COURSE OUTLINE

California State University – Fresno
Seminar in Assessment and Counseling
(COUN 203) – 3 units

Master Syllabus in Compliance with CTC Standards 2001

PREREQUISITES:

Pre-requisites for COUN 203: Complete one of the following courses, ERA 153, PSYCH 143, 144, SWRK 176(171), PH 202, DS 123 with a C grade. Course open to post-baccalaureate students only.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO PURCHASE FOR THIS COURSE:

The required reading will be discussed during class. Handouts will be distributed during presentation of topics.

Required: Whiston, S. Principles and Applications of Assessment in Counseling (third edition).
Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole, 2009.

COURSE GOALS AND PRIMARY LEARNING OUTCOMES (OBJECTIVES):

The course is designed to help students:

1) Identify the effect of cultural factors and ethnic factors upon academic assessment and achievement. (CTC 3, 5, 11, 23; CACREP IIG7f)
2) Compare and contrast group testing, state mandated testing and other large scale assessment programs as they apply to academic, career, and personal counseling. (CTC 17)
3) Students will be able to describe methods and theories related to emotional, intellectual, and physical characteristics of typical and atypical pupils, including limited English proficient students. (CTC 2, 5, 11, 25; CACREP IIG7f)
4) Apply ethical, legal, and professional standards using testing instruments. (CTC 18; CACREP IIG7g)
5) Identify appropriate research methods and procedures used to carry out investigations in educational and psychological settings. (CTC 30; CACREP IIG7b)
6) Develop an awareness of assessment procedures as part of the process of early identification of learning problems.
7) Students are able to interpret test results to individual clients, parents, teachers, administrators, and other interested parties. (CTC 2, 27, 30)

Understand basic concepts of standardized and nonstandardized testing and other assessment techniques, including norm-referenced and criterion-referenced assessment, environmental assessment, performance assessment, individual and group test and

inventory methods, psychological testing, and behavioral observations (CACREP IIG7b)EXAMINATIONS AND

Assignment:

Candidates will be given laboratory experience with the following test instrument: Hopkins Verbal Learning Test (CTC 4)

Candidates' understanding of the whole situation involving a person is demonstrated through their write up of a psychological report which includes interpretation. (CTC 8)

Candidates are required to meet with a peer in class to gather background information, behavior of the peer during testing, test results, summary, and conclusion, and then compile a psychological report on the peer (CTC 31)

Topics

Historical perspectives in assessment

Types of educational and psychological appraisal (CTC 4)

Types of assessment used in these major areas: school, rehabilitation counseling, MFCC (marriage and family counseling) settings, and clinical settings

Validity: Content, construct, and concurrent and predictive criterion types

Reliability: Four major methods

Major appraisal methods including: environmental, individual tests and inventory methods, behavioral observations, and computer assisted methods

Measures of central tendency and standard scores, scales of measurement, variability, and correlations

Ethical and legal considerations for use of assessment data

Cultural diversity and critical pedagogy
Communicating test results to individual clients, parents, teachers, administrators, and other interested parties (CTC 30)

Theoretical Bases for Assessment, including Learning Styles and Developmental Stages of Children (CTC 19)

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS:

Students will be evaluated for their class participation, written assignments and performance on examinations.
Points for the course can be accumulated in the following manner:

Midterm examination:	100 points
Final examination:	100 points
Project report:	100 points
Total possible points:	300 points

Evaluation criteria:

270 – 300 points:	Excellent
240 – 269 points:	Satisfactory
200 – 239 points:	Marginal
Below 200 points:	No credit

Extra credit points will be assigned at a value agreed upon prior to completion of any assignment.

Course examination:

Two examinations – Midterm (10-21-10) and Final (12-16-10) will be given. Each exam will be comprehensive in nature over the materials covered in the book and in class from the previous exam and will equal 100 points. The exams will be multiple choice and/or vignette diagnosing and fill-in responses. Students unable to take the exam on the designated date must make arrangements with the instructor.

Lectures:

Lectures will be related to the readings, but will not follow them exactly. I will often include information in lecture that is not in the book and when it is important, it will appear on tests. In other words, make sure you listen to the lectures and do the readings. Anything in either is "fair game" for a test. In accordance with University policy, roll will be taken each week.

Study Expectations:

It is usually expected that students will spend approximately 2 hours of study time outside of class for every one hour in class. Since this is a 3-unit class, you should expect to study an average of 6 hours outside of class each week. Some students may

need more outside study time and some less.

For free tutoring on campus, contact the Learning Center in the Peters Building Annex Trailers (phone 278-3052 or visit www.csufresno.edu/learningcenter **).**

Subject to Change

This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check on announcements made while you were absent.

COURSE POLICIES & SAFETY ISSUES:

Plagiarism Detection. The campus subscribes to the Turnitin.com plagiarism prevention service, and you will need to submit written assignments to Turnitin.com. Your work will be used by Turnitin.com for plagiarism detection and for no other purpose. The student may indicate in writing to the instructor that he/she refuses to participate in the Turnitin.com process, in which case the instructor can use other electronic means to verify the originality of their work. Turnitin.com Originality Reports **WILL NOT be available for your viewing.**

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Students with Disabilities: Upon identifying themselves to the instructor and the university, students with disabilities will receive reasonable accommodation for learning and evaluation. For more information, contact Services to Students with Disabilities in University Center Room 5 (278-2811).

Honor Code: "Members of the CSU Fresno academic community adhere to principles of academic integrity and mutual respect while engaged in university work and related activities." You should:

d) understand or seek clarification about expectations for academic integrity in this course (including no cheating, plagiarism and inappropriate collaboration)
e) neither give nor receive unauthorized aid on examinations or other course work that is used by the instructor as the basis of grading.
f) take responsibility to monitor academic dishonesty in any form and to report it to the instructor or other appropriate official for action.

Cheating and Plagiarism: "Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one's grade or obtaining course credit; such acts also include assisting another student to do so. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations. However, it is the intent of this definition that the term 'cheating' not be limited to examination situations only, but that it include any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the material (i.e., their

intellectual property) so used as one's own work." Penalties for cheating and plagiarism range from a 0 or F on a particular assignment, through an F for the course, to expulsion from the university. For more information on the University's policy regarding cheating and plagiarism, refer to the Class Schedule (Legal Notices on Cheating and Plagiarism) or the University Catalog (Policies and Regulations).

Computers: "At California State University, Fresno, computers and communications links to remote resources are recognized as being integral to the education and research experience. Every student is required to have his/her own computer or have other personal access to a workstation (including a modem and a printer) with all the recommended software. The minimum and recommended standards for the workstations and software, which may vary by academic major, are updated periodically and are available from Information Technology Services (http://www.csufresno.edu/ITS/) or the University Bookstore. In the curriculum and class assignments, students are presumed to have 24-hour access to a computer workstation and the necessary communication links to the University's information resources."

Disruptive Classroom Behavior: "The classroom is a special environment in which students and faculty come together to promote learning and growth. It is essential to this learning environment that respect for the rights of others seeking to learn, respect for the professionalism of the instructor, and the general goals of academic freedom are maintained. ... Differences of viewpoint or concerns should be expressed in terms which are supportive of the learning process, creating an environment in which students and faculty may learn to reason with clarity and compassion, to share of themselves without losing their identities, and to develop and understanding of the community in which they live . . . Student conduct which disrupts the learning process shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class."

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transmitted, or distributed in any way without the permission of the original copyright holder. The instructor assumes no responsibility for individuals who improperly use copyrighted material placed on the web site.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE: (subject to change)

WEEK 1	Aug 26	Introduction. Course syllabus. Overview of course requirements. Issues related to assessment and the use and misuse of appraisal procedures and outcomes.	Syllabus Whiston: Ch 1 Observe and assess
WEEK 2	Sept 2	Go over assignment. Current issues in assessment and testing. Basic Assessment	Whiston: Ch 1 & 2
WEEK 3	Sept 9	Measurement Concepts: Reliability	Whiston: Ch 3
WEEK 4	Sept 16	Measurement Concepts: Validity	Whiston: Ch 4
WEEK 5	Sept 23	Assessment of diverse populations. Multicultural context. Individuals with disabilities	Whiston: Ch 15
WEEK 6	Sept 30	Test selection considerations. Usefulness of tests in clinical/academic settings. Selecting assessment and test instruments. Interpreting test results	Whiston: Ch 5
WEEK 7	Oct 7	Initial assessment. MSE. Intake interview	Whiston: Ch 6
WEEK 8	Oct 14	Achievement and Aptitude. Discuss midterm.	Whiston: Ch 8
WEEK 9	Oct 21	**Midterm exam**	
WEEK 10	Oct 28	Intelligence and abilities testing: What are we measuring? Clinical uses of Wechsler Scales WAIS-IV presentation	Whiston: Ch 7
WEEK 11	Nov 4	Measuring personality. The Onion Model. Psychological and personality inventories	Whiston: Ch 10
WEEK 12	Nov 11	No class - Veteran's Day	
WEEK 13	Nov 18	Marriage and Family Counseling Issues in diagnosis	Whiston: Ch 11 Whiston: Ch 12
WEEK 14	Nov 25	No class – Thanksgiving	
WEEK 15	Dec 2	**Last day of Class** Ethics and legal issues Review/prepare for final and **Project Report Due**	Whiston: Ch 14
WEEK 16	Dec 9 and 10	**No Class** **FACULTY CONSULTATION DAYS**	
WEEK 17	Dec 16	**FINAL EXAM**	