

FACULTY OF HEALTH
Department of Psychology

Course: Psychological Measurement; PSYC 3090 3.0, Section A
Fall, 2015
Classes: Tuesdays, 11:30AM – 2:30PM, LSB 106
Moodle site is available

Instructor: Krista K. Trobst, Ph.D.
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Prerequisites/Corequisites: AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.0 or AK/PSYC 2410 6.0 with a minimum grade of C; one of AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2021 3.0, AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2020 6.0, AK/ HH/PSYC 2510 3.0 or substitutes.

Course credit exclusions: AK/PSYC 3115 3.0 (prior to Fall/Winter 2001-2002), GL/PSYC 3550 3.0.

Text: Cohen, R. J., Swerdlik, M. E., & Sturman, E. D. (2013). Psychological testing and assessment: An introduction to tests and measurement (8th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Course Overview and Objectives

This course provides an introduction to the theory, method, and application of psychological testing. Coverage will include: concepts of psychological testing; principles of psychological measurement; techniques used to analyze tests; development of tests (e.g., cognitive, interest, personality); and the use of psychological tests to make decisions about individuals. The focus will be on description of the basic principles of psychological measurement that must be applied in order to properly evaluate psychological tests, as well as on some of the major applications of psychological tests in education, industry, and clinical practice.

By the end of the course you will:

- have a critical understanding of the reasoning behind the construction of tests
- be able to critically examine test construction methods
- develop a deeper understanding of what constitutes the appropriate use of tests and the various legal and ethical issues involved
- understand how to think critically, generatively, and actively about issues related to testing and assessment

Evaluation *

1) First Exam:	October 13th, 2015	40%
2) Second Exam:	November 10th, 2015	35%
3) Final Exam:	December, 2015	<i>TBA: Registrar schedules</i> 25%

Exams are composed of a combination of multiple choice questions and short answer questions.

* The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for 'full year' courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade - see the policy for exceptions to this aspect of the policy -

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=86>

** If final grades will be subject to grades distribution adjustment, it should be specifically noted in this section by including the following statement: "Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles."

*** An exam or term test worth more than 20% of the final grade may not be given during the final two weeks of classes.

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties, and Missed Exams***Conversion of Percentages to Letter Grades:***

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point	Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point
90-100	A+	9	60-64	C	4
80-89	A	8	55-59	D+	3
75-79	B+	7	50-54	D	2
70-74	B	6	48, 49	E	1
65-69	C+	5	0-47	F	0

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar

http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf.

Missed Exams: If an exam is to be missed:

1) The student must contact me by phone or email or the course secretary by telephone (Zehra Bandhu ext. 66232) within 48 hours of the examination. You must clearly state the following:

- your name (it helps to spell your last name)
- your student number,
- course and section
- phone number at which you can be reached
- best time to call you back

2) If you cannot contact me or the secretary during this 48 hour period, subsequent documentation accounting for the delay must be provided.

3) Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed examination must be provided at the time specified by the instructor. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F on the missed examination.

What is appropriate documentation?

a) Medical circumstances – tests/exams missed due to medical circumstances must be supported by an attending physician’s statement or a statement by a psychologist or counselor. The physician’s statement must include the following: i) full name, mailing address, and telephone number of the physician. ii) state the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered), and iii) an indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have SERIOUSLY affected the student’s ability to write the exam.

You MUST use the recommended physician’s form found at

http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend_physician_statement

NOTE: the physician's office may be contacted to verify that the forms were completed by the physician.

b) Non-medical circumstances – tests/exams missed due to non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/bus ticket/receipt for emergency travel (with date of booking on ticket), etc. Airline/train/bus ticket/receipts for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure, and return dates. *Having to work at the time of a test is not considered a valid excuse for missing the test.*

4) The manner in which the missed examination (which has been legitimately documented) is handled will be at the discretion of the course director. E.g., In the case of a make-up exam, you must be prepared to write the test at the make-up date. Although the content to be examined will be the same, the format may or may not follow that of the original test/exam. YOU must check with me for the date and time of the make-up. A conflict in another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up (unless there is an examination in the other course at that time). You should be aware that if you miss the exam before the official drop date, you may not have the requisite feedback on your course work to determine if you need to drop the course or not. As a result, it is in your best interest to write the exam at the time it is scheduled.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) -

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/index-policies.html>

- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Cheating/Plagiarism/Impersonation

The University does not look favorably on cheating of any kind and the penalties for doing so are very harsh. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism. You can find them listed on pages 6-7 of the Undergraduate Psychology Supplemental Calendar. In summary, you can avoid problems by following some simple rules. a) Do your own work and present your own ideas in your own words. Do not merely repeat or reword sections from other sources. b) Don’t copy from friends or neighbors and don’t let friends or neighbors copy from you. c) If you have any doubts about the appropriateness of what you are doing -- ASK.

York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>

LECTURE SCHEDULE & ASSIGNED READINGS

Date		Lecture Topic	Readings
Sept. 15 th	Week 1	Psychological Testing and Assessment Historical, Cultural, Legal/Ethical Considerations	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
Sept. 22 nd	Week 2	Statistics Refresher Of Tests and Testing	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
Sept. 24 th		<i>Last day to enroll without permission of the course instructor.</i>	
Sept. 29 th	Week 3	Reliability Validity	Chapter 5 Chapter 6
Oct. 6 th	Week 4	Utility Test Development	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
Oct. 8 th		<i>Last day to enroll with permission of the course instructor.</i>	
Oct. 13 th	Week 5	Exam 1: 40% of Final Course Grade Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & Lectures of Sept. 15th, 22nd, 29th, Oct. 6th	
Oct. 20 th	Week 6	Intelligence Testing	Chapters 9 & 10
Oct. 27 th	Week 7	Assessment for Education	Chapter 11
Oct. 29 – Nov. 1		<i>Reading days. Classes, examinations, and tests will not be held. The University itself will be open and administrative services available.</i>	
Nov. 3 rd	Week 8	Personality Assessment	Chapters 12 & 13
Nov. 9 th		<i>Last day to withdraw from course without receiving a grade.</i>	
Nov. 10 th	Week 9	Exam 2: 35% of Final Course Grade Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & Lectures from Oct. 20th, 27th, Nov. 3rd.	
Nov. 17 th	Week 10	Clinical and Counseling Assessment	Chapter 14
Nov. 24 th	Week 11	Neuropsychological Assessment	Chapter 15
Dec. 1 st	Week 12	Assessment, Careers, and Business	Chapter 16
Dec. 7 th		<i>Last day of classes.</i>	
Dec. 9 th – 23 rd		Final Exam Period. Final exam to be scheduled by the Registrar. Date: TBA Final Exam: 25% of Final Course Grade Chapters 14, 15, 16 & Lectures from Nov. 17th, 24th, Dec. 1st.	