

PSYCHOLOGY 304: PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING AND MEASUREMENT

Winter 2009 – Sections 001 and 002

Monday and Wednesday – 9:00 -9:50 am

374 MARB

Instructor:	Mikle South, Ph.D.	Office:	245 TLRB, 422-4058
Email:	BYU.Psychology@gmail.com	Hours:	Wednesdays 10:00-11:00
IM:	BYU.Psychology@gmail.com		and by appointment

Laboratory Section, Times, and Instructors:

Section 001: 9:00-9:50 am Friday 102 SWKT (Kat Tumblin: limegreen18@gmail.com)
Section 002: 9:00-9:50 am Friday 105 SWKT (Katie Taylor: kaytee6387@gmail.com)

Graduate Instructor:

Alicia Sorensen: aliciasorensen08@gmail.com

Required Texts:

1. Kaplan, R. M., & Saccuzzo, D. P. (2004). *Psychological testing: Principles, applications, and issues (7th ed.)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.
2. American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.)*. New York, NY: American Psychological Association.

Course Objectives:

1. Help students become informed regarding psychological testing and measurement.
2. Provide students the foundation of core skills needed to continue in/successfully complete, the psychology major.
3. Assist interested students to prepare themselves for graduate-level study in the social sciences by furnishing them with a solid introduction to the theory and practice of psychological testing.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

Each BYU program has developed a set of expected learning outcomes. These will help you understand the objectives of the curriculum in the program, including this class. To learn the expected student outcomes for the psychology and go to https://learningoutcomes.byu.edu/wiki/index.php/Psychology_BS#Expected_Learning_Outcomes>. We welcome feedback on the expected learning outcomes. Comments or suggestions can be sent to FHSS@byu.edu>.

BlackBoard:

All important course materials will be posted to BlackBoard and can be accessed via your regular Route Y account. Please check BlackBoard regularly in order to make sure you are current on assignments, grades, and other aspects of the course. **Please ensure that communications sent via Blackboard are directed to your current valid email address. ←IMPORTANT**

FHSS Computer Labs:

Assignments which require SPSS can be completed in the SWKT computer labs 102, 105, 109, 112.

Course Requirements:

Class Attendance: Attendance is required as we will be dealing with issues and examples not necessarily covered in the text. To help ensure attendance, quizzes will be used. Fifteen quizzes (worth 10 points each) will be administered throughout the semester covering the text, discussion, or assigned readings. The lowest two scores will be thrown out. We will learn your names and expect you will answer questions and offer comments on the material in class.

To avoid the disruption that the use of electronic devices causes to other students, none will be allowed in class or in lab sections. Phones and other e-devices must be kept put away at all times. Students wishing to use laptops in order to take notes in class are allowed to do so, provided they sit in the front row while using

their computers-no exceptions. The penalty for violating this policy is five grade points per occurrence. If Dr. South's phone rings audibly during class, all in attendance receive two bonus points per occurrence.

Lab attendance is required. Attendance will be taken and will be worth 5% of your final grade. You have the opportunity to do much of your project in lab. The more engaged you are in lab, the lighter the out-of-class load will be. If you will be unable to attend lab, please talk (in advance) to your TA.

Class Preparation: It is our expectation that you will read the material, as listed in the course schedule, *prior to class* so that you might better understand the topic and that we might have more productive discussions in class. This will help you better understand and retain the material providing an improved educational experience. Class lectures and discussions will focus on providing examples and in-depth explanations of the principles described in the text. We will NOT cover every principle in the text, and you are responsible for learning that material on your own.

We have found that students find it easier to glean the most important information when they bring the PowerPoint slides to class in paper or electronic form. In addition, in order to complete the assignments, you will need memory storage (i.e., a flashdrive), and signature card funds to print on campus. If you miss class, please (a) speak to Ms. Sorensen and/or your TA; (b) obtain notes from at least one trusted classmate, (c) check BlackBoard for any newly posted material, and (d) attend office hours for additional clarification when needed.

Exams: Exams will cover the readings, lectures, class discussion, practice exercises, lab exercises, and other areas as determined by the instructor. Exam format will include multiple choice, matching, true/false, short answer, and essay responses. All exams will be administered at the Testing Center (<https://testing.byu.edu>) and must be taken during the dates indicated on the course schedule. Study guides will be provided for each exam. We encourage you to form study groups to work on assignments and review exam material. This will help you in this class and create a model for effective study in graduate school. I also encourage you to contact Dr. South, the graduate instructor, or TAs for help. To repeat an important point: please seek out help as early as possible in the semester and whenever you feel like you are struggling and getting behind. We are interested in your learning and welfare, and it is easier to provide support for you to accomplish your goals when you let us know as soon as you are feeling overwhelmed. There will be no test make-ups except under extreme conditions that require prior approval from Dr. South. Cheating of any kind will result in 0 for that test, and possibly other University sanctions. Dr. South's door is open to discuss concerns before and after exams.

Course Project – Test Development: An important principle of testing and measurement is to evaluate performance and learning across multiple domains, and not solely through multiple choice examinations. Thus, you will participate in a series of assignments that will allow you to actively apply the concepts learned in this course. The project will be done in groups of three, so carefully select with whom you will work-you will share the same grade as the others in your group! This project is worth about 1/3 of your grade and is composed of smaller assignments, each of which addresses important aspects of research and writing. You and your partners will (a) conceptualize and develop a psychological test; (b) write items for the test; (c) collect and analyze data; (d) provide a brief written summary of the results of an item analysis. This process will be completed over the entire semester, and each group will complete a final polished paper as outlined below. The assignments are covered in greater detail in lab materials:

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| (a) Assignment 01: Article Review | (g) Assignment 07: Abstract |
| (b) Assignment 02: Introduction and Topic Proposal | (h) Assignment 08: Writing Review |
| (c) Assignment 03: Question Domain | (i) Assignment 09: Rough Draft (Peer Review) |
| (d) Assignment 04: Test Administration and Methods | (j) Assignment 10: Final Paper |
| (e) Assignment 05: SPSS Analysis and Results | (k) Assignment 11: Presentation |
| (f) Assignment 06: Discussion | (l) Assignment 12: Meeting with TA |

Extra Credit: In order to encourage involvement in the academic community, extra credit will be offered for attending certain activities. You may earn up to 25 points of extra credit throughout the semester. Each extra credit opportunity must be completed by the last day of classes (04/14/2009).

- Dr. South will indicate when certain University Forums/Devotionals, CES Firesides, or other on-campus lectures seem particularly relevant for psychology and this class (he takes suggestions). Up to ten points may be earned for attending two of these: each lecture you attend is worth up to five points. In order to receive credit you must write a one-page summary/reflection paper on the topic of the lecture and submit via email (byu.psychology@byu.edu) WITHIN ONE WEEK of the event.
- Six points may be earned by participating in two different research experiments (three points for each). In order to receive credit, the researchers must contact me with your name informing me of your participation. You are responsible to ensure that the researchers provide evidence of your participation to Dr. South, in a timely fashion.
- Three points may be earned by completing a midsemester course evaluation that will be provided by Dr. South; and five points for completing the end of the semester evaluation through Route Y.
- There may be points distributed at random by the professor or teaching assistants.

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be calculated on the number of points you earn from examinations, attendance, assignments, and group project divided by the total number of points possible. A general rule of thumb for undergraduate college courses is "2-3 hours of study out of class for every hour in class". A 'C' is an acceptable grade and a 'B' a very good grade, while an 'A' represents an outstanding level of accomplishment even in comparison with peers who are often excellent students. We will award grades of C-, D, UW, or E only after individual consideration concerning whether the student's performance in the course merits such a grade.

A	930-1000	94-100%	C	700-749	72-76%
A-	900-929	90-93%	C-	650-699	69-71%
B+	880-899	88-89%	D+	600-649	65-69%
B	830-879	83-87%	D	550-599	60-65%
B-	800-829	80-82%	D-	500-549	56-59%
C+	750-799	77-79%	E	499 & >	<56 %

	Points Possible	% of Grade
Exams	500	50%
Exam I	150	
Exam II	150	
Final Exam	200	
Course Project	320	32%
Assignment 01: Article Review	5	
Assignment 02: Introduction and Topic Proposal	20	
Assignment 03: Question Domain	20	
Assignment 04: Test Administration and Methods	25	
Assignment 05: SPSS Analysis and Results	25	
Assignment 06: Discussion	25	
Assignment 07: Abstract	10	
Assignment 08: Writing Review	20	
Assignment 09: Rough Draft (Peer Review)	25	
Assignment 10: Final Paper	100	
Assignment 11: Presentation	25	
Assignment 12: Meeting with TA	20	
Quizzes (In Class)	130	13%
Lab Attendance	50	5%
TOTAL	1000	100%

BYU Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: All students sign the honor code which obligates them to not engage in plagiarism or cheating; clear instances of cheating on exams or plagiarism on papers will be noticed and a 0 will be automatically given for that assignment. penalties for related assignments will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. The instructor will also report the incident to the University Office of Student Affairs.

We do understand that you may need to learn how to correctly cite sources and that access to the internet has made it easy to cheat in a variety of ways. Thus, we will take time in class you systematically lead you through the paper-writing process and give you support in your assignment. See <http://www.byu.edu/honorcode> for specific examples of intentional plagiarism, inadvertent plagiarism, and fabrication and falsification.

Discrimination: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the University but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender based discrimination, please contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895 or 367-5689 (24-hours) or contact the Honor Code Office at 422-2847.

Students with Disabilities: BYU is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office at 422-2767. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated by the SSD office. If you need assistance or feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-282 ASB.

Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assignments
1/5	Introduction and Course Overview	
1/7	Basic Concepts	Chapter 1
1/12	Norms and Basic Statistics	Chapter 2
1/14	Norms and Basic Statistics	
1/19	No Class—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
1/21	Writing and Evaluating Test Items	Chapter 6
1/26	Writing and Evaluating Test Items	
1/28	Correlation and Regression	Chapter 3
2/2	Correlation and Regression	
2/4	Reliability	Chapter 4
2/9	Reliability	
2/9-2/13*	EXAM I: Chapters 1-4, 6	Testing Center
2/11	Validity	Chapter 5
2/17 (TUESDAY)	Validity	
2/18	Test Administration	Chapter 7
2/23	Interviewing Techniques	Chapter 8
2/25	Theories of Intelligence/Binet	Chapter 9
3/2	Wechsler Intelligence Scales	Chapter 10
3/4	Wechsler Intelligence Scales	
3/9	Tests of Ability in Education	Chapter 11
3/9-3/13*	EXAM II: Chapters 5, 7-11	Testing Center
3/11	Group Ability Tests	Chapter 12
3/16	Group Ability Tests	
3/18	Structured Personality Tests	Chapter 13
3/23	Projective Personality Tests	Chapter 14
3/25	Cognitive/Behavioral Assessment	Chapter 15
3/30	Cognitive/Behavioral Assessment	
4/1	Neuropsychological Assessment	Chapter 17
4/6	Neuropsychological Assessment	
4/8	Ethics	Chapter 21
4/13	Applications	
4/17-4/22	FINAL EXAM: Chapters 12-15, 17, 21	Testing Center

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to change schedule and syllabus at any time. I will let you know when this happens via Blackboard and in-class announcements.

* Saturday the 14th is a late day: the test may be taken for \$5 fee