

PSYCHOLOGY AND RESEARCH IN EDUCATION 951
PSYCHODIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT
FALL 2001

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Office hours: Tuesdays 1PM to 3PM

Course Objectives*

1. To gain a better understanding of assessment issues relevant to counseling psychologists.
2. To acquire a scientist-practitioner approach to assessment and diagnosis.
3. To conduct clinical interviews which incorporate social history, mental status examination, and record review and to write a synopsis of the findings.
4. To administer, score, and interpret the MMPI-2 and to write MMPI-2 reports.
5. To administer, score, and interpret the WAIS-III and to write WAIS-III reports.
6. To write integrative test reports utilizing a comprehensive clinical interview, record review, MMPI-2, WAIS-III results.
7. To develop critical thinking skills that will help you use information gained from assessment to differentiate between normal behavior and psychopathology, and to differentiate diagnoses.
8. To “think” about assessment and to develop your philosophy and approach to assessment.

*This course provides basic knowledge about diagnostic methods and test usage.

Required Readings

Garb, H. E. (1999). Studying the clinician. Washington DC: American Psychological Association. (Ch. 2, 7)

Greene, R. L. (2000). The MMPI-2 interpretive manual (2nd ed.). Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Kunce, J., & Anderson, W. P. (1976). Normalizing the MMPI. Journal of Clinical Psychology, 32, 776-780.

Sattler, J. M. (2001). Assessment with children. San Diego: Jerome M. Sattler Publishing.

Spengler, P. M., Strohmmer, D. C., Dixon, D. N., & Shivy, V. A. (1995). A scientist-practitioner model:

Implications for training, practice, and research. The Counseling Psychologist, 23, 506-534.

Zimmerman, M. (1994). Interview guide for evaluating DSM-IV psychiatric disorders and the mental status

examination. Philadelphia PA: Psych Press Products.

Selected readings on the thought disorders, forensics, culture, masquerades.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

1. Class attendance, preparation for class, and participation (10%).
2. Refine a “philosophy and approach to assessment” statement and construct an assessment portfolio (20%).
3. Clinical interview synopsis (10%). Specific evaluation criteria will be provided.
4. Two MMPI-2 written test reports (10% each for a total of 20%). Specific evaluation criteria will be provided.
5. Two WAIS-III written test reports (10% each for a total of 20%). Specific evaluation criteria will be provided.
6. Final integrative test report (20%). Each student will conduct a clinical interview, record review, and administer score, and interpret the MMPI-2 and the WAIS-III. Results should be integrated into a written, comprehensive test report and feedback should be shared with the examinee. Specific evaluation criteria will be provided.

August 28	Introduction
September 4	Syllabus Review, Psychodiagnosis: Hitting a Moving Target, What Is Psychopathology?, Diagnosing Health & Psychopathology
September 11	The Levels of Diagnostic Uncertainty, Psychological Masquerades, Clinical Interviewing
September 18	Clinical Interviewing and the Mental Status Exam (Practice Sessions), Ethics and Assessment
September 25	Synopsis Due , Assessment in the Current Healthcare System, Culture and Assessment
October 2	MMPI-2 Introduction , MMPI-2 Scales (Practice Sessions), Conducting Difficult Interviews
October 9	Forensic Assessment, MMPI-2 Interpretation (Practice Sessions)
October 16	MMPI-2 Interpretation (Practice Sessions)
October 23	MMPI-2 Report Due , MMPI-2 Profiles
October 30	MMPI-2 Profiles, Differentiating Diagnoses
November 6	MMPI-2 Report Due , MMPI-2 Review, Diagnosing Along Axis I and Axis II of the DSM-IV
November 13	WAIS-III Introduction
November 20	WAIS-III Interpretation (Practice Sessions)
November 27	WAIS-III Report Due , Subtleties of Interpretation
December 4	WAIS-III Report Due , Writing Integrative Reports
December 11	Integrative Test Report Due , Wrap-up