

**Psych3MT3 2015 Psychometrics**  
**(Last updated, September 9 2015)**

**Instructor:** Dr. Karin Humphreys

**Email:** [krh@mcmaster.ca](mailto:krh@mcmaster.ca) (**preferred contact method**);

You MUST email me from your McMaster email account, otherwise it will likely be spam filtered and I will never even see it.

**Phone:** 905 525-9140 x23011

**Office:** PC-410

**Office Hours:** By appointment. Most questions can best be answered before or after lectures, or via Avenue

**TAs:** Sarah Lade, [lades@mcmaster.ca](mailto:lades@mcmaster.ca), Kathleen Oliver, [oliverlk@mcmaster.ca](mailto:oliverlk@mcmaster.ca) Jenna Traynor, [traynoj@mcmaster.ca](mailto:traynoj@mcmaster.ca)

TA office hours TBA, or by appointment

**Classes:** Wednesday, 7pm, ITB AB102

**Avenue:** The course website is available to registered students by logging into Avenue <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca> You will need to learn how to use Avenue to access the course content, announcements, and discussions. All Powerpoint slides from the lectures will be made available on Avenue only after the lectures, as pdfs. It is your responsibility to keep up to date with class announcements made on Avenue.

In this course we will be using Avenue. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the course instructor.

**Course objectives and content:** This course covers the fundamental issues in psychometrics, such as test validity, reliability, and item construction. It also covers applications of psychological testing in areas such as education, employment, and health care settings.

**Required Text:**

Kaplan & Sacuzzo, Psychological Testing: Principles, Applications and Issues. (8<sup>th</sup> Edition).

There is a study guide available at the bookstore as well. This is not required, but some students find it useful. You can also purchase the textbook in electronic form, including a bundle of both the textbook and study guide.

**Changes in course requirements:** Details of the course requirements may be subject to change. If requirements are altered, a revised course outline will be posted on the webpage and announced in class. The instructor reserves the right to assign grade cutoffs.

**Special Needs:** If you have special needs, please contact the instructor so accommodations can be made.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Please be aware of the University Academic Integrity Policy. Cases of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to: copying or the use of unauthorized aids in tests, examinations and laboratory reports; plagiarism, i.e., the submission of work that is not one's own; aiding and abetting another student's dishonesty giving false information for the purposes of gaining admission or credit; giving false information for the purposes of obtaining deferred examinations or extension of deadlines; and/or forging or falsifying McMaster University documents. Students who

infringe on the resolutions of the University Academic Integrity policy will be treated according to the published policy.

**Missed Assessment:** If an absence for assessment has been registered, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to arrange for a makeup assessment to take place. No exams or assignments will be permitted to be skipped and reweighted. Please note the new rules on MSAF procedures (including new timeframes during which they can be submitted).

**Evaluation:**

Midterm 1 October 7 (20%) In-class exam, multiple choice.

Midterm 2 November 18 (20%). In class exam, multiple choice, cumulative.

Assignment 1 due November 11 (10%) Written assignment, details TBA.

Assignment 2 due Dec 2 (10%) Written assignment, details TBA.

Final Exam in Exam Session (40%) multiple choice, cumulative.

Students will be responsible for all material covered in lectures, plus the following chapters of the textbook: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 19, 21. In addition, students must choose any TWO of the following chapters to study independently, which will be assessed on the final exam: 12, 13, 16, 17. Students are encouraged to choose whichever chapters cover applications in which they are most personally interested. The later lectures on various “Applications” may draw some material from textbook chapters, and students will be pointed to relevant sections to supplement their understanding of these issues. Some additional sections covering material not mentioned in lecture may be assigned as well.

**Tentative Outline of Topics**

Date	Topic	Chapter	Assessment
Wed Sept 9	Intro/History	1	
Wed Sept 16	Statistics	2, 3	
Wed Sept 23	Reliability	4	
Wed Sept 30	Validity	5	
Wed Oct 7	Test Items	6	Midterm 1 (in class)
Wed Oct 21	Test Administration + Interviewing	7, 8	
Wed Oct 28	Intelligence	9	
Wed Nov 4	Applications		
Wed Nov 11	Applications		Assignment 1 due
Wed Nov 18	Applications		Midterm 2 (in class)
Wed Nov 25	Applications		
Wed Dec 2	Bias/Ethics/Future	19, 21	Assignment 2 due