final Grade
95-100	A
90-95	A-
86 - 89	B+
83 - 85	B
80 - 82	B-
76 - 79	C+
73 - 75	C
70 - 72	C-
66 - 69	D+
63 - 65	D
60 - 62	D-
0 - 59	F

} Students earning a C- or lower will likely have to repeat the course.

Guidelines for contacting the professor: Students can expect a response to email or phone messages within a day or two. When messages are sent on Friday, they will likely be returned by Monday or Tuesday of the following week.

Disability disclosure: Any student who has need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact

me privately to discuss the specific situation as soon as possible. Contact Disability Resources and Services at 215-204-1280 in 100 Ritter Annex to coordinate reasonable accommodations

Disclaimer: The course schedule is subject to change upon the instructor's discretion. Please check blackboard on a weekly basis for announcements.

Date	Discussion Topic	Laboratory	Assignment Due	Readings		
				Sattler	Essentials of WAIS-III	Essentials of WAIS-III/WPPIII/R
31-Aug	Introduction to the Course; The Steps of a Cognitive Assessment; Validity and Reliability Overview;		watch WAIS-III video	1, 3, 4	1	
7-Sep	What is intelligence?; History of Intelligence Testing	WAIS-III Administration		5, 6	2	
14-Sep	WAIS-III Administration, Scoring, Interpretation, report writing	WAIS-III Administration Quiz	Quiz 1	12, 13	3	
21-Sep	Interviewing	WAIS-III Scoring & Interpretation	Assignment 1		4,5	
28-Sep	Factors that influence cognitive assessment: mood, culture, etc.	WAIS-III Scoring & Interpretation	Assignment 2	2, 19, 20	6,7	
5-Oct	Memory	WMS-III	watch WMS-III & WISC-IV video			
12-Oct	Report Writing	WPPSI-III	Assignment 3	21		1,2
19-Oct	Pediatric Assessment	WPPSI-III, WISC-IV	Assignment 4	7, 8, 9		3,4
26-Oct	Language & Dyslexia	WPPSI-III/WISC-IV Administration Quiz	Quiz 2	10, 11, 18		5

2-Nov	Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities	WIAT & WRAT-3	Assignment 5	17		6
9-Nov	Attention & ADHD	Review Protocols	shadow clinic student			7
16-Nov	Learning Disabilities Continued	Review Protocols	independent clinical evaluation			
23-Nov	No Class for Thanksgiving Holiday!					
30-Nov	Normal Aging & Dementia	Review Protocols	Assignment 6			
7-Dec	Treatment, Feedback & Recommendations	Review Protocols	Assignment 7			