Syllabus
Psychology 5402-01
Tests & Measurement
Thursday 9:00 AM - 11:45 PM

Professor: Richard L. Griffith
Office: 125 School of Psychology
Phone: 768-8000 x8872
Office Hours: 1:30 - 3:30 MT or by appointment

Objectives: Psychological Measurement does not take place in a vacuum. Therefore, it is important that students develop an understanding of the social and legal issues surrounding psychological testing. My goals for you in this course are to increase your knowledge of psychometric theory & increase your comfort and abilities related to analyzing and interpreting data sets. Finally, students must show the ability to develop & critique tests based on federal regulations and professional standards.

Required Reading

Texts:


Required articles are listed in the readings assigned for each week. Students are responsible for acquiring the required reading materials. Occasionally, I will bring additional readings to class. You are expected to keep up with the readings and actively participate in class discussion based on the material in the readings. In addition, lecture will extend beyond the reading list. You are responsible for all materials presented in this course.

Projects
Data Analysis

A series of data sets and instructions will be distributed to your group throughout the semester. These data sets contain the information you will need to conduct a criterion, and construct validation study. It will be your responsibility to analyze the data sets and prepare a written report summarizing your findings. The reports will be evaluated for their correctness, format, and organization (layout, tables, figures etc.). Reports not conforming to instructions will not be accepted, however students will be given the opportunity to re-do those reports.

Content Valid Test

As part of a testing team, you will be developing a content valid selection test (essentially an aptitude test) for the position of Psychometrician for the State of Florida. Your team will have a content domain assigned from which to develop your test items. Each exam should be made up of 100 multiple-choice items, with 3 alternatives. In addition, you should support your test with the appropriate evidence (i.e. job analysis information, etc.) and should support your test item development with a test specification table. Finally, you should be prepared to discuss your test and your choices for items, alternatives, etc.

Critique

Your team will each also be assigned another team’s test to critique. We will be going over the tests in class & your team should critically evaluate the test, looking for issues such as 1) item construction 2) representativeness 3) plausibility of alternatives 4) specification table. You will be graded on the thoroughness of your review.

Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Multiple choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Comprehensive Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Attendance - It is expected that students will attend all scheduled class sessions. Only absences related to illness, emergencies or family matters will be excused. Although I do not keep formal attendance, class size is small enough that your absence will be noted. Excessive absences will result in a grade of “F” for this course. While e-mailing electronic documents has become an acceptable method of completing assignments, the student is responsible for confirming it has been received. When in doubt a hard copy is still the best answer.

Plagiarism – Any student presenting substantial portions of work found elsewhere without proper citation, or allowing their own work to be copied, will be immediately dismissed from the program.
Class schedule

Week 1 – Jan 13th  
**Introduction, Measurement Theory & Testing Ethics**

The Rights and Responsibilities of Test Takers: Guidelines and Expectations.  

Week 2 – Jan 20th  
**Administering Tests / Practical Concerns**

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Week 3 – Jan 27th  
**Reliability – Classical Approaches**


Week 4 – Feb 3rd  
**Validity**


*Principles for the validation and use of personnel selection procedures Standards for educational and psychological tests.*

Week 5 – Feb 10th  
**Exam**

Week 6 – Feb 17th  
**Theories of Intelligence**

*Criterion Validity Project Assigned*

Collis & Messick (2001) Chapters 2, 5, 13

**Week 7 – Feb 24**\(^{th}\)  
Guest Lecture

Collis & Messick (2001) Chapters 3, 4, 19

**Week 8 – March 3**\(^{rd}\)  
Testing for Intelligence

Collis & Messick (2001) Chapters 16


**Week 9 – March 10**\(^{th}\)  
SPRING BREAK

**Week 10 – March 17**\(^{th}\)  
Self-Report Surveys & Personality Testing

*Criterion Validity Assignment Due !!*

Collis & Messick (2001) Chapter 6


**Week 11 - March 24th**  
**Self-Report Surveys & Personality Testing**

*(Construct Validity Project Assigned)*


**Week 12 – March 31st**  
**Nassau County Debate**


**Week 13 – April 7th**  
**Content Valid Test Construction**

*(Construct Validity Assignment Due & Content Validity Test Assigned)*


**Week 14 – April 14**

*Cut Off Scores*

*Content Valid Test Due*


**20th Annual SIOP Conference, Los Angeles, California, April 15-17, 2005**

**Week 15- April 21**

*Item Analysis*

*Test Critique Presentations*


**May 2** - **May 7**

**Finals Week / Comprehensive Examination!**

**Dates and assignments are subject to change**