

Texas A&M University Central Texas
PSYC 4301-110 (10867) Psychological Assessment
Spring 2021

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

January 19th-May 14th, 2020

Online: *This is a 100% online course, and uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System* [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Stephanie Weigel, Ph.D.

Office: Warrior Hall 318 P

Phone: 254.307.0622

Email: sweigel@tamuct.edu

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10am-11am, 2:00pm-4:00pm; Tuesday 11:00am-1:00pm. Please schedule an appointment to make arrangements for a phone call/video conference.

Student-instructor interaction

Learning is best supported by interaction. This is especially important in an online course. It is important that you feel comfortable asking questions and communicating during class discussions. This will help support your learning and that of your fellow students. Some questions are best saved for outside of the classroom. The best way to contact me for these discussions is via email. We can set up an appointment if needed or you can come by during my scheduled office hours. I will check my campus email daily on weekdays and do my best to respond within 48 hours.

Participation and Attendance

As stated above, interaction with the instructor and your peers is critical for learning and your academic success. Participation in an online course means actively participating in discussions each week and submitting assignments on-time. If you get behind it is very difficult to catch up in an online course. Participation in discussions are a portion of the points towards your final grade (see below).

WARRIOR SHIELD

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted policies and practices to minimize virus transmission. All members of the university community are expected to adhere to these measures to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses, course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.) and co-curricular programs:

- **Self-monitoring**—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction. Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.
- **Face Coverings**— Face coverings must be worn inside of buildings and within 50 feet of building entrances on the A&M-Central Texas Campus. This includes lobbies, restrooms, hallways, elevators, classrooms, laboratories, conference rooms, break rooms, non-private office spaces, and other shared spaces. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not maintained. The university will evaluate exceptions to this requirement on a case by case basis. Students can request an exception through the Office of Access and Inclusion in Student Affairs.
 - o If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the Office of Student Conduct. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day’s class remotely for all students.
- **Physical Distancing**—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in the course and course-related activities.
- **Classroom Ingress/Egress**—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.
- The university will notify students in the event that the COVID-19 situation necessitates changes to the course schedule or modality.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description:

Explore principles of psychological testing. Study uses and critical evaluation of tests, achievements, intelligence, aptitude, and personalities. This course is designed to form a solid foundation of psychological assessment principles for class members, and then broaden class members understanding of psychological assessment through the learning processes of careful reading for understanding, and critical thinking information research, writing, and class discussion. Examination of psychological assessment will be from physiological, cognitive, social, behavioral, personality, environmental, and cultural perspectives.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the history and use of psychological testing and assessment.
2. Apply basic statistical concepts to determine the reliability and validity of a test/measure.
3. Define and describe types of reliability and validity.
4. Describe the process of test development.
5. Explain norm and criterion referenced testing/assessment.
6. Describe personality, intelligence, aptitude, achievement, interest, and work and career assessments and theories.
7. Identify the types of tests/measures/instruments used in the field of psychological testing and assessment.
8. Effectively use the computer applications and software necessary to evaluate the reliability and validity of a psychological assessment instrument.
9. Solve problems and write essays in which they are required to evaluate psychological test and measurement concepts
10. Evaluate ethical issues related to psychological assessment.

Required Reading and Textbook(s)

Kaplan, M. K. & Saccuzzo, D. P. (2018). Psychological Testing: Principles, Applications, & Issues (9th ed.). Cengage ISBN 978-1-337-09813-7

Peer Reviewed Articles

Students will be expected to access peer reviewed journals and professional materials using the online library at TAMU-CT. To access these materials:

1. University Library Online: Click or use this URL in your browser
<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>
2. Click: A-Z Databases (left side of page)
3. Choose your database. For example, scroll way down to "P" and choose Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection
4. The next step may ask you to login using normal log in credentials, if you are off campus.
5. Type in search topic in top box just under the name of the data base. For example for Module 4, you may type in: Stanford Binet
6. It is VERY IMPORTANT that before you hit search that you check the box that says: Peer Reviewed AND the box that says: Full Text under the section called Limit Results
7. Click Search. This should bring up various peer-reviewed articles for your review. 8. If you don't find any relevant articles, try a different search word. 9.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSIONS: 16 weeks X 15 points per week=120 pts total
SLO 1,2,3,4, 5, 6

Each week the instructor will provide a prompt or discussion topic based upon the week's readings. Students will provide their response to the discussion prompt in the Canvas Discussions area. The student's original response is worth up to 10 points. The original post is due on Thursday by midnight. In addition to the response, students are expected to respond to at least 2 peers as well (up to 5 points each) by Sunday midnight. In order to receive full credit, the original post and peer response must show knowledge of the readings as well as application to the student's life, career, experiences or perspective. In other words, the response must go beyond summarizing the textbook. For late discussion posts, only the original post will count towards credit.

MEASUREMENT PRACTICE: 50 points, SLO 2, 8

Students will be provided with data from measurement tools. They will utilize computer software (excel or SPSS) to evaluate the reliability and validity of the tools.

TOOL DEVELOPMENT: 150 points, SLO 2, 4, 8

Students will develop an assessment tool designed to measure a concept of their choice. In addition to creating the items for the assessment tool, a written explanation of how the tool was developed, rationale for the item content and form, and a plan to establish reliability and validity will be included.

TOOL CRITIQUES: 3 critiques X 60 = 180, SLO 7,8,9

Students will apply their knowledge of test construction, reliability, validity, and other key concepts by providing a written critique of specific assessment tools from physiological, cognitive, social, behavioral, personality, environmental, and cultural perspectives. The critiques will include a thorough description of the test, how it was constructed, evidence to support reliability and validity, limitations, cultural considerations, ethical issues, and specific recommendations for best practices when utilizing the test.

EXAMS: 2 exams-100 points each=100 pts total, SLO 1,3,4, 10

Students will demonstrate their knowledge of key concepts on three exams. Each exam will have approximately 40 multiple choice questions. The exams will be completed online within the Canvas classroom. Students may use their books and notes, but the questions must be answered independently without the help of classmates or others.

FINAL PAPER: 200 points, SLO 2, 7, 8, 9, 10

For the final paper students will apply their knowledge of common tests, how tests are used, and evaluation of tests to make recommendations related to a case provided by the instructor. Students will select 3 tools that the psychologist could use to assess the client related to that particular question or problem. The student will provide a detailed summary of each tool as well as recommendations for using each tool for the assessment purpose related to the case.

Final Grading Criteria

Tool Development Group	150
Discussions	320
Measurement Practice	50
Tool Critiques	180
Exams	100
<u>Final Paper</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Possible	1000

Final grades will be based upon the percentage of total points earned:

A 90%-100% (900 and up) B 80%-89% (800-899 points) C 70%-79% (700-799 points) D 60%-69% (600-699 points) F 59% or less (599 points and below)

Posting of Grades

All grades for the course will be posted in the Canvas Grade book. Grades for assignments and exams will be posted within 1 week of the due date or sooner. Feedback regarding the score will be provided as well, but I encourage you to ask questions about any grade or feedback for clarification.

Grading Policy

In order to be successful in this course, it is critical for students to attend all class meetings and complete assignments on-time. If you are unable to complete an assignment by the due date contact your instructor immediately. Late assignments will receive an automatic 10% penalty and assignments more than 1 week late will not be accepted for credit. Late discussion posts will receive ½ credit.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Week	Topics & Assigned Readings	Assignments or Activities
Week 1 Jan 19-24	Basic Concepts Read Ch 1	Group Discussion
Week 2 Jan 25-31	Statistics and evaluating tests Read Ch 2	Group Discussion
Week 3 Feb 1-7	Reliability & Validity Read Ch 4 & 5	Group Discussion, Measurement Practice
Week 4 Feb 8-14	Creating items and Interviews, Read Ch 6	Group Discussion
Week 5 Feb 15-21	Test Administration & Techniques Read Ch 7, 8	Group Discussion

Week 6 Feb 22-28	Review Ch 1-8	Exam 1; Group Discussion
Week 7 March 1-7	IQ & standardized tests Read Ch 9, 10	Group Discussion
Week 8 March 8-14	Testing special populations Read Ch 11	Tool Critique Intelligence; Group Discussion
March 15-21	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS
Week 9 March 22-28	Special Settings: Military Read Ch 12	Group Discussion;
Week 10 March 29-April 4	Clinical and Counseling assessment Read Ch 13	Group Discussion; Tool Development due
Week 11 April 5-11	Projective Tests Ready Ch 14	Tool Critique Clinical/Personality; Group Discussion
Week 12 April 12-18	Counseling Psychology Read Ch 15 &16	Group Discussion
Week 13 April 19-25	Health Psychology Read 17	Group Discussion
Week 14 April 26- May 2	Special Settings: I/O, Health Read Ch 18	Tool Critique I/O; Group Discussion
Week 15 May 3-9	Issues Read Ch 19, 20	Group Discussion; Final Paper
Week 16 May 10-12	Application and the future Read Ch 21	Group Discussion
Exam 2 due Wednesday May 12^h Class Ends		

Important University Dates

Check this link for important university dates from the current Academic Calendar such as drop/withdrawal dates <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [http://hdc.tamu.edu]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2Fsubmit%2FForm%2Fstart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives

for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html),
[https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0),
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required)
[https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu .

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Spring 2021 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. By providing a practice audience for students’ ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students’ texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WCOOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

For Spring 2021, all reference service will be conducted virtually. Please go to our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index] to access our virtual reference help and our current hours.

OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its

students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

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This syllabus is a working document and is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Students will be notified of any changes.