

EDP 380P: MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION (3 CREDITS)

FALL 2013

General Information

Lecture meeting time: Monday, 9:00am – 12:00pm.

Location: George I. Sanchez Building (SZB), Room 435

Instructor: Dr. Jodi Casabianca
Email: jcasabianca@austin.utexas.edu
Office Location: SZB, Room 538G
Office hours: Monday, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Teaching Assistant: Ziyi Yang
Email: daisy.yang@utexas.edu
Office Location: Learning Technology Center (LTC; SZB, Room 536)
Office Hours: Friday, 10:00am-1:00pm

Course Description

In this course students will learn the means by which tests are developed, administered, scored and evaluated; explanations of the nature of test scores and their interpretation; test reliability and validity; and in particular, they will understand the interactions of these variables (e.g., the importance of proper test administration for proper test interpretation). We will also discuss topics such as ethics and fairness in testing.

Learning Goals

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe different conceptual approaches to educational and psychological testing and types of tests;
2. Demonstrate knowledge and a good critical understanding of the main theories of psychometric theory and assessment, including reliability and validity;
3. Demonstrate an understanding of how tests are used and be able to discuss both their uses and their limitations;
4. Describe and discuss the design, construction, and the validation of items and tests;
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the practical uses of tests in applied areas of psychology and education.

Required Textbook

Title: Mastering Modern Psychological Testing: Theory & Methods MySearchLab with eText -- Access Card Package.

Authors: Cecil R. Reynolds and Ronald B. Livingston

Publisher: Pearson; ISBN: 978-0205886081

Alternatively, you may purchase the same textbook without MySearchLab with eText -- Access Card Package. Search online for ISBN: 978-0205483501

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Format and Procedures

The course will involve a combination of lecture and group discussion and activities. Homework assignments, especially readings, are required to prepare you for class participation.

Course Units and Topics

We will focus on four broad units as shown below.

Unit Topics	Readings from R&L
Unit I: Psychometric Principles and Procedures	
Brief History and General Principles of Testing	Ch 1
Test Administration and Scoring	Handout
Legal and Ethical Issues	Ch 17
Basic Statistics of Measurement	Ch 2 (pp. 36-55)
Scores and Norms	Ch 3
Unit II: Psychometric Theory: Reliability and Validity	
Correlation and Regression Methods	Ch 2 (pp. 55-69)
Reliability	Ch 4
Validity	Ch 5
Unit III: Test Construction and Analysis	
Item Development	Ch 6
Item Analysis	Ch 7
Detecting Item and Test Bias	Ch 15
Test Development	Ch 18
Unit IV: Testing in Educational Settings	
Achievement Tests	Ch 8
Assessment of Intelligence	Ch 9
Testing Special Populations	Ch 16

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Tentative Course Schedule

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

Date	Unit	Session Focus	Readings – to be completed before class	Examinations
9/9/2014	I	Syllabus/Canvas/MySearchLab introduction; History; General Principles of Testing	Ch 1;	
9/16/2013	I	Test Administration and Scoring; Legal and Ethical Issues; Basic Statistics of Measurement	Ch 17; Ch 2 (pp. 36-55); Handout	
9/23/2013	I	Basic Statistics of Measurement (continued); Scores and Norms	Ch 2 (pp. 36-55); Ch 3	(Take-home) Exam I distributed on 9/23
9/30/2013	II	Correlation and Regression Methods; Reliability	Ch 2 (pp 55-69); Ch 4	(Take-home) Exam 1 due on 9/30
10/7/2013	II	Reliability (continued); Validity	Ch 4, Ch 5	
10/14/2013	II	Validity (continued); Review	Ch 5	
10/21/2013	III	Exam 2 ; Item Development	Ch 6	In-class exam for Unit II
10/28/2013	III	Item Analysis; Detecting Item/Test Bias	Ch 7; Ch 15	(Take-home) Exam 3 distributed on 10/28
11/4/2013	III	Test Development	Ch 18	
11/11/2013	IV	Achievement Tests	Ch 8	(Take-home) Exam 3 due on 11/11
11/18/2013	IV	Assessment of Intelligence	Ch 9	
11/25/2013	IV	Assessment of Intelligence; Testing Special Populations; Review	Ch 9; Ch 16	
12/2/2013	-	Exam 4		In-class exam for Unit IV

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Evaluation and Grading Policy

Your course grade will be a combination of your performance on four examinations. Each of the scores contributing to the course grade equation shown below will be out of a maximum of 100 points.

$$\text{Numeric Course Grade} = (.25 * \text{Exam 1}) + (.25 * \text{Exam 2}) + (.25 * \text{Exam 3}) + (.25 * \text{Exam 4})$$

Your final course grade will be assigned based on the final conversion from numeric course grade to letter grade.

A :	≥ 93	C+:	77-79
A-:	90-92	C:	73-76
B+:	87-89	C-:	70-72
B:	83-86	D:	60-69
B-:	80-82	F:	< 60

Exam Dates and Policies

There will be four examinations: two administered in class and two to be completed as take-home assignments. *In-class exams cannot be made-up unless your absence is excused via doctor's note or prior arrangement because of religious holiday observance. Take-home exams are due in class on the due date or via email sent before class on the date due. If submitted after class, 2 points will be deducted each day it is late.*

Exam dates

Exam 1 (Unit I): Take home, due September 30 (distributed on September 23)
Exam 2 (Unit II): In class, October 21
Exam 3 (Unit III): Take home, due November 11 (distributed on October 28)
Exam 4 (Unit IV): In class, December 2

Homework Assignments and Classroom Participation

Homework assignments, including readings, will be assigned on a weekly basis. The most common homework assignment will be a reading assignment to prepare for class; you must be prepared to discuss and apply what you read. Other (occasional) homework assignments will involve some problems from the textbook.

Canvas

You must sign up for Canvas so that you can receive course announcements, updates, lecture notes and other handouts. All electronic materials used for this course will be available on Canvas. Grades for all examinations and assignments will also be available on Canvas. Please access the training for

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students (<http://edutech.ctl.utexas.edu/students/>) for help with setting up your account and navigating the system.

Attendance Policy

You are responsible for being present in class. Therefore, you are also responsible for all lecture and written material covered in class, even if you miss a class. It is advised if you miss a class that you photocopy the lecture notes from another student.

Communication

All students should become familiar with the University's official e-mail student notification policy. It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at <http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/utmail/1564>.

Accommodations for Religious Holidays

Notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, or a work assignment in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Documented Disability Statement

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at (512) 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone). Faculty are not required to provide accommodations without an official accommodation letter from SSD. Also please notify me as quickly as possible if the material being presented in class is not accessible (e.g., text on presentation slides too small, etc.).

Policy on Academic Integrity

University of Texas Honor Code

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

A fundamental principle for any educational institution, academic integrity is highly valued and seriously regarded at The University of Texas at Austin. More specifically, you and other students are expected to maintain absolute integrity and a high standard of individual honor in scholastic work undertaken at the University. This is a very basic expectation that is further reinforced by

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the University's Honor Code. At a minimum, you should complete any assignments, exams, and other scholastic endeavors with the utmost honesty, which requires you to:

- acknowledge the contributions of other sources to your scholastic efforts;
- complete your assignments independently unless expressly authorized to seek or obtain assistance in preparing them;
- follow instructions for assignments and exams, and observe the standards of your academic discipline; and
- avoid engaging in any form of academic dishonesty on behalf of yourself or another student.

On working together

You are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts covered in lecture with other students. You can give "consulting" help to or receive "consulting" help from such students. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of an e-mail, an e-mail attachment file, a diskette, or a hard copy.

Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both automatically receive a zero for the assignment.

Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

On exams

During examinations, you must do your own work. Talking or discussion is not permitted during the examinations, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way.

Any collaborative behavior during the examinations (in-class and take home) will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and University disciplinary action.