

Individual Cognitive Assessment
Spring 2024, Tuesdays 8:45 AM – 11:30 AM
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Course Instructor
Jaylene Sosa and Nia Joyner – Course Assistants

The purpose of this course is to develop competency in cognitive assessment of children, adolescents and adults. This course integrates the skills of administration and scoring of major cognitive assessment instruments (i.e., WISC-V, WAIS-IV, WJ-IV COG) in the context of recent conceptualizations of intelligence and research. An overview of the Stanford Binet Intelligence Scale and other tests will also be presented. The Cattell-Horn-Carroll Theory of Cognitive Abilities will be contrasted with other conceptualizations of intelligence. The conceptualizations of intelligence will examine the historical and current contributions of scientists, journalists, and politicians. We will discuss how tests have been developed, used, and misused depending on political, historical, and social contexts. There is no single elegant theory of intelligence and that leaves opportunity for multiple interpretations as well as false narratives.

The APA/AERA Ethics Codes and Professional Standards pertinent to testing and dissemination of test results will be discussed along with educational, employment and social implications of assessment and development of communication skills and appropriate interventions. Issues of assessing culturally and linguistically diverse individuals are integrated throughout the course as are systemic cultural contributors to the “achievement gap”. The topic of Learning Disorders is also introduced.

In order to achieve these skills the student will:

1. Know the socio-political historical bases of psychological assessment
2. Apply psychometric concepts to intelligence tests through test evaluation, test selection and test interpretation
3. Demonstrate proficiency in the administration and scoring of the Wechsler Scales of Intelligence and Woodcock Johnson Cognitive Battery
4. Apply the scientific problem solving model of psychological assessment to an analysis of referrals and use of tests
5. Apply the Cattell, Horn, and Carroll (CHC) theory of intelligence through test analysis and interpretation, oral and written communication of test findings
6. Describe the historical context of Learning Disability

7. Practice administering WISC V, WAIS IV, & WJ-IV
8. Demonstrate proficiency in observational skills so that client test taking behaviors are integrated with quantitative, content and process information
9. Write psychological reports which communicate the results of the assessment in an accurate and clearly presented manner
10. Evaluate structural, systemic, information processing, and multiple explanations of intelligence
11. Demonstrate proficiency with linguistic and culturally diverse populations
12. Demonstrate beginning proficiencies in case management including initiating a new case, taking a detailed history, administering a battery of measures, meeting with a peer supervisor, writing an integrated report and being supervised by a doctoral level psychologist

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

We will be starting with the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (V) and then before the spring break we will transition to the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS IV). There are some assignments that will require you to administer each test to someone else. The WAIS may be administered to someone 16 years old and older. Further information will be shared in class. By the end of the semester, students are expected to reach a beginning mastery level of each test that will be demonstrated during a competency evaluation.

Each student is expected to obtain proficiency in test administration as determined through course assistant observations of test administrations, with the student following the standardized administration instructions carefully.

Each student is expected to reach scoring mastery on each set of test protocols. Mastery means correct administration of each test and scoring as judged by the course assistant and Dr. Geyer. The expectation is that by the end of the semester makes no more than one error per-subtest and then after feedback makes no errors per subtest at the competency evaluation.

Each student will meet with the course assistant for 4 mandatory lab appointments. The class will meet for Labs on the WISC V, WAIS IV and WJ. Two of these will be larger group meetings, and two will be smaller group

meetings to observe and give feedback on test administration. These lab dates and times will be arranged with the course assistant and occur outside of scheduled class time. This is anticipated to occur in person.

Final examination. This is comprised of essay questions and protocol scoring.

Competency examinations on the WISC-V, WAIS-IV and WJ will be scheduled with both the course assistant and Dr. Geyer. This is anticipated to occur in person.

Textbooks:

Sattler, J. M. (2024) *Assessment of Children, Cognitive Foundations and Applications, Seventh Edition*, La Mesa, CA: Jerome Sattler.

Sattler, J. M. & Ryan, J.J. (2009). *Assessment with the WAIS-IV*. La Mesa, CA: Jerome M. Sattler.

Gould, S. J. (1996). *The mismeasure of man*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

Suggested Supplementary Textbooks:

Flanagan, D. P., & Harrison, P. L. (Ed.) (2011). *Contemporary intellectual assessment: Theories, tests, and issues*. New York: Guilford Press.

Roid, G. H., & Barram, A. (2004). *Essentials of Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales (SB5) assessment*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

There are other Essentials of Psychological Assessment texts available for each test. Affordable- easily found on Amazon.

There are several excellent basic texts about basic psychometric concepts. For those of you who prefer to read from different texts we recommend the following:

Anastasi, A. & Urbina (7thed.) (1997). *Psychological testing*. New Jersey: Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall.

Cronbach,L. (1991). *Essentials of Psychological Testing*. Any edition.

TESTING LIBRARY:

Each testing kit must be signed out (if you are part of a safe cohort the kit will be shared and only one of you will sign out the kit). Please inform the teaching assistant of any missing pieces immediately. You will be responsible for protecting the integrity of each test and adhering to the APA code of ethics. You will also be responsible for any loss, damage, or theft that occurs while the test is signed out to you. At this time we continue to need to return testing kits after they are used. In addition, all test kits are to be returned by the last day of class. Failure to return test materials will result in a grade of INCOMPLETE.

You will be learning to administer various tests that are not only copyright protected but also protected under the ethical standards of APA and NASP. It is our responsibility to make sure that you protect these tests and also use them under strict guidelines. It is most important that you protect the test material and its contents. Since you will be learning these tests through practice administrations, it is essential that you only administer these tests to either a student peer in this class or to another person who signs an informed consent agreement. It will be your responsibility to find appropriate participants- due to the Covid 19 pandemic the participant must be a safe person for the student. **Please make sure a consent form is attached to each submitted protocol. Test administrations are for training purposes only.**

SCHEDULE OF TEST PRACTICE ASSIGNMENTS:

- Jan. 30 WAIS practice administrations
- Feb. 6 WAIS-IV dummy protocol scored- Jaylene scored
- Feb. 20 WAIS-IV administered and scored (ages 7-16)
- Mar. 5 WISC-V dummy protocol scored-Nia scored
- SPRING BREAK March 9-17**
- Mar. 19 WISC-V administered and scored. (ages 16-95)
- Apr. 2 WJ-IV core subtests administered and scored (5-95)
- Apr. 16 Competency Exams
- Apr. 23 Comp Make-Ups (if needed)
- Apr. 30 Write Ups

TOPIC OUTLINE:

- I. Introduction Jan. 16
 - A. Review syllabus and assignments
 - B. Obtaining practice subjects
 - C. Purposes of clinical assessment
 - D. Stanford Binet
- II. Introduction to Testing with the WAIS-IV: Jan. 23- Jan. 30
 - A. Text on basic testing
 - B. Reliability & Validity Sattler Chaps.
 - C. Flanagan and Harrison, Chaps. 1,2,14
 - D. Gould, pp. 21-141.
 - E. WAIS IV Introduction
- III. Task of the Practitioner Feb 6
 - A. The Boston Process Approach
 - B. Sattler, Chap. 10
 - C. Gould, pp. 143-263.
 - D. Flanagan and Harrison, pp. 192-202, Chap. 10.
 - E. WAIS-IV Tutorial

- IV. WISC V & Test Scores Feb. 13- Feb. 20
 - A. Types of Test Scores
 - B. PRACTICE LAB: Jaylene
 - C. Sattler Chaps. 1-4
 - D. Flanagan and Harrison, Chaps. 3-9
 - E. WISC-V Tutorial
- V. March 5
 - A. WISC-V
 - B. **WECHLSER REVIEW**

3/9-3/17/2024 Spring Break

- VI. Models of Human Intelligence-March 19
 - A. Product & Process models
 - B. CHC Theory
 - C. Factorial models
 - D. Nature/nurture arguments
 - E. WJ IV
- VI. WJ IV- March 26
 - A. Sattler, Chap. 11
 - B. WJ IV
- VII. WJ IV/NATURE versus NURTURE Apr. 2
 - A. Sattler Chaps. 5, 6, 12
 - B. Gould, pp. 264-350.
 - C. PRACTICE LAB- REVIEW WJ: partners
 - D. Assessment Review
- VIII. Review- April 9
 - COURSE ASSISTANT REVIEW SESSION**
- X. Competency Exams Apr. 16 2 subtests of Wechsler and 2 of WJ
- XI. Clinical Assessment-Reporting the results Apr. 23
 - A. Sattler, Chap. 21
 - B. Sample reports
 - C. Rhodes, Ochoa & Ortiz
 - D. Culturally Competent Testing
- XII. Learning disorders April 30

- A. Sattler Chaps. 5, 6, 12
- B. Gould, pp. 264-424.
- C. Neisser, U. et al. (1996). Intelligence: Knowns and unknowns. *American Psychologist*. 51,2,77-101.
- A. Sternberg, R. (Ed.) (1997). Intelligence and lifelong learning. Special Issue *American Psychologist*, 52, 10.

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<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>