

COURSE SYLLABUS

Introduction to Assessment--CPSY 532--Fall, 2008

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Office Hours: Please arrange in advance

Course Objectives:

The student is introduced to all aspects of psychological assessment, including testing, interviewing, and observation. Technical aspects of psychological testing will be covered, including standardization, scoring, validity, reliability. The student will learn basic points of test administration, and will be introduced to several specific tests. Strategies for assessment will be reviewed, focusing on identifying the appropriate questions to ask, and the best techniques for acquiring the information necessary to answer those questions. The student will also learn how to present the results of an assessment to clients and other professionals.

Text: **Clinician's Thesaurus : The Guide to Conducting Interviews and Writing Psychological Reports** by *Edward L. Zuckerman*

The text is a reference book for report- and clinical note-writing, and as such there will not be weekly assigned text readings.

Course Requirements:

1. Attend and **participate** in class (25% of grade). We will do a lot of experiential work in teams, so attendance is very important. If you can't make it, please notify me as much in advance as possible.
2. Return assigned reflection papers (25% of grade)
3. Assessment "one sheet" (25% of grade) – each student will pick a test and make a reference guide to present to the class. I'll explain more as we go.
4. In-class clinical interview/report project: This consists of interviewing a "client," taking careful notes and writing an assessment report. (25% of grade)

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Introduction to Assessment--CPSY 532—SPRING 2008*Readings to be assigned***WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Sept. 9	Introduction—Fundamentals of Assessment, sources of information
Sept. 16	Interviewing, behavioral observations/mental status Interview teams meet
Sept. 23	Test development, reliability and validity
Sept. 30	Overview of standardized testing, popular assessment instruments TEAMS MEET
Oct. 7	Reading reports, response validity TEAMS MEET
Oct. 14	Intellectual/cognitive assessment, personality assessment TEAMS MEET
Oct. 21	Risk assessment (suicide assessment), ADHD
Oct. 28	Projective testing, learning disorders
Nov. 4	Presentation of testing “one sheets.”
Nov. 11	Turn in assessment reports, wrap up.