

Syllabus
Psychology 4A03: Assessment in Children
Department of Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour
McMaster University
Winter Term 2018

Time: Monday 2:30pm-4:40pm (LAB), Thursday 3:30pm-4:30pm

Location: ETB 237

Instructor: Professor Vivian Lee, Ph.D.

Email: leev9@mcmaster.ca (include 4A03 in the subject line)

Office: Rm 201A, McMaster Innovation Park;

Office hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistants: Raha Hassan, Email: hassar@mcmaster.ca

Alina Protopopescu, Email: protopa@mcmaster.ca

Office Hours: By appointment

Please note: This syllabus- including scheduling, topic order, topics themselves, and assessment strategy- is subject to change if circumstances warrant.

Course Description: This course provides foundational knowledge in psychological assessments and testing, including principles of assessment, interviewing, test selection, scoring, interpretation, synthesis, and report writing. Interview and observation methods, as well as intellectual, educational, and neuropsychological and clinical tests, will be examined. The major focus will be on assessments of the child. Partial test batteries and mock tests will be utilized for educational purposes.

Prerequisites effective 2014-2017: Registration in Level IV of an Hours Psychology, Neuroscience, & Behaviour or Combined Honours Psychology program: PSYCH 2AP3, PSYCH 3B03, and credit or registration in PSYCH 3MT3 (psychometrics). Preference will be given to students registered in the Hours PNB (Mental Health Specialization).

Textbook: There is no required textbook for this course. We will be providing you with readings from select chapters of Assessments of Children, Cognitive Foundations, Jerome M. Sattler, 5th Edition. These readings will be available on Avenue to Learn. All manuals and mock testing materials will be made available to you.

Email Policy: All emails must originate from your designated McMaster email account (not your Avenue account or non-university sanctioned account; i.e. Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.). Please include PSYCH 4A03 in the subject line.

Website Policy: This course has an Avenue to Learn website. You are expected to check this website with regularity. Announcements will be posted regularly (under “news”) about administrative aspects of the course (e.g. office hours, tests, grades). It is your responsibility to keep up with the information provided on Avenue.

Use of the website's discussion boards is strongly encouraged. Questions asked on the discussion board allow other students with the same question the chance to see the answer. Please note that discussions boards should only be used for non-private inquiries (e.g. course content), as private inquiries (e.g. reporting illness or other private matters) should be communicated using emails.

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.

Assessment: Your final mark will be based on your performance on one midterm, an in-class group presentation, 5 assignments, and one final paper.

Grading:

Assessment	Percentage Worth	Due Date
Assignment 1	5%	January 15, 2018 at the beginning of lab
Assignment 2	5%	February 1, 2018 at the beginning of lab
Midterm	25%	February 15, 2018
Assignment 3	5%	February 26, 2018 at the beginning of lab
Assignment 4	5%	March 12, 2018 at the beginning of lab
Assignment 5	5%	March 26, 2018 at the beginning of lab
Group Presentation	15%	TBA
Final Paper	35%	April 9, 2018 at midnight

Exams: The midterm will cover lecture material (e.g. lecture notes, videos, labs) and assigned readings, including readings on topics from the textbook that are not discussed in class. The format of the exams may be a combination of multiple choice, fill in the blank, and short answer questions.

Assignments: The short assignments will be one page written assignments that reinforces content taught in class and in the labs. Instructions for each assignment will be posted on Avenue to Learn. All assignments will be submitted online via the Avenue to Learn portal. All assignments are due by the beginning of the class on the due date. Late assignments will result in 10% deduction from the final assignment grade for each day it is past due (including weekends). Therefore, if the assignment is 10 days past due then your grade for that assignment will be 0%.

Presentations: The group presentations (2-3 people per group) will take place during our scheduled labs on Mondays. The presentations should be 20-25 minutes each, and on your assigned date you will cover the theoretical foundation of the assigned assessment, including the targeted population (age, language skills), description of the scales, administration details, scoring, benefits and limitations, standardization, reliability and validity, and provide a comparison to other similar tests. The presentation should include a description of a journal article that utilizes the assessment

you are presenting on. Include information on the background, methods, analysis, results, and implications in addition to how the assessment was utilized to inform the findings.

Final Paper: You will be given a brief case description of a patient who is being presented to you an assessment and/or test scores from a completed assessment. For the final paper, you will prepare an assessment report detailing how you would plan to assess this patient, the possible tests that you would use for the assessment given the presenting symptoms, and the rationale for the choice of the tests. For the second part, you will write an interpretative assessment report based on the assessment scores from another patient. The final paper should be 8-10 pages, size 12 font, double-spaced using Times New Roman. Please include a page with your name, date, course title, and student ID number.

Final Grade Calculations: Your final grade will be converted to a letter grade, according to the following scheme:

<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>	<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>	<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>	<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>
90-100 (A+)	77-79 (B+)	67-69 (C+)	57-59 (D+)
85-89 (A)	73-76 (B)	63-66 (C)	53-56 (D)
80-84 (A-)	70-72 (B-)	60-62 (C-)	50-52 (D-)
			0-49 (F)

Note: The instructor reserves the right to adjust final marks up *or down*, on an individual basis, in the light of special circumstances. Final grades may also be adjusted up or down on a class-wide basis depending on overall performance.

Tentative Schedule and Readings

Date	Topic	Readings
January 4 th , 2018	Introduction to Assessments Ethical and Legal Issues	Chapter 1 (Sattler) Chapter 3 (Sattler)
January 8 th , 2018 (LAB)	Intake Interviews Developmental History Family History	
January 11, 2018	Interviewing Techniques Interviewing Children	Chapter 5 (Sattler) Chapter 6 (Sattler)
January 15, 2018 (LAB)	Structured Clinical Interview-Mini *Assignment 1 Due (Intake Summary)	
January 18, 2018	Theories of Intelligence Wechsler Scales	Chapter 5. Pg. 119-167 (Groth-Marnat)
January 22, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 1: WISC-4 WISC (Verbal Comprehension) WISC (Perceptual Reasoning) Presentation 2: WISC-4 WISC (Working Memory)	

	WISC (Processing Speed)	
January 25, 2018	Interpreting and Reporting WISC-IV	Chapter 5. Pg 119-167 (Groth-Marnat)
January 29, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 3: Leiter	
February 1, 2018	Developmental Scales *Assignment 2 Due (WISC-4 Report)	Chapter 18 (Sattler)
February 5, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 4: Mullens Presentation 5: Bayley's Scale of Development	
February 8, 2018	Tests of Achievement	TBA
February 12, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 6: WIAT	
February 15, 2018	MIDTERM	
February 19, 2018	NO CLASS	READING WEEK
February 22, 2018	NO CLASS	READING WEEK
February 26, 2018 (LAB)	Report Writing *Assignment 3 Due (Developmental Report)	Chapter 25 (Sattler)
March 1, 2018	Clinical Applications: Autism	Chapter 22 (Sattler)
March 5, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 7: ADOS	
March 8, 2018	Clinical Applications: ADHD and Executive Functioning	Chapter 15 (Sattler)
March 12, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 8: ADI-R *Assignment 4 Due (WIAT Report)	
March 15, 2018	Clinical Applications: Language Disorders	TBA
March 19, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 9: REYO/CPT	
March 22, 2018	Visual-Motor Assessments	Chapter 12 (Sattler)
March 26, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 10: PPVT Presentation 11: CELF *Assignment 5 Due (ADOS Report)	
March 29, 2018	Feedback Session	TBA
April 2, 2018 (LAB)	Presentation 13: Veery-Berry	
April 5, 2018	TBA	TBA
April 9, 2018 (LAB)	Make-up presentations (if needed) *FINAL PAPER DUE	

MSAF Rules: Students should make themselves aware of the policies surrounding the McMaster Student Absence Forms, and contact Dr. Lee as soon as possible. Please note, that if you are planning on submitting a MSAF in this course for missed work or assessments (including exams), you must submit your MSAF notice AND your personal follow-up email to Dr. Lee within 48

hours of the original due date. Any missed work will be either be postponed to a later date within a week of the due date or adjusted based on the instructor's discretion.

SAS Accommodations: Students with official SAS Accommodations are welcome to discuss their needs with Dr. Lee or any of the TAs so that we can provide appropriate supports. Students with accommodations relating to exams (i.e. private rooms for exams, extra time for exams) are *highly encouraged* to make alternative arrangements with SAS at least 2 weeks before the scheduled exams. SAS proctored exams must be completed within 24 hours of original exam date. Students with accommodations relating to assignments and presentations (i.e. adjusting due dates, extra time for assignments etc.) must discuss these accommodations with Dr. Lee at least 24 hours prior to the original due date of each assignment.

<http://mcmaster.ca/msaf/>

<http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/associatedean/>

Academic Integrity: You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. a grade of zero (0) on an assignment, loss of course credit with a notation on the transcript (“grade F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is *your* responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty, please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity>.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

A note on dates and deadlines: The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of mediation becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with an explanation and opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites (i.e. Avenue to Learn) weekly during the term and to note any changes.