

Course Syllabus

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PSYC 5543 Psychological Assessment & Testing

[PSYC 5543 Syllabus Psychological Assessment.pdf](#) 
https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/files/210533792/download?download_frd=1

Course Description

This course addresses key concepts and applications of psychological assessment in the counseling process, including a review of foundational psychometric concepts and tools. The ability to select, administer and interpret tests and inventories is developed.

Testing time is the time for an increase in praise.

Sunday Adelaja, Pastor, Kyiv, Ukraine

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course. However, undergraduate work in Statistics will be very helpful.

Required Materials

Hayes, D. G. (2017). *Assessment in Counseling: Procedures and Practices*. American Counseling Association. ISBN 9781556203688.

The standard writing style for this course and for the Master of Science in Counseling (MSCP) Program is American Psychological Association (APA) style. If you are not familiar with APA (7th edition) style you should consider buying a copy of the APA manual. The APA section of the OWL (Online Writing Lab) at Perdue is an excellent resource for APA style

(https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_form)

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Supplementary Materials:

Hayduk, S. (2015). *Practical Statistics: A Gentle Introduction to Data Analysis*. Ronkonkoma, NY; Linus Learning. A free pdf version of this text is available on Canvas, under the Modules tab for our course.

Simmons C. & Lehmann P (2013) *Tools for Strengths-Based Assessment and Evaluation*. Springer
<https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/syllabus>

Chinnens, C., & Lohmann, H. (2013). *Tools for Strengthening Data Assessment and Evaluation*. Springer Publishing. 2013. eBook. Database: eBook Collection (EBSCOhost)

Accreditation

Southern Wesleyan University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate, and masters degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Southern Wesleyan University.

Program Learning Outcomes

- PLO#1** 1. Evaluate, critique and integrate the broad range of counseling theories, perspectives, and techniques that comprise contemporary mental health counseling.
- PLO#2** 2. Select, assess and critique the application of counseling theories, perspectives, and techniques to resolving case examples and real human problems.
- PLO#3** 3. Select and defend the application of ethical and professional values, legal standards, and regulations of clinical mental health counselors to a range of professional settings and interactions.
- PLO#4** 4. Explain and evaluate their own whole-person development.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

		Aligns with
CLO#1	Explain the role of and cultural-historical influences on assessment in the counseling process	PLO(s)# 1, 4
CLO#2	Assess psychometric instruments with regard to their psychometric properties and the personal/cultural characteristics of the expected test participants	PLO(s)# 1, 2, 3
CLO#3	Debate the application of different types of assessment instruments (e.g., personality, abilities, interests, intelligence, achievement) to a range of testing situations	PLO(s)# 2, 3

CLO#4 Select, administer, and interpret assessment instruments relevant to their professional activities

PLO(s)# 1, 4

Course Learning Assignments and Assessments

Grading

1.	Weekly Reading Review Papers	90 points (6 out of 7 papers @ 15 points each)
2.	Weekly Discussions	84 points (6 out of 7 discussions @ 14 points each)
3.	Weekly Projects	120 points (6 out of 7 “projects” @ 20 points each)
4.	Ancillary Assignments	8 points
Total		302

1. Weekly Reading Evaluation Papers – 90 points (6 out of 7 papers @ 15 points each)

Every week of the course, you are expected to write a review of the material (readings) that you have studied during the week. The reviews should be a minimum of 3 full and a maximum of 4 full double spaced, type-written or word-processed pages (10-12 point font size, and maximum 1 inch margins), and should follow a format wherein you summarize the article(s), chapters, and videos (as appropriate) and provide your comments. **Summary material MUST be no more than 1/2 of the paper.** A good rule of thumb is keep your summary of the course reading/video material to one to 1.5 pages (which usually means that the summary will be brief and general), and make the remainder of the review your comments, reactions, and analyses.

In your summaries of the chapters/articles/videos, focus on the general points and logic of the material. Try and refer to EVERY article, chapter, or video. In your comments, analysis, and reactions, mention THREE things that you specifically learned and want to remember from the course material. I encourage you to also include your analysis of and reactions to the material, including connecting the course material to your own experiences and to material that you have encountered in other courses or in your profession.

Keep in mind that I have read/seen all the material in the course; your job is to convince me that

you have read (AND have thought about) the material. Do NOT say that you thought an article/chapter/video was interesting, boring, or that you learned something, or, for that matter, that you thought an article/chapter/video was complicated, and you didn't understand it. It does not matter whether the material was interesting or boring; you are still expected to read it. If you learned something from an article/chapter/video, clearly and succinctly say what you learned, and relate your knowledge to other knowledge you already have. Finally, if you thought that an article/chapter/video was complicated (There is definitely some such material.) do not just say so; instead, show me what you picked up, and what you didn't. I want to see evidence that you worked to understand it.

In light of the fact that family emergencies, illnesses, and other hassles of life occur, I will drop the grade for one of the weekly reading evaluations for the purpose of calculating the final course grade. So, for example, if you are sick for a session, you can elect to not complete the weekly reading evaluation for the session. That will count as the dropped grade for the purposes of your final grade.

2. Weekly Discussions - 84 points (6 out of 7 discussions @ 14 points each)

Discussions are an integral part of this course and where much of our class integration will take place. Essentially, this is where we will have our class discussions. In a face-to-face course, if someone asked a question, everyone would benefit from hearing the response. Similarly, in the discussions, our responses to each other will prove useful to all of us. Discussion participation occurs every session of the course. Typically, **initial comments/responses for a session are due on Thursdays** by 11:55 p.m.; responses to peer comments are due on Sundays by 11:55 p.m. These contributions and responses should demonstrate critical thinking and reflection and should not simply be a statement of fact or a recitation of information presented in the readings.

All discussions are graded, unless otherwise noted on the discussion itself. In each session, there are 14 points allotted toward your grade for contributions to the Discussions. These roughly correspond to the 4 posts required for each Discussion (1 initial post by Thursday = 4 points, a second post = 4 points, and 2 responses @ 3 points each = 6 points). Failure to submit posts (especially the *initial* post) by the due period will result in a reduction of grades.

Keep in mind that the perceptions of other members of the class toward you may be almost entirely driven by your postings; consider the perception that you want others to have of you. All your online communications should be composed with fairness, honesty and tact. Spelling and grammar are very important in an online course. What you put into an online course illustrates your level of professionalism. For more information, see the rules of netiquette at

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html> [_ \(http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html\)](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

In light of the fact that family emergencies, illnesses, and other hassles of life occur, I will drop the grade for one of the weekly discussions for the purpose of calculating the final course grade. So, for example, if you are sick for a session, you can elect to not complete the discussion for the session. That will count as the dropped grade for the purposes of your final grade.

3. Weekly Projects - 120 points (6 out of 7 projects @ 20 points each)

Each week you have a small “project,” the nature of which varies according to the topic and the placement of the project in the course.

Week	Topic
1	1 & 2 Intro to Assessment
2	3 & 4 Ethical, Professional and Cultural Considerations in Assessment
3	5 & 8 Measurement Concepts & Mental Health Assessment
4	6 + 1 Measurement Statistics Plus
5	7 + 2 Initial Assessments Plus
6	15 + 3 Communicating Results Plus
7	16 + 4 Future Assessment Trends Plus

In light of the fact that family emergencies, illnesses, and other hassles of life occur, I will drop the grade for one of the weekly projects for the purpose of calculating the final course grade. So, for example, if you are sick for a session, you can elect to not complete the discussion for the session. That will count as the dropped grade for the purposes of your final grade.

4. Ancillary Assignments – 8 points

There are some assignments in the course that do not cover course content, but prepare the student for participation in and contributions to the course. These assignments are listed below. Details of each of the individual assignments are provided below and in the relevant assignment on Canvas. Completion of these assignments counts toward the course grade.

Assignment	Points	Due
Mid-term course evaluation quiz	3	Session 4
Final reflective course evaluation	5	Session 7

The mid-term course evaluation quiz is an online quiz in Canvas, consisting of 5 questions. This quiz occurs in Session 4

The final reflective course evaluation should be about 1 full page. Some elements to consider for your reflection are:

- 1) what you learned from the course (e.g., what 2-3 concepts or principles particularly stand out for you, that you expect to remember several years from now);
- 2) what (positive or negative) experiences did you have in this course?;
- 3) what suggestions would you have for the course - is there any aspect of the course (e.g., specific coursework, course load, readings, topics) with which you were particularly pleased, and any aspect of the course with which you were particularly dissatisfied?;

Keep in mind that you do not have to include all of these elements, but I do want you to reflect on experience with the course. Please let me know if you have any questions, or additional comments or concerns. The reflective paper is due during the last session.

GRADE EQUIVALENCY TABLE

All grades are reported in a system of eleven letter grades designated as "A" through "F" with appropriate plus and minus additions reflecting the following scheme. Each item of coursework (e.g., assignment, paper, etc.) will receive a mark out of the appropriate number of points (e.g., 12 out of 15 points). Your course grade will be determined by summing the marks of all your course work, and dividing by the total possible, then multiplying by 100 to give a final percentage. Then, the percentage may be converted to a final grade by using chart below.

Point Value (percentages in parentheses)	Letter Grade	Numeric Value for GPA
96.0-100%	A	4.0
92.0-95.9%	A-	3.7
88.0-91.9%	B+	3.4
84.0-87.9%	B	3.0
80.0-83.9%	B-	2.7

76.0-79.9%	C+	2.4
72.0-75.9%	C	2.0
68.0-71.9%	C-	1.7
64.0-67.9%	D+	1.4
60.0-63.9%	D	1.0
0-59.9%	F	0.0

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is a key to success in the course. Please refer to the Attendance Policy outlined in the Catalog for full details of the SWU policy on attendance.

Hybrid courses are a combination of online and classroom activities. Students are expected to attend all campus class meetings as well as to adhere to posted online deadlines for assignments. Face-to-face sessions are held once a week for three hours, and attendance is mandatory. Classroom attendance will be taken in class by the instructor.

Online attendance is based on completion of at least one designated assignment by the due date/time posted within the course site for each session. Online activities may include lecture, assignments, readings, discussion forums, and assessments (e.g. quizzes, tests).

Communication

The course site (Canvas) and SWU email are the primary tools for class communication, assignments, handouts, etc. All participants must have access to the course site and SWU e-mail and are expected to access them on a daily basis.

While it is important to maintain good communication with the instructor, Internet connectivity problems and home computer problems are not considered adequate excuses for missing assigned class work.

Technology Requirements

To be successful in this course, all participants are expected to ensure their technology equipment meets the [recommendations](http://www.swu.edu/about-swu/technology-services/computer-recommendations/) [_ \(http://www.swu.edu/about-swu/technology-services/computer-recommendations/\)](http://www.swu.edu/about-swu/technology-services/computer-recommendations/) provided by SWU's Technology Services

Students requiring technical support related to their courses or other SWU-provided technologies should send an e-mail to helpdesk@swu.edu or call 864.644.5050.

Academic Honesty

Honesty in all matters - including honesty in academic endeavors - is a valued principle at Southern Wesleyan University. It is the expectation of the university that all those joining the academic program will act with integrity in all matters.



No forms of academic honesty will be tolerated. Students are encouraged to help each other maintain these high standards. All academic dishonesty should be reported to the faculty directly. Faculty, upon evidence of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or misuse of another's intellectual property), either by voluntary confession, report of another student, or on the basis of work submitted, must follow the procedure outlined in the Catalog (under *Academic Honesty*). This includes but is not limited to a zero for the work involved, 10% course grade reduction, or a failing grade for the course. Unresolved cases may be appealed using the Appeal Process outlined in the Catalog (under *Academic Honesty*).












Accommodations for Students with Disabilities












Southern Wesleyan University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Accommodations can be made for students with disabilities, as outlined in "Services for Students with Disabilities," found in mySWU's Student tab under The Learning Center. Any student desiring accommodations must send the request and all documentation to the Academic Coordinator at the learning site where he/she attends classes. The Academic Coordinator will forward the materials to the Student Success Coordinator for Southern Wesleyan University.



Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Sun Jul 4, 2021	 Session 1 Discussion: Getting Started - Introduction to Psychological Testing https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732031	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 1 Intro to Psychological Assessment https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732034	due by 11:55pm

Date	Details	Due
Sun Jul 11, 2021	 Weekly Reading Review 1 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732041)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 2 Discussion: Ethical, Professional and Cultural Considerations in Assessment (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732030)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 2 Ethical, Professional and Cultural Considerations in Assessment (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732035)	due by 11:55pm
	 Weekly Reading Review 2 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732042)	due by 11:55pm
Sun Jul 18, 2021	 Session 3 Discussion: Measurement Concepts & Mental Health Assessment (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732029)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 3 Measurement Concepts & Mental Health Assessment (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732036)	due by 11:55pm
	 Weekly Reading Review 3 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732043)	due by 11:55pm
Sun Jul 25, 2021	 Midterm course evaluation quiz (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732024)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 4 Discussion: Measurement Statistics PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732028)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 4 Measurement Statistics PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732037)	due by 11:55pm
	 Weekly Reading Review 4 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732044)	due by 11:55pm

Date	Details	Due
Sun Aug 1, 2021	 Session 5 Discussion: Initial Assessments PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732027)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 5 Initial Assessments PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732038)	due by 11:55pm
	 Weekly Reading Review 5 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732045)	due by 11:55pm
Sun Aug 8, 2021	 Session 6 Communicating Results PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732039)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 6 Discussion: Communicating Results PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732026)	due by 11:55pm
	 Weekly Reading Review 6 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732046)	due by 11:55pm
Sun Aug 15, 2021	 Reflective final course evaluation (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732032)	due by 11:55pm
	 Session 7 Future Assessment Trends PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732040)	due by 11:55pm
	 Weekly Reading Review 7 (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732047)	due by 11:55pm
	 Roll Call Attendance (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732033)	
	 Session 7 Discussion: Future Assessment Trends PLUS (https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3299261/assignments/32732025)	