



COUGARS

Syllabus for PSYC 421-D01
Psychological Tests and Measurements
Online; Asynchronous
Department of Psychology
Spring 2025

About the Instructor

Name: Samantha Murphy, MA, NHA-CPT

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

All office hours are held via Zoom. If you cannot attend office hours during the above-mentioned time, please contact me via email to discuss scheduling an appointment.

Welcome

Welcome to Psychological Tests and Measurements (PSYC 421-D01)! I am overjoyed to spend the semester diving into the interesting depths of psychological testing.

Teaching Philosophy

My courses focus on individual review of assigned reading with lecture focusing on core competencies from the readings and how to apply these competencies. Lecture will also include engaging activities. Assignments will focus on applying knowledge obtained from this course. I believe that you will learn from my teachings, but that I will also learn from you.

Communicating with the instructor

Please contact me via email or through office hours. If contacting me via email, please include the course number in the subject line (i.e., *PSYC 421: Assignment question*). My typical response time frame is within 24 to 48 hours.

All course updates will be sent via Blackboard.

About the Course

Course description

This course will provide an introduction to psychological testing with an overview of basic psychometric concepts as well as functional considerations of psychological testing. Commonly used tests from various psychological subfields will be introduced.

Successful completion of this course results in the completion of three credit hours.

Prerequisite knowledge

PSYC 220: Research Design and Statistics

Course goals and objectives

By the successful completion of this course, you will be able to demonstrate:

- Knowledge of various psychometric concepts (i.e., reliability and validity) related to tests and test construction.
- Knowledge of new developments, ethical considerations, and controversies associated with psychological testing.
- Understanding of the varied purposes of psychological testing in addition to the various settings in which tests are employed.
- Skills related to the critical evaluation of tests and assessment instruments.
- Knowledge to enhance your writing and communication/presentation skills.

Revised: 01/01/2025

Course textbooks

Cohen, R.J., Schneider, J.W., & Tobin, R.M. (2022). *Psychological testing and assessment: An introduction to tests & measurement (10th ed.)*. New York: McGraw Hill.

Students can rent textbooks from SIUE. Please visit the [Textbook Service website](#) for more information.

Other course materials

Additional reading (i.e., manuscripts) as assigned via Blackboard.

Technology Privacy Information

We will be using Blackboard in this course. View the [Anthology Blackboard Privacy Statement](#) to review how your data is being used and stored.

Course Requirements and Policies

Submitting work

Unless otherwise noted, you will turn in all assignments through Blackboard.

All assignments are required to be in American Psychological Association (APA) 7th Edition format. Guidelines can be found on Purdue Owl's [website](#) if an APA manual is not available for your use. Please review the [Sample APA 7 Student Paper](#) and utilize it as a guide for all assignments in this course. References and in-text citations are required if referring to the textbook or other materials.

Please review the file name in which you have saved your document under before submitting via Blackboard. Although not required, an example of an appropriate file name is *PSYC 340_Reflection_LastName*.

All assignments are to be submitted as Microsoft Word documents.

Academic integrity/plagiarism

Plagiarism includes either presenting someone else's words without quotation marks even when citing the source or presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source. If you plagiarize, your instructor cannot evaluate your understanding of the topic. When paraphrasing from another source, at the very least the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. Plagiarism is one type of academic misconduct described in SIUE's student Academic Code.

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the [Student Academic Code \(3C2\)](#) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location.

Plagiarism is the use of another person's words or ideas without crediting that person. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and may lead to failure on an assignment, in the class, or dismissal from the University, per the [SIUE academic dishonesty policy](#). Students are responsible for complying with University policies about academic honesty as stated in the [University's Student Academic Conduct Code](#).

University guidance on artificial intelligence (AI)

Unless expressly allowed by the instructor, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools and applications (including ChatGPT, DALL-E, and others) to produce content for course assignments and assessments is a violation of SIUE's academic policy and is prohibited.

Assignments and Grading

Weekly Quizzes (80 points). There will be eight online quizzes consisting of 10 questions. Quizzes will take place weekly to assess your knowledge and understanding of the assigned readings and virtual lectures. See course schedule below for full details on due dates. Quizzes are due at the end of each week (Sunday evenings) at 11:59 PM CST.

Weekly Class Discussions (140 points). Each week you will participate in an online class discussion. First, you will post a response to the prompts on the discussion board before Friday evening at 11:59 PM CST. This initial post should demonstrate your understanding of essential concepts and your ability to apply them correctly to real-life experiences. You will then respond to at least two of your classmates' posts by the end of the week on Sunday evening at 11:59 PM CST. These peer responses should demonstrate your ability to facilitate group discussion and think critically about others' perspectives. Finally, before Friday evening at 11:59 PM CST of the next week, you will respond to your classmates' comments and questions about your initial post.

Construct Project (200 points). Throughout the semester, you will apply your newly formed knowledge of psychological testing by comparing two tests that measure the same or similar constructs. You will compare and contrast some of the tests' psychometric properties. Lastly, you will discuss administrative, cultural, and ethical considerations that may impact the integrity of each test.

Your course grades will be based on your combined performance on quizzes and assignments.

Assignments

Weekly Quizzes	80 points (10 points each)
Weekly Class Discussions	140 points (20 points each)
Construct Project	200 points
Total Possible Points	440 points

Course Grade
A: 378 – 420 points
B: 336 – 377 points
C: 294 – 376 points
D: 252 – 293 points
F: < 252 points

Feedback and grading timeline

Assignment grades with any necessary feedback will typically be posted within two to three days after the submission deadline; however, some assignments may take longer to grade (i.e., TDP). You can find your grade by clicking the My Grades link on the left menu of the Blackboard course. If there is a rubric attached to the assignment, you can click your score to see my personal feedback on the rubric.

Late or Missed Assignments/Rewrites

It is expected that all assignments are turned in by the deadline listed below. Late assignments drop a letter grade for each day they are late, starting with the day the assignment is due (i.e., an assignment turned in one hour late drops one letter grade). In cases of documented emergencies exceptions may be made. It is up to the student to talk with the instructor about whether an exception can be made.

Participation

It is vitally important that our classroom environment promotes the respectful exchange of ideas, including being sensitive to the views and beliefs expressed during online discussions. Your success in this course will depend on your communication, consistent engagement, and active participation in all course activities. Success in this course requires that you adhere to the deadlines given below as you complete assignments, discussions, and other course activities.

It is expected that you attend lectures and participate in class discussion/activities. We all learn from each other's opinions, thoughts, and questions. Your participation not only enhances your learning experience but also contributes to the learning experience for each of us.

It is expected that you complete all assigned reading as scheduled. The majority of reading in this course will come from the text; however, I will occasionally provide you with supplemental reading material on Blackboard. I will not cover all text material in class; therefore, it is important for you to keep up with the reading.

I do not share PowerPoint slides on Blackboard or via email. If you miss class, you are still responsible for the material covered, assignments given out, and for any assignments due that day. Assignments not turned in on the due date will be considered late and points will be deducted. Not being present for class is not an acceptable excuse for turning in a late

assignment, not getting a new assignment, or not getting handouts/notes. When you miss class, it is up to you to get the notes and handouts from another student. You may also see me during office hours to get handouts you have missed.

Extra credit may be awarded at random for class attendance and participation as this provides an equal opportunity for all students to receive credit. This is provided at instructor discretion. Extra credit will not be granted upon request from a student due to a suffering grade.

Children in the classroom

As a parent myself, I never want a student to have to choose between caring for a child and their education. Should you be faced with unforeseen circumstances, your child is welcome in my classroom. Although this should not be seen as a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class due to unforeseen circumstances is more than acceptable. In cases such as these, I ask that all students contribute to the creation of a welcoming environment for all including children.

Class behavior

You are expected to show respect for your classmates' ideas and opinions. As college students it is expected that you be open to a variety of viewpoints and opinions even though you may have a differing point of view.

As a courtesy to your classmates, please turn all cell phones to silent and/or vibrate mode. Wearing headphones or utilizing your cell phone is prohibited in class.

The utilization of electronic devices for note taking in class is permitted (i.e., tablet, laptop, etc.); however, these devices should not be used for anything, but items directly related to this course during class sessions.

Although I want you to be engaged in the material and to discuss it with your classmates, please limit private conversation during class. Excessive conversation is not only rude, but distracting and disruptive. Please save these discussions for outside of class.

It is understood that "things happen" causing you to be late to class. If you arrive late to class, please take a seat in the back as quietly as possible to limit disruption to the class.

Technology requirements and capabilities

Technical requirements for students can be found in this [ITS KnowledgeBase article](#). Additional resources for learning with technology can be found on the [Online at SIUE site](#).

Technical Support

Contact ITS at [618-650-5500](tel:618-650-5500) or at help@siue.edu with any technical concerns. You can also check the functionality of University systems, including Blackboard, at the [ITS System Status page](#), or search the [ITS KnowledgeBase](#) for various how-to and troubleshooting guides.

University Policies and Information

University policies and guidance that address teaching, learning, and student support services are available at: <https://kb.siue.edu/132378> Students are encouraged to visit this resource site for current information on:

- Regular and Substantive Interaction
- Recordings of Class Content
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Pregnancy and Newly Parenting Policy
- Services for Students Needing Accommodations (ACCESS)
- Academic and Other Student Services (Library, Academic Success, Tutoring, etc.)
- Cougar Care
- Student Success Coaches

Subject to change notice

All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if assignments or due dates change.

Course Schedule:

Week/Module	Learning Activities	Assignments	Due Dates All due at 11:59 PM CST unless noted otherwise
Week 1 January 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 1 and 2 Review Lecture Video 1 	Weekly Quiz 1	January 19 th
		Post Discussion 1	January 17 th
		Comment on Discussion 1	January 19 th
Week 2 January 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 8 Review Lecture Video 2 	Reply to Comments on Discussion 1	January 24 th
		Weekly Quiz 2	January 26 th
		Post Discussion 2	January 24 th
		Comment on Discussion 2	January 26 th
Week 3 January 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 3 and 4 Review Lecture Video 3 	Reply to Comments on Discussion 2	January 31 st
		Weekly Quiz 3	February 2 nd
		Post Discussion 3	January 31 st
		Comment on Discussion 3	February 2 nd
Week 4 February 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 5 and 6 Review Lecture Video 4 	Reply to Comments on Discussion 3	February 7 th
		Weekly Quiz 4	February 9 th
		Post Discussion 4	February 7 th
		Comment on Discussion 4	February 9 th
Week 5 February 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 9 and 10 Review Lecture Video 5 	Reply to Comments on Discussion 4	February 14 th
		Weekly Quiz 5	February 16 th
		Post Discussion 5	February 14 th
		Comment on Discussion 5	February 16 th
Week 6 February 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 11 and 12 Review Lecture Video 6 	Reply to Comments on Discussion 5	February 21 st
		Weekly Quiz 6	February 23 rd
		Post Discussion 6	February 21 st
		Comment on Discussion 6	February 23 rd
Week 7 February 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 13 and 14 Review Lecture Video 7 	Reply to Comments on Discussion 6	February 28 th
		Weekly Quiz 7	March 2 nd
		Post Discussion 7	February 28 th
		Comment on Discussion 7	March 2 nd
Week 8 March 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 15 Review Lecture Video 8 	Weekly Quiz 8	March 5 th ***
		Test Development Project	March 3 rd ***