

PSYC*4290, Course Outline: Fall 2023

General Information

DUE to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic some courses are being offered virtually and some face to face. **This course is offered** using the Face-to-Face format. The course has set day, time, and location of class.

Course Title: Psychological Measurement

Course Description:

This course focuses on training students how to conduct research such that measurement theory guides measure selection and construction. Consequences of measurement theory (reliability/validity) for the accuracy of research findings and interpretation of test scores are also covered. A variety of individual difference variables are examined with an emphasis on how measurement strategies differ depending on the nature of the construct.

Credit Weight: 0.5 credits

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: Fall

Class Schedule and Location: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:30am -12:20 pm, ROZH 103 (Guelph Campus)

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr Rebecca Pister (She/Her)

Instructor Email: rpister@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: Online (Zoom) Thursdays from 1-2pm

GTA Information

GTA Name: Nicholas Hennessey (They/Them)

GTA Email: Nhennessey@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours:

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to help you meet several learning outcomes. By the end of this course you should be able to:

- Recognize, experience, and critically assess commonly used psychological tests

- Describe and explain the fundamental principles of psychological measurement and testing
- Construct and evaluate psychological tests and measures
- Assess the psychometric properties of test items and results using course concepts and SPSS
- Articulate your understanding of different score formats (e.g., t-score, z-score etc.)
- Identify and explain ethical and political issues related to psychological testing
- Apply APA standards in written course assignments

Lecture Content:

Below you will find the proposed outline for the course. We should be able to meet all of these targets on time, however we will may need to make minor adjustments as we go.

Week	Dates	Lecture	Reading	Due Dates
1	Sept 8	Course Intro and History	Chapter 1	
2	Sept 11	Basic Statistics	Chapter 2	
	Sept 13		Chapter 5	
	Sept 15			
3	Sept 18	Basic Statistics	Chapter 2	
	Sept 20		Chapter 5	
	Sept 22	Correlation and Regression		
4	Sept 25	Correlation and Regression	Chapter 5	Stats Assignment 1
	Sept 27	Reliability	Chapter 3	
	Sept 29			
5	Oct 2	Reliability	Chapter 3	Stats Assignment 2
	Oct 4	Validity	Chapter 4	
	Oct 6			
6	Oct 9	No Class – Thanksgiving		
	Oct 11	Group Scale Development	N/A	
	Oct 13	Test Formats	Chapter 7	
7	Oct 16	Test Formats	Chapter 7	Stats Assignments 3 and 4
	Oct 18		Chapter 12 Chapter 14	
	Oct 20	Midterm		Midterm and complete assigned scales
8	Oct 23	Test Formats	Chapter 7 Chapter 14	
	Oct 25	Data Analysis	N/A	
	Oct 27	Group Data Analysis	N/A	
9	Oct 30	Intelligence Testing	Chapter 9	

	Nov 1			
	Nov 3			
10	Nov 6	High Stakes Testing	Chapter 8	
	Nov 8			
	Nov 10			Intelligence reflection
11	Nov 13	Personality Testing	Chapter 10	
	Nov 15			
	Nov 17			
12	Nov 20	Clinical Testing	N/A	
	Nov 22			
	Nov 24			Personality reflection
13	Dec 1	Ethics and Course Wrap Up	Chapter 15	
	Dec 3	Not a class day		Clinical Reflection
14	Dec 10	Not a class day		Final paper due

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Stats Assignments	#1 Sept 25 th #2 Oct 2 nd #3 Oct 11 th #4 Oct 11 th	10% (2.5% per assignment)	Articulate your understanding of different score formats (e.g., t-score, z-score etc.) Describe and explain the fundamental principles of psychological measurement and testing
Stats Test	Oct 20 th	20%	Articulate your understanding of different score formats (e.g., t-score, z-score etc.) Describe and explain the fundamental principles of psychological measurement and testing
Test Construction and Evaluation	Scale development - (in class) Oct 11 th Scale completion – Oct 20 th	25%	Articulate your understanding of different score formats (e.g., t-score, z-score etc.) Describe and explain the fundamental principles of psychological measurement and testing.

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
	Final paper – Nov 19 th		<p>Assess the psychometric properties of test items and results using course concepts and SPSS</p> <p>Construct and evaluate psychological tests and measures</p> <p>Apply APA standards in written course assignments</p>
Test Inventories	#1 – Nov 10 th #2 – Nov 24 th #3 – Dec 3 rd	15% (5% each)	<p>Assess the psychometric properties of test items and results using course concepts and SPSS</p> <p>Construct and evaluate psychological tests and measures</p> <p>Recognize, experience, and critically assess commonly used psychological tests</p> <p>Describe and explain the fundamental principles of psychological measurement and testing</p>
Test Selection and Interpretation	Dec 10 th	25%	<p>Recognize, experience, and critically assess commonly used psychological tests</p> <p>Describe and explain the fundamental principles of psychological measurement and testing</p> <p>Assess the psychometric properties of test items and results using course concepts and SPSS</p> <p>Identify and explain ethical and political issues related to psychological testing</p> <p>Apply APA standards in written course assignments</p>

Course Resources

Required Texts:

Salkind, N.J. & Frey, B. B., (2022). Tests and Measurement for People Who (Think They) Hate Tests and Measurement (4th edition). SAGE Publications.

ISBN: 9781071817179

Other Resources:

Course content, including lectures, assignments, and other articles of interest will be posted on D2L. You will need to access SPSS in order to complete the scale construction and evaluation assignment.

Course Policies

Grading Policies

All course assignments will be submitted to Dropboxes on CourseLink.

Reports and assignments which are handed in after the date they are due will receive a penalty of 5% per day. Assignments submitted more than fourteen days after the due date will receive a grade of 0. Extension of a deadline without penalty will be granted only in rare circumstances or in cases of illness, and only with advanced communication with me. A doctor's note may be required if several extensions are requested. This is particularly important because most of the assignments for this course build off of one another.

Make up tests will only be offered in extenuating circumstances or as a result of illness, with a doctor's note or other verification of illness. You must reach out to me within 48 hours of missing the test or will receive an automatic grade of 0.

Additional policies for undergraduate courses can be found here: [Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)

Course Policy on Group Work:

All assignments must be submitted as individual work. You may choose to work with your peers on the statistics assignments as this helps to facilitate learning, however you must upload your own work for grading. There will be a group component to the scale development and analysis paper. For this paper, you will be creating a scale as a group and will be given time to analyze your data as a group. Work outside of these components is to be individual. All other coursework is individual and must be your own.

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Disclaimer:

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration: [Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar: [Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email accessibility@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Student Feedback Questionnaire

These questionnaires (formerly course evaluations) will be available to students during the last 2 weeks of the semester: March 30th – April 10th. Students will receive an email directly from the Student Feedback Administration system which will include a direct link to the questionnaire for this course. During this time, when a student goes to login to CourseLink, a reminder will pop-up when a task is available to complete.

[Student Feedback Questionnaire](#)

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Friday December 1, 2023. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#)

Instructors must provide [meaningful and constructive feedback, at minimum 20% of the final course grade, prior to the 40th class day](#). For courses which are of shorter duration, 20% of the final grade must be provided two-thirds of the way through the course. [Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)

Additional Course Information

Intellectual Property

The educational materials developed for this course, including, but not limited to, lecture notes and slides, handout materials, examinations and assignments, and any materials posted to CourseLink, are the intellectual property of the course instructor. These materials have been

developed for student use only and they are not intended for wider dissemination and/or communication outside of a given course. Posting or providing unauthorized audio, video, or textual material of course content to third-party websites violates instructors' intellectual property rights, and the [Canadian Copyright Act](#).

Use of Turnitin

Course instructors are allowed to use software to help in detecting plagiarism or unauthorized copying of student assignments. Plagiarism is one of the most common types of academic misconduct on our campus. Plagiarism involves students using the work, ideas and/or the exact wording of other people or sources without giving proper credit to others for the work, ideas and/or words in their papers. Students can unintentionally commit misconduct because they do not know how to reference outside sources properly or because they don't check their work carefully enough before handing it in. Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin.com to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to prevent plagiarism in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.