
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AFFAIRS
SCHOOL OF REHABILITATION SERVICES
FALL SEMESTER 2016

COURSE TITLE: Assessment in Human Services
COURSE NUMBER: REHS 4301.01, 3 credits
TIME: MW 9:45-10:40 AM
ROOM: EHABW – Room 2.212 (HSHW)
FACULTY: Lynn K K Fischer, PhD, CRC, CVE
CONTACT: Office: EHABW 1.134 (HSHW)
Phone: 956-665-3152
Email: Lynn.Fischer@utrgv.edu
*University policy requires all emails regarding class to be conducted through UTRGVemail or through Blackboard course messages .

OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Wednesday: 1:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Tuesday: 11:00 AM to 12 noon and 1:00 to 3:00
Tuesday noon to 1 – Rehab Club Meetings
Thursday: 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Other times: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course will focus on the assessment in human service agencies. Students will be introduced to screening tools and assessment instruments related to addiction, behavioral health, vocational evaluation, Transition (School to Work or Independent Living). An orientation to psychometrics, behavioral observations, work samples, and situational assessments as well as modifications in assessment techniques needed to effectively evaluate people with disabilities and various cultures will be provided.

Co/Prerequisites: REHS 2301.

COURSE GOALS AND PURPOSE:

C.7 ASSESSMENT Each knowledge domain is followed by Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). Each SLO is prefaced by the phrase: As demonstrated by the ability to:

Knowledge domains:

C. 7.1 Role of assessment

C.7.1.a. explain purpose of assessment in rehabilitation process.

C.7.1.b. use assessment information to determine eligibility and to develop plans for Services.

C. 7.2 Assessment resources and methods

C.7.2.a. identify assessment resources and methods appropriate to meet the needs of individuals with a disability.

C.7.2.b. describe resources to assist rehabilitation counselors in identifying appropriate test instruments and other assessment methods.

- C.7.2.c. describe computer-based assessments for rehabilitation and employment planning.
- C 7.3 Individual involvement in assessment planning
 - C.7.3.a. facilitate individual involvement in evaluating the feasibility of rehabilitation or independent living objectives and planning.
 - C.7.3.b. utilize assessment as an ongoing process in establishing individual rapport, rehabilitation service planning, objectives and goals.
 - C.7.3.c. evaluate the individual's capabilities to engage in informed choice and to make decisions.
- C .7.4 Measurement and statistical concepts
 - C.7.4.a. describe basic measurement concepts and associated statistical terms.
 - C.7.4.b. comprehend the validity, reliability, and appropriateness of assessment instruments.
- C. 7.5 Selecting and administering the appropriate assessment methods
 - C.7.5.a. explain differences in assessment methods and testing instruments (i.e. aptitude, intelligence, interest, achievement, vocational evaluation, situational assessment).
 - C.7.5.b. apply assessment methods to evaluate a consumer's vocational, independent living and transferable skills.
- C. 7.6 Ethical, legal, and cultural implications in assessment
 - C.7.6.a. discuss the legal, ethical, and cultural implications of assessment for rehabilitation services.
 - C.7.6.b identify cultural influences when planning assessment.
 - C.7.6.c. discuss implications of testing norms related to the culture of an individual.

<u>TEACHING METHODS</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Videos • Discussions • Case Studies • Weekly Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Quizzes ✓ Exams ✓ Discussions ✓ Case Studies ✓ Weekly Activities

TEXT:Required: The Essentials of Testing and Assessment; A Practical Guide to Counselors, Social Workers, and Psychologists. (3rd Edition), Edward S. Neukrug and R. Charles Fawcett, 2015, ISBN: 13-978-285-45424-5

Participation in Course: This is one of the two classes where you will be learning skills that you will be using in your professional career. I strongly encourage you to attend class each week, ready to practice the skills and contribute to class discussions with your ideas and experiences. See further information under Evaluation Criteria.

Late Work and Make-up Exams: Please contact me BEFORE missing due dates or exams. Unless arrangements have been made in advance, or it's an emergency, please do not expect to be able to turn in late work or make up exams. We will negotiate the definition of emergency on a case by case basis if necessary.

ONLINE: Various Course Materials will be available on Blackboard Learn. You are responsible

to check the course for updates to the schedule or for additional information on assignments or activities.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Attendance: 15 points – you will earn these points by coming to class and paying attention to class discussion. You will not be texting or web browsing.

Participation: 15 points – you will earn these points by speaking up in class, asking and answering questions, volunteering to role-play, etc.

Activities: 10 @ 10 points = 100 points. Some of these will be completed in class. You must be present to earn full points.

Exams: 4 @ 50 points = 200 points

- Are to be taken **individually** – without reference to notes or text or internet or people, or other sources of assistance. This is an opportunity to act with integrity. While I can not guarantee your compliance, I expect that you will choose to comply with the instructions.
- Are taken **on-line** through Blackboard Learn. Please become familiar with the Blackboard Learn environment. It is recommended that you take the exams using one of the campus computer labs. If you choose to use your own device, check to make sure you have a **strong internet connection** and your device is **fully charged**. Please DO NOT take the exams using your phone.

Grading Scale

A	90-100%
B	80-89.999999999%
C	70-79.999999999%
D	60-69.999999999%
F	less than 60%

Extra Credit may be available. Check announcements frequently.

It is possible that grades may not be available until 12/19 when we turn them in to the Registrar. I will leave the Blackboard course open until 12/23 @ 11:59 pm so you can check your grades and have access to feedback on your work.

Date (Monday through Sunday) **Tentative Schedule**

Week 1 08/29-09/04	Welcome and Introductions Review Syllabus Overview of Assessment Chapter 1 – History of Testing and Assessment
Week 2 09/05-11	Chapter 2 – Ethical, Legal and Professional Issues in Assessment Activity #1
Week 3 09/12-18	Chapter 3 – Diagnosis in the Assessment Process Activity #2 ***CENSUS DAY 09/14

Week 4 09/19-25	Chapter 4 – The Assessment Report Process Activity # 3
Week 5 09/26-10/02	Chapter 4 - Interviewing Clients and Writing Reports Review and Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4)
Week 6 10/03-09	Chapter 5 – Test Worthiness: Validity, Reliability Cross-Cultural Fairness and Practicality Activity # 4
Week 7 10/10-16	Chapter 6 – Statistical Concepts & Making Meaning out of Raw Scores Activity # 5
Week 8 10/17-23	Chapter 7 – Statistical Concepts – Creating New Scores Activity # 6 Review and Exam 2
Week 9 10/24-30	Chapter 8 – Assessment of Educational Ability Activity # 7
Week 10 10/30-11/06	Chapter 9 – Intellectual and Cognitive Functioning Activity # 8
Week 11 11/07-13	Review and Exam 3
Week 12 11/14-20	Chapter 10 – Career and Occupational Assessment Activity # 9 Online Course evaluations – open 11/16 ***Last Day to Drop a Class is 11/17
Week 13 11/21-27	Chapter 11 – Clinical Assessment 11/24-25 Thanksgiving Break – no classes Online Course evaluations – con't
Week 14 11/28-12/04	Chapter 12 – Informal Assessment Activity # 10 Online course evaluations continue through
Week 15 12/05-07	Assessment Reports Wrap Up and Review Study Day 12/08/2015 – no classes, no exams
Week 16 12/09-15	Final - Exam 4 scheduled for Wednesday, 12/14 8:00 AM through 9:25 AM.
12/17/2016	Commencement/Graduation
12/19/2016	Final Grades turned in to Registrar
12/23/2016	Blackboard Course closes @ 11:59 PM

Fall 2016 Term (August 29 – December 15)

Apr 18 Registration begins
Aug 24 Payment Due

Aug 26	Waitlist ends
	Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) for a 100% refund
Aug 29	Fall classes begin
Sept 1	Last day to add or register for Fall classes
Aug 29 – Sept 2	Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) for a 80% refund
Sept 5	Labor Day Holiday, no classes
Sept 6 - Sept 12	Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) for a 70% refund
Sept 14	Census day (last day to drop without it appearing on the transcript)
Sept 13 - Sept 19	Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) for a 50% refund
Sept 20 - Sept 26	Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) for a 25% refund
Nov 17	Last day to drop (DR grade) a class or withdraw (grade of W)
Nov 24 - Nov 25	Thanksgiving Holiday, no classes
Dec 8	Study Day, no classes
Dec 9 – Dec 15	Final Exams
Dec 16 - Dec 17	Commencement exercises
Dec 19	Grades due by 3:00 p.m.

UTRGV Policy Statements

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: *Required on all syllabi. Do not modify.*

If you have a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects your academic performance) and would like to receive academic accommodations, please inform your instructor and contact Student Accessibility Services to schedule an appointment to initiate services. It is recommended that you schedule an appointment with Student Accessibility Services before classes start. However, accommodations can be provided at any time. **Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD: *Required on all syllabi.*

Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (<http://my.utrgv.edu>); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Online evaluations will be available 11/16-12-07. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY: Recommended on all syllabi.

As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE: *Required on all syllabi.*

In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS: Recommended on all syllabi;

According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

Technical Requirements

Computer Requirements: Blackboard is a web based application that is run through a Web Browser. If your computer can successfully run any of the popular web browsers out there like Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox then you will be able to use Blackboard. Keep in mind that your browser must be configured to work properly with Blackboard. This means having Java Installed, Pop-up Blockers disabled and cookies enabled. To check if your browser is compatible with Blackboard you can do a browser check by visiting the [Blackboard Browser Tune-up page](#) or you can see a list of [Blackboard compatible browsers](#).

Java Runtime Environment: For BlackBoard to function properly, you will need to have Java installed on your machine. This is important when using certain features in BlackBoard like the Chat Tool, File Uploads, quizzes etc. To ensure that you have the latest version of Java you can download the latest version at the link below.



[Java Runtime Environment](#)

Blackboard Help Desk Assistance: For the following issues, you should contact the Blackboard Help Desk:

- Server issues (site not available, server is slow)
- Course access (login problems, course not available)
- Technical problems (a function not working properly)
- Tegrity questions

Contact Information:

Education Complex, EDCC 2.202

956-665-5327

colthelp@utpa.edu

Information and Tracking Disclosure (Closely adapted from the University of Western Sydney, Australia: <http://www.uws.edu.au/about/information/privacy#Webct>)

Each site on Blackboard Learn is password protected and authorized access is required. Information is stored on the University's system about use and access of the course website. For example, the system tracks information about how students use learning unit material including first and last logon, how frequently unit materials have been accessed, and the number of discussion thread read and posted.

The system also retains electronic assignment submissions and exam results and grades, contributions posted to the site discussion board, and transcripts of chat room discussions. Center for Distance Learning personnel, University faculty members associated with the course, and other staff with legitimate reasons will have access to this information.

The course website may contain hotlinks to third-party (outside) websites. These links are provided for convenience. While the course instructor makes every effort to ensure the safety, security, and accuracy of these websites, neither she nor the University is responsible for the content or practices of linked third-party sites. Students are encouraged to review the terms of use, privacy policy, and other policies of linked websites, as the policies of the linked site may differ from those of the course or the University website.