SYLLABUS

Course Information:
PSYC 5301: Tests & Measurement for CMHC
Summer 2016

Instructor Information: Ron Livingston, Ph.D.
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Course Catalog Description: PSYC 5301: Provides an understanding of varied approaches to assessment and evaluation in a multicultural society, including: introduction and history of testing and assessment; concepts of standardized and non-standardized testing and other assessment techniques; statistical and psychometric concepts (e.g., scales of measurement, reliability, validity, & test theory); social and cultural factors related to assessment; and ethical issues related to assessment.

This course reviews major issues in psychological and educational measurement with an emphasis on understanding and evaluating the psychometric properties of tests. A secondary emphasis is on the application of various psychological tests.

Student Learning Outcomes: The primary goal of this course is to teach the principles of psychological and educational assessment to Clinical Mental Health Counselors. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand the history of testing and assessment.
- Define basic terms and demonstrate an understanding of concepts and issues related to tests and measurement
- Apply and interpret statistical procedures related to tests and measurement
- Understand test scores, their properties and interpretation
- Understand social and cultural factors related to assessment
- Explain and interpret the results of procedures for assessing the psychometric properties of tests (i.e., reliability, validity analyses)
- Understand classical and modern test theories
- Discuss major standardized and non-standardized assessment procedures & strategies: Tests of Mental Abilities, Personality Assessment, Behavioral Assessment and specific counseling applications.
- Understand ethical issues related to assessment.

Evaluation & grading: Your grade in this class will be determined by your performance in the following areas:

1) Quizzes 1-5 count 3-points each for a total of 15% of your course grade.
2) Test 1 and Test 2 will each count 25% each (Total=50% of your course grade)

3) The comprehensive final exam will count 35% of your course grade

Grade assignment: A = 100 - 90, B = 80 - 89, C = 70 - 79, D = 60 - 69, F < 60.

My recommendations for doing well in this class include:

- The material is cumulative - don't get behind in your reading or miss a quiz.
- Read the assigned material several times until you have a good grasp of it. This may be the first time many of you are introduced to these concepts.
- Keep in mind Bloom's Taxonomy - go beyond rote memorization and work towards application, analysis, and synthesis of the concepts.
- If you have questions or need clarification, please contact the Teaching Assistant.

Reading Materials: Draft chapters from a textbook I am writing will be posted on UTT BlackBoard.com. These will serve as the primary readings for the course. These will be supplemented with additional articles and readings.

Topical Outline: The following schedule should be viewed as a flexible guide and adjustments may be necessary.

**Introduction & Review of Syllabus – Week 1: June 1–5**

**Practice Quiz** (over the syllabus): Open June 2-6

**Module 1 – History & Introduction to Tests & Measurements:** June 6-12

Chapter 1: History & Introduction to Psychological Assessment

Quiz 1: Open June 9-13

**Module 2 – Basic Statistics:** June 13-19

Chapter 2: The Basic Statistics of Measurement

Quiz 2: Open June 16-20

**Module 3 – Test Scores:** June 20-26

Chapter 3: The Meaning of Test Scores

Special Readings: Scores based on Item Response Theory

Quiz 3: Open June 23-27

**Major Test 1:** June 30 – July 4

**Module 4 – Reliability:** July 5-10

Chapter 4: Classical Test Theory, Measurement Error, & Reliability

Special Readings: Generalizability Theory

Special Readings: Item Response Theory

Quiz 4: July 7-11
Module 5 – Validity & Item Response Theory: July 11-17
Chapter 5: Validity
Special Readings: Primer of Item Response Theory
Quiz 5: July 14-18

Major Test 2: July 21-25

Module 6: Tests of Mental Abilities: July 25-31
Special Readings: Intelligence

Module 7: Assessment of Personality & Behavior: August 1-8
Special Readings: Assessment of Personality
Special Readings: Behavioral Assessment
Special Readings: Best Practices in Assessment

Comprehensive Final Exam: August 12-13