This is the lab section for the first semester of a two-semester sequence on psychological assessment. The goal of the course is to give students practice in administering, scoring, and interpreting assessment instruments and writing assessment reports. Students will gain the skills to: (1) conduct a semi-structured clinical interview; (2) choose appropriate assessment techniques to learn about clients’ concerns and difficulties; (3) provide accurate, clear and effective interpretation of assessment results; (4) develop recommendations tailored to the needs of clients, and (5) provide helpful feedback to clients in person and through written reports. The schedule of class topics is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Date</th>
<th>Topics Covered</th>
<th>To Prepare for Lab…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 27</td>
<td>Introductions &amp; overview of Assessment Procedures; Introduction to WAIS-IV Administration.</td>
<td>Read Essentials of WAIS-IV Ch. 2 &amp; 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>NO LAB – Labor Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>WAIS-IV administration and scoring</td>
<td>Review WAIS Manual.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 24</td>
<td><strong>WAIS-IV lab practicals</strong></td>
<td>Bring everything you need for a real administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Practice risk assessment; Writing an intellectual assessment report; Intro to WJ Cog &amp; Ach</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>WJ Cog administration and scoring</td>
<td>Read Essentials of WJ Cog Ch. 2 &amp; 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>WJ Ach administration and scoring</td>
<td>Read Essentials of W-J Ach. Ch. 2 &amp; 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>WISC-IV administration and scoring</td>
<td>Read WISC-IV Manual; Essentials of WISC-IV Ch. 2 &amp; 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 29</td>
<td>WISC-IV administration and scoring</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5</td>
<td><strong>WISC-IV practicals</strong></td>
<td>Bring everything you need for a real administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12</td>
<td>Beery VMI</td>
<td>Read Beery VMI Manual.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 19</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26</td>
<td>Intro to other tests: DAS; LD/ADHD instruments; Nelson-Denny administration and scoring.</td>
<td>Read ND Manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 3</td>
<td>Integrating tests, providing client feedback, &amp; wrap-up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Schedule volunteers only AFTER having passed your practical for the WAIS-IV and WISC-IV. Your adult assessment volunteers will be the same as your Motivational Interviewing course volunteers. You are responsible for recruiting 2 children for your child assessment administrations (more information about this to follow).
Adult volunteer 1: Clinical Interview, WAIS, WJ Cog
Adult volunteer 2: Clinical Interview, WAIS, WJ Ach
Child volunteer 1: Parent/Child Clinical Interview, WISC-IV,
Child volunteer 2: Parent/Child Clinical Interview, WISC-IV, Beery VMI

Written Assignments/Reports:
- 1 WAIS interpretative report (with clinical interview)
- 1 integrated WAIS + WJ Cognitive (selected subtests) + WJ Achievement (selected subtests) report (with clinical interview)
- 1 WISC interpretive report (with parent interview)
- 1 integrated WISC + VMI report (with parent interview)
(You should turn in reports first to the Lab TAs at least a week before they are due.)

**Protocols for practice administrations should be scored and turned in within 48-hours of their administration. Videotaped interviews can be turned in earlier than the due date listed above.

Grade for Lab: (25% of total grade for PSYC 810)

Lab Grading Criteria (100 points possible)

- **Assessment Proficiencies**
  - 16 points - WISC-IV
  - 16 points - WAIS-IV
  - 32 points – Total Proficiency Score
- **Accuracy in Administering and Scoring Protocols**
  - 10 points - WAIS-IV
  - 10 points - WAIS-IV
  - 6 points - WJ Achievement
  - 6 points - WJ Cognitive
  - 10 points - WISC-IV
  - 10 points - WISC-IV
  - 6 points - VMI
  - 58 points – Total Protocol Accuracy Score
- **Participation - 10 points**
  - Timely and thorough completion of all test protocols and tapes
  - Completion of interviews in a professional manner
  - Lab test administration practicals
  - Protocol scoring accuracy and effort; learning from corrections

Lab Instructors will provide feedback on your interviewing, administration and scoring, report writing, and general professional interaction skills. You will turn in your protocols and videotaped interviews to your Lab Instructors for review and feedback. They will grade your work and you will re-submit unsatisfactory work until it is satisfactory. **You will be charged a lab fee at the end of the semester for the cost of protocols and copies incurred.**

Prior to administering any testing instrument to a volunteer, you will: practice administering the instrument in lab; thoroughly read the manual and essentials book; and practice administering the instrument outside of lab/class (with a classmate); and for the WAIS and WISC pass a lab practical competency exam administered by your lab instructor. A “passing” grade is 90% or above.
Volunteers: You will recruit adult volunteers through the GMU research participant pool and child volunteers from the community. At all times, you must behave with the volunteers in the same manner that you would with actual clients. Thus, you cannot assess volunteers with whom you have any type of outside relationship (i.e., a student in one of your labs; a co-worker; a relative; etc.). You are to conduct yourself in a professional manner at all times (e.g., arrive on time to appointments; contact volunteer if appointment must be changed or cancelled; and dress and conduct yourself professionally).

Honor Code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work. Information about Honor Code policies is available at http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/ All students must follow the American Psychological Association 2002 Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Required Books


Official Communications via GMU E-mail: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail accounts, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

If you are a student with disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 709-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Last day to add: September 4. Last day to drop: September 28