Course Instructor: Kathleen B. Kennedy, Ph.D.
Email: kathleen.kennedy@uvm.edu
Phone: (802) 656-9978
Office: Room 133C (in Behavior Therapy & Psychotherapy Center)
Office Hours: Monday 1-2pm and by appointment
Teaching Assistants: Julia McQuade julia.mcquade@uvm.edu
Meghan Tomb mtomb@uvm.edu

Course Objectives

- Develop awareness of psychometric, ethical, and practical considerations when conducting assessments.
- Become familiar with commonly used and scientifically validated assessment tools and procedures for use with adults
- Begin to develop proficiency in the administration, scoring, and interpretation of test data from multiple sources
- Attain experience integrating assessment information and creating written reports

Expectations

- Come to class prepared to discuss readings and any other materials required for you to review prior to class.
- When interacting with undergraduate volunteers, please be aware that you are representing the field of clinical psychology. As such, professional demeanor and dress are required.
- Information obtained by student volunteers is confidential. Identifying information (e.g., name, exact date of birth) should be altered in class discussions and written form.
- In order to become proficient in the administration of tests, the most important thing you can do is PRACTICE PRACTICE PRACTICE! Given the relatively brief amount of time we have in class, it will be necessary to dedicate time for this outside of class.
- If you have a formal accommodation plan developed in conjunction with UVM’s ACCESS Office or would like to discuss the supports that you need in order to learn well in this class, please contact me in the beginning of the semester. Adaptations and instructional supports are available through consultation with me and the ACCESS Office (www.uvm.edu/~access/).
- You are required to attend all classes. The exceptions to this policy are as follows
  - Religious holidays: Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. If you need to miss a class to observe a religious holiday, please submit the dates of your absence to me in writing by the end of the second full week of classes. You will be permitted to make up work within a mutually agreed-upon time.
Family emergencies and illness: If there are circumstances under which you may be able to anticipate missing one or more classes due to potential family emergency or personal illness during the semester, please let me know this as soon as possible. Should you unexpectedly be faced with one of these issues, please communicate with me about it so that we can formulate a plan to ensure that you can make up the work in a timely manner.

Required Texts


Additional required readings indicated on individual class dates

Recommended Text


Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/02</td>
<td>Introduction to Adult Psychological Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reasons for conducting assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/09</td>
<td>Psychometrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/16</td>
<td>Psychosocial History</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mental Status</td>
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<td>Behavioral Observations</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/23</td>
<td>Structured Clinical Interviewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/30</td>
<td>Cognitive Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(background and administration)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/07</td>
<td>Cognitive Testing (scoring and interpretation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/14</td>
<td>Learning Disabilities &amp; Learning Impairments Memory Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/21</td>
<td>Report Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/28</td>
<td>Report Writing (continued)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/04</td>
<td>Assessment of Personality &amp; Psychopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>Assessment of Personality &amp; Psychopathology (continued) Guest presenter – Ale Rellini</td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>Parental Competence</td>
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<td>11/25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break – No Class</td>
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<td>12/03</td>
<td>Violence Risk Sex Offenders</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/09</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Readings**

**September 2**


September 9


September 16


September 23


Review Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis I Disorders (SCID-I) and Anxiety Disorders Interview Schedule (ADIS)

September 30

Sattler, J.M. & Ryan, J.J. (2009). Wechsler adult intelligence scale – Fourth edition (WAIS-IV): Description (pp. 31-80). In Assessment with the WAIS-IV. La Mesa, California: Jerome M. Sattler, Publisher, Inc.

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1 Students will split up into 3 groups and each team will summarize one of the Anastasi chapters for the rest of the class.
Sattler, J.M. & Ryan, J.J. (2009). WAIS-IV subtests (pp. 81-132). In *Assessment with the WAIS-IV*. La Mesa, California: Jerome M. Sattler, Publisher, Inc.

Review WAIS-IV administration and scoring manual

**October 7**

Sattler, J.M. & Ryan, J.J. (2009). Interpreting the WAIS-IV (pp. 133-172). In *Assessment with the WAIS-IV*. La Mesa, California: Jerome M. Sattler, Publisher, Inc.

**October 14**


**October 21**


**November 4**


**November 11**

To be assigned by guest presenter, Alessandra Rellini, Ph.D.

Review Diagnostic Interview for Personality Disorders (DIPD)

**November 18**


**November 25**

Happy Thanksgiving!
December 3


December 9


Assignments

1. Written summary of one of the Anastazi chapters on psychometrics and 15-minute presentation to class of major points.

2. Students will conduct a practice intake interview that they will videotape for instructor/TA review. Due: 09/22

3. Students will videotape administration of mental status exam and SCID-I with undergraduate volunteer. Students will be graded on adherence to SCID administration protocol and proficiency in interviewing skills. Due: 10/06

4. Students will have WAIS-IV practice session with Julia or Meg. Several subtests will be administered by the students. Grade will be based on adherence to standardized administration protocol. It is expected that you will attain an 80% or greater proficiency score in WAIS-IV administration prior to administering complete measure to volunteer. Due: 10/17.
5. Students will videotape administration of the WAIS-IV with undergraduate volunteer. Due: 10/28

6. Students will write up results of WAIS-IV administration.* Due: 11/04

7. Interpretation of MMPI-2 protocols.* Due: 11/18

8. Written report. Students will be provided with data to compile a written evaluation.* Due: 12/09

*All written work will be grade based on accuracy of interpretation, ability to integrate information logically, and writing style.

**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class &amp; lab participation</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anastazi summary</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intake interview</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental status &amp; SCID-I interview</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental status &amp; SCID-I write-up</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAIS-IV practice session</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAIS-IV administration</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAIS-IV write-up</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMPI-2 write-up</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written report</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Possible Points 110