

**Grand Valley State University**  
**Tests and Measurement**  
**PSY 510**

**Course Information**

CRN: 22562  
LSH 233  
T, Th: 1:00 – 2:15

**Instructor Information:**

Amy Campbell, Ph.D.  
1309 ASH  
[campbeam@gvsu.edu](mailto:campbeam@gvsu.edu)  
Office: 331-2409  
Cell: 719-6780 (call or text)  
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:30 – 12:45

**Course Description:**

In this course, a survey of test construction principles and psychological-educational measurement will be covered with an emphasis on principles of normative data, reliability, and validity. Commonly used tests will be reviewed and evaluated along with discussion of issues involving the appropriate and ethical use of tests.

**Pre-requisites:**

PSY 510: Admission to the school psychology program or instructor permission.

**Required Textbook:**

Ysseldyke, Chaparro, & VanDerHayden (2022). Assessment in Special and Inclusive Education – 14<sup>th</sup> edition. Pro-ed

2014 AERA Standards of Educational and Psychological Testing (PDF on Blackboard)

Additional Readings will be placed on blackboard.

**Grading:**

94% and above	A
90% - 92%	A-
87% - 89%	B+
83% - 86%	B
80% - 82%	B-
77% - 79%	C+
73% - 76%	C
70% - 72%	C-
67% - 69%	D+
60% - 67%	D
60% and below	F

## Course Objectives

Critically evaluate a wide range of tools for measuring educational and psychological constructs.
Demonstrate and apply knowledge of basic statistical concepts to test administration, scoring, and interpretation.
Demonstrate and apply knowledge of measurement concepts (including reliability and validity) in selecting appropriate assessment tools.
Construct a reliable, valid assessment tool
Compare and contrast a variety of assessment tools (achievement, cognitive, interest inventories, personality assessment, life skill assessments, etc.) in terms of strengths and weaknesses.
Determine which types of assessments are appropriate for assessing specific areas.
Demonstrate knowledge about the importance of adhering to ethical and legal standards related to assessment
Demonstrate knowledge and apply appropriate guidelines for assessing culturally and linguistically diverse individuals

## Course Requirements:

### ***Exams/Quizzes: (125pts total)***

#### *Concept Mastery Quizzes (75pts total)*

There are specific activities/objectives in this class that are critical to your ability to practice as a school psychologist. To assess whether you have demonstrated a sufficient level of mastery, there will be 3 assignments/quizzes in which you must apply concepts learned in class. Each of these assignments will be worth 25pts total. The assignments may be completed in class or at home (specific directions will be provided for each assignment).

#### *Final Exam (50pts)*

There will be a take-home final exam at the end of the semester. This exam will require you to demonstrate mastery and apply concepts from the course. The exam will be handed out during the final week of class and is due on the date of the final exam.

### ***Assignments: (120pts total)***

#### *Behavior Screening Tool Review and Presentation (30pts)*

Working in a small group you will research a behavioral/social-emotional screening tool, develop a resource packet/handout, and present information to your peers.

#### *Final Test Review and Critique (50pts total)*

You will review and critique a commonly used rating scale, intellectual assessment, or standardized achievement test. This may be done individually or in a small group (it depends on the tool selected). The final project will include completing a resource packet, and a presentation.

*Team Taught Class: Testing Application (40 pts total)*

Working in groups of 2-3, you will present a concept in the field of tests and measurement to the class. Topics will be selected by the instructor. In addition to the presentation, you must provide a handout and reference page to the class.

***Engagement/Participation (30pts total)***

*In-Class Assignments (15pts)*

We will complete a variety of activities and assignments during class. The assignments are typically worth 2-3pts each.

*Homework Assignments (15pts)*

There will be occasional activities that you must complete at home. These activities are brief, and may include developing discussion questions on a specific reading, responding to questions/prompts, and/or case activities. Each assignment is typically worth 2-3pts.

**Points Available**

Exams/Quizzes	125
Assignments	120
Engagement/Participation	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>275</b>

**Course Policies**

Attendance: Attendance at all lecture sections is expected. Attendance is essential for doing well in this course, as much of the test content will be taken from lecture. In addition, you will have several guest lecture during the semester. You are responsible for the content delivered during those presentations, and you may or may not have lecture notes available. If excessive absences occur (more than 3), I reserve the right to reduce your final grade.

Computer Use: Laptops/tablets may be used during class time for taking notes, or other class-related activities (doing research for an in-class activity, etc.). Please refrain from engaging in non-class related activities during lecture. It is distracting to me and your fellow classmates. If computer use becomes problematic during lecture, I may implement a “no electronics” policy. In addition, please turn off cell phones during class.

Lecture Notes: Lecture notes will be posted on Blackboard before class starts. Please be aware that this may not occur until the morning before class starts. I will make every effort to post

notes the evening before class, but it is likely that they will not become available until the morning before class. Lecture notes are a privilege, not a right. Also, the lecture notes do not contain all of the relevant information – please take additional notes.

Canceled Classes: If I have to cancel a class, I will notify you ASAP via email. If classes are canceled at the university, this class will not meet. Please check your university email regularly, as I may have directions for an alternative activity.

Classroom Expectations: Please engage in respectful behavior while in this class. This includes: arriving on-time, engaging with the content, and waiting to pack up your items until after I have completed the lecture. In addition, please refrain from sidebar conversations, and remain on-task during small group activities.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If there is any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact me or Disability Support Services (DSS) at 331-2490. Although students with disabilities are held to the same academic standards as all other students, accommodations will be provided for you, as appropriate. Where warranted, accommodations will also be provided to students without a diagnosed disability if that student discusses the specific need with me and the accommodation appears to be justified. Furthermore, if you have a disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please make me aware so I can develop a plan to assist you.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to adhere to the university's policies on Academic Honesty. These policies are described in the catalog and in the Student Code. Cheating and plagiarism will be dealt with as per the procedures described in the Student Code.

Plagiarism: As described in Section 223.01 of the Student Code, “any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. Offering the work of someone else as one's own is plagiarism. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from books, periodicals, speeches or the writings of other students ... Any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for the ideas or materials that have been taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.” In sum, copying the work of any other individual, whether that of another student, researcher, author or editor is considered plagiarism. This is not acceptable and will be dealt with according to the policies set forth in the Student Code, which may include receiving a 0 on the assignment, failing the course, and/or other university consequences.

If you have questions regarding the appropriate use of citations and plagiarism, please contact the instructor BEFORE turning the assignment in. Please note that taking extensive content word-for-word from a journal, book or website is considered plagiarism.



	Topics	Readings	Assignments
Week 1 8/27, 9/29	Introduction to Assessment and Testing	Review Syllabus Ysseldyke Ch.1, 2	
Week 2 9/3, 9/5	Types of Assessment Test Scores	Ysselydyke, Ch. 4 AERA Ch. 5	
Week 3 9/9, 9/11	Test scores cont. Developing Local Norms	Ysseldyke Ch. 4 BP: Foundations, Ch 23 (pdf provided)	
Week 4 9/17, 9/19	Reliability Validity	AERA Ch. 2 Ysseldyke Ch 5	Mastery Quiz 1: Test Scores (9/19)
Week 5 9/24, 9/26	Validity cont. Test Fairness	AERA Ch. 1 Ysseldyke Ch 5, 6 BP7: V1, Ch 7 SPP: Episode 69	Team taught class: group 1
Week 6 10/1, 10/3	Interview and Observations	McConaughy & Whitcomb – Ch 1 Riley-Tillman Ch 2	Team taught class: group 2
Week 7 10/8, 10/10	Screening	Ysseldyke Ch. 10	Mastery Quiz 2 (10/10)
Week 8 10/15, 10/17	Screening cont., Screening Tool Presentations		
Week 9 10/22, 10/24	Rating Scales		<b>No Class: 10/22</b>
Week 10 10/29,10 /31	Rating Scales:	Ysseldyke Ch 18 (p 311-317) BP V1 – Ch 14 TBD	<b>No Class: 10/29: MASP</b>
Week 11 11/5, 11/7	Rating Scales		Mastery Quiz 3: 11/7 Test Presentations: Rating Scales
Week 12 11/12, 11/14	Measures of Intelligence	Ysseldyke Ch. 17 SPP: Episode 63, 64	Test Presentations: intelligence measures

Week 13 11/19, 11/21	Measures of Achievement	Ysseldyke Ch. 12	Team taught class: group 3
Week 14 11/26, 11/28	Measure of Achievement	Ysseldyke 13-15, 21	Test Presentations: Academic measures  11/28: No Class Thanksgiving
Week 15 12/3, 12/5	Test Accommodations and Adaptations	Ysseldyke Ch 21 SPP: Episode 113	Team taught class: group 4
Final Exam	Take home final exam due: Tuesday December 12 <sup>th</sup> at noon		