

TENTATIVE—SUBJECT TO CHANGES

The University Of Texas at Tyler

School of Education

EDSP 5371

Individual Assessment of Cognitive Functioning/Wechsler Scales

University of Texas at Tyler –College of Education

Course: EDSP 5371
Semester and Year: Fall 2022
Time: Online
Location: Online

Instructor Information:

Jessica A. Rueter, PhD

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Program Coordinator, Special Education

School of Education

Office: BEP 240

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Zoom). Other times by appointment

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It is my desire that each of you profits from this course. Please contact me via e-mail or meet with me by appointment if you need any assistance.

I also welcome you to visit with me in email if you need assistance or schedule a Zoom conference if you wish to discuss your grades or class performance.

Course Catalog Description:

The course, Individual Assessment of Cognitive Functioning/Wechsler Scales, is designed to acquaint students with the theory, problems, ethical standards, and techniques of administering individual tests of intelligence. Specifically, each student will learn to administer, score, and interpret assessment tools such as the *WISC-V* and use the results of assessments to identify evidence-based recommendations and learning strategies for the purposes of developing individual education programs. Prerequisite—EDSP 5364.

Major area: **Special Education – Educational Diagnostician**

Student Learning Outcomes

The following student learning outcomes are aligned with the standards as delineated by the specific learning outcomes of the Educational Diagnostician State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Advanced Specialty Set: Educational Diagnostician Specialist Standards.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes	Standards: <u>SBEC</u> <u>CEC</u>
Review ethical standards of practice, roles, and responsibilities regarding assessment including state and federal regulations relevant to the role of the educational diagnosticians, FERPA, and procedural safeguards.	<u>Domain I, III—Standard II</u> <u>SEDS.6.K1, SEDS.6.K2, SEDS.6.K3</u>
Review psychometric principles and issues including laws and legal issues related to the assessment of individuals with disabilities.	<u>Domain I, III—Standards I, II, IV, V</u> <u>SEDS.5.K, SEDS.5.K2, SEDS.5.K3,</u> <u>SEDS.5.K4, SEDS5.K5</u>
Master the basic administration, scoring, and interpreting skills in individual intelligence testing.	<u>Domain II—Standard VI</u> <u>SEDS.1.K2, SEDS.1.S2, SEDS.1.S3</u>
Uses procedures to ensure nonbiased results	<u>Domain I—Standard VI, VII, IX</u> <u>SEDS.3.K1, SEDS3.K2, SEDS.3.S1,</u> <u>SEDS3.S2</u>
Communicate assessment results through formal report writing.	<u>Domain I—Standard IV, V, VI</u> <u>SEDS1.S4, SEDS.7.S1</u>
Report assessment findings for instructional decisions including recommendations for diverse populations; determine needs & making recommendations based on assessment results	<u>Domain I, II—Standard IV, V, VI,</u> <u>VII, IX</u> <u>SEDS.1, SEDS.3.K1, SEDS.3.K2,</u> <u>SEDS.3.S2, SEDS1.S4</u>

Evaluation and Grading:

Your grade will be determined based on your performance on particular assignments and/or category of assignments, which are weighted according to the percentage specified.

Percentage of Weight by Assignment

Tier 1 Assignments:

WISC V #1-3 Administrations	25%
WISC V #4 Administration (Benchmark Assessment)	30%
Interpretive Report	30%
GORT V Administration	10%

Tier 2 Assignments:

5%
Zoom Conferences, RTGM, WISC V Scoring Activity, Test Narrative, Hypothesis Statement, Quizzes, Reflections of Learning, and any other assignments.

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = 59% and below

There are three specific grading policies that you need to be aware of.

1. It is my policy not to round grades at the end of the semester. The percentage you earn is the letter grade that will be recorded. For example, a percentage of 89.5 to 89.9 will be recorded as a B and a percentage of 79.5 to 79.9 will be recorded as a C.
2. It is also my policy not to extend extra credit or additional assignments/activities at the end of the semester.
3. Finally, it is my policy not to discuss grades via email. If you need to discuss grade issues, please email me to schedule a zoom conference. This will allow us time to review your concern and allow me to give you my undivided attention.

Last Day to Withdraw from Class: November 4, 2022

Description of Course Assignments, Evaluation, and Grading:

1. **Zoom Video-Conferences:** You will have the opportunity to participate in Zoom Conferences throughout the semester. The primary purpose of these video-conferences is to facilitate conversations about assessment and course assignments/activities. The secondary purpose is to build an on-line community of learners **(75 points)**.
2. **RTGM:** RTGM are held via Zoom. During these meetings, you and your group members (I will organize groups) will set up zoom conference times to discuss specified topics **(40 points)**.
3. **Quizzes:** After you have completed the module activities, you will take a quiz as noted on the course schedule. **Items and learning activities contained in the module are potential questions for quizzes. For example -- chapter readings, outside reading assignments, articles, video clips, Video lectures, assignments/activities, etc. (10 points each)**
4. **Scoring Activity – Verbal Comprehension:** Because the Verbal Comprehension subtests contains multiple point values for each item, you need to practice assigning points before your first test administration. During this scoring activity, you will practice assigning points values and noting queries from actual responses provided by a 6th grader **(25 points)**
5. **Intelligence Testing Narrative:** WISC V #1 must be accompanied with a narrative documenting the individual assessment session. *A template for the testing narrative will be reviewed in class and is expected to be used for each test administration (10 points)*
6. **Hypothesis Statement:** You will write a hypothesis statement in conjunction with WISC

V #3 Test Administration. The hypothesis statement is in essence an activity that is designed to simulate a referral to special education. During this module, you will be expected to conduct classroom observations, interview parents, teachers, and the student, gather cumulative records on the child, etc. **(25 points)**

7. **Interpretive Report:** You are required to write a full individual interpretive report based on a child that you have administered the WISC V #3 to. As part of this assignment, you are required to conduct in-depth interviews with the parent/guardian and school personnel to collect the necessary information for the report. The report must include interpretation of testing data including qualitative notes, classroom observations, interview information, eligibility recommendations, and evidence-based recommendations **(100 points)**
8. **Reflections of Learning:** At the completion of the requirements of this course, you will write a reflection with respect to the course content, activities, and assignments including the Writers Workshop. Reflections of Learning will be scored based on guidelines/criteria outlined on the Reflective Summary rubric **(20 points)**

WISC V Test Administration Descriptions

WISC V test administrations must be video-recorded subtest by subtest and uploaded to Edthena in order to receive credit.

9. **WISC V #1 Test Administration:** You will administer the WISC V to a specified client. WISC V #1 consists of the following:
 - a. WISC V (WISC V Protocol Scoring Rubric **90 points**)
 - b. Test Narrative **10 points**
 - c. Must be administered to an elementary student (Seven years of age or older and in first through fifth/sixth grade)
10. **WISC V #2 Test Administration:** You will administer the WISC V to a specified client. WISC V #2 consists of the following:
 - a. WISC V (WISC V Protocol Scoring Rubric **90 points**)
 - b. Must be administered to a secondary student (i.e. middle or high school age/grade child and who is 16 years 11 months or younger)
11. **WISC V #3 Test Administration:** You will administer the WISC V to a specified client. WISC V #3 consists of the following:
 - a. Hypothesis Statement **25 points**
 - b. WISC V (WISC V Protocol Scoring Rubric **90 points**)
 - c. GORT V **50 points**
 - d. Interpretive Report **100 points**
 - e. *Must be administered to an elementary student* (Seven years of age or older and in first through fifth/sixth grade) *who has suspected or known weaknesses in reading*
12. **WISC V #4 Test Administration (Final):** You will administer the WISC V to a specified client. WISC V #4 consists of the following:

- a. WISC (Video Administration Rubric **290 points**). ****Even though you will be evaluated according to the video administration rubric, you are still required to score and submit WISC V protocol, response booklets, and scoring analysis pages. Submissions without the scored protocol, response booklets, and analysis pages cannot be awarded credit for the WISC #4 Test Administration.**
- b. Reflections of Learning **20 points**
- c. Must be administered to a secondary student (i.e. middle or high school age/grade child and who is 16 years 11 months or younger)
- d. **WISC V #4 is a benchmark assessment in our program. You must earn a score of 90% on the WISC V video administration rubric which demonstrates your proficiency of test administration to be able to earn an A in the course. If you do not obtain a 90% on the WISC V video administration rubric, the highest grade you can earn in the class is a grade of “B”. If you do not achieve a 90% on this administration, an Individual Academic Remediation Plan will be drafted.**

Rescore Opportunities

1. ***You are allowed ONE rescore opportunity per semester. If you make a raw score error on a test administration and you have already taken advantage of your one rescore opportunity, the scoring analysis pages will not be graded. The grade recorded will be based on subtest administration without the scoring analysis portion of the test administration.***
2. ***You are allowed ONE rescore opportunity per semester. If you make a raw score error on an already rescored test administration, the scoring analysis page will not be graded. The grade recorded will be based on subtest administration without the scoring analysis portion of the test administration.***

Specific Assignment Requirements:

1. All protocols will be submitted with a digital recording of the administration as well as informed consent and scoring rubrics that have been self-evaluated. *NO protocols will be graded without these items.*

Items to be Submitted with Protocols

- Consent for Testing (***Consent must be completed fully (this includes signature, dates, phone numbers, etc. of the graduate student and parent)—failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for protocol***)
 - Protocols (Record Forms & Student Response Booklets)
 - Video Recording of Test Administrations
 - Scoring Rubrics
2. **Participant Guidelines:** Participants must be chosen according to the “Participant

Guidelines” noted at the end of the syllabus. Failure to choose participants according to the stated guidelines will result in a grade of a zero for the respective protocol administrations. There will be no substitutions or swapping of age/grade for specific test administrations. That said, be proactive and have backup plans for each test administration.

The final grade of the course will be determined by overall competency, with major emphasis placed on reports and testing skills. Competency also includes your *(a) professional and ethical development; *(b) preparation before testing; (c) ability to accept constructive criticism; *(d) interpersonal relationships with fellow students, teaching assistants, and instructor; (e) promptness in turning in materials to be evaluated, and (f) overall maturity and clinical skills.

Teaching Strategies:

1. Approximately 3/4 of the course time will be devoted to administration of specific tests, test data interpretation, legal and ethical assessment considerations, assessment process, and report writing. Dissemination of this information will involve lecture, discussion, films, and group activities.

Basic testing procedures will be demonstrated to the class. Then students will learn the necessary procedures and practice administering the instruments.

2. The remainder of the course will be devoted to determining appropriate methods of assessing school-aged children, completing the assessment procedures, interpreting data, and writing individual diagnostic reports for use in instruction.

Required Texts:

Sattler, J. M., Dumont, R., & Coalson, D. L. (2016). *Assessment of children: WISC-V and WPPSI-IV*. La Mesa, CA: Jerome M. Sattler Publisher www.sattlerpublisher.com

In addition to the text, you need to purchase an Edthena license. If you have purchased a yearly license, you do not need to purchase it again. If you do not have a license to Edthena, please purchase one (<https://www.edthena.com>).

NOTE: *A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.*

Course Policies:

- **People First Language/Class Etiquette:** Our language reflects our attitudes. Always refer to persons with disabilities with respect. Degrading terminology will not be tolerated. In this class, we will strive to use “people first” language at all times. “People First” language always refers to the person first and not as a label or a category. For example, refer to “a student with autism” and not “an autistic child.”

- **Safe Zone:** I consider this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being - regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. That said, if you have a specific pronoun that you would like to be addressed by, please let me know. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is my expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.
- **Communication:** You'll need to log in to Canvas regularly (at least once a week) to view that week's assignments and check announcements and the Coffee & Conversations discussion board – this is a forum in Canvas that is for you to pose questions and general musings about the course. Before emailing me with questions, please post them here because 1) your classmates will respond more quickly with an answer, and 2) everyone in the class has the benefit of that answer. My goal is to check this board periodically and answer any questions that have not been answered by your classmates or that still seems to be unclear. However, I reserve the right to respond or not respond to any question that is posed. That said, I encourage you to use Coffee and Conversations as an environment to interact with and support one another throughout the semester.

If you need to email me privately, I normally respond to emails within 24 hours during the week, and up to 48 hours on a weekend. If you email me over a weekend, holiday break, or semester break, there may be a longer response time.

Also, it is my policy to discuss grades in a live, one-on-one meeting so that we can clearly communicate and I can hear your perspective and you can hear mine as this promotes open dialogue. If you have questions about grades or your performance in this class, I'm happy to meet with you in a Zoom conference.

- **Course Organization and Frequent Logins:** This course is organized into learning modules. The modules will open Mondays at 6:00 a.m. and close Sundays at 11:59 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Because this is an online course, on-campus attendance is not applicable. However, you must demonstrate self-motivation and be disciplined to complete the course activities and assignments in a timely manner. Thus, frequent (not less than once a week) logins to the course are expected.

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- **Late assignments:** Because this is an online class, you have a lot of flexibility in where and when you complete many of your assignments. You have many opportunities to submit the assignment on time throughout the week. ***You will need to be proactive and plan ahead to submit assignments on time even if you are temporarily unavailable or your student/client is temporarily unavailable (i.e. illness, vacations, family emergency,***

weddings, funerals, etc.). At the end of this program, you will be an educational diagnostician. Special education directors are very firm about due dates. The consequences of not meeting due dates are serious and can be cause for contracts not being renewed.

Assignments are due Sundays at 11:59 p.m. as determined by the course schedule. The submission link expires at 11:59 p.m. so you will need to make plans to submit prior to this time. If you wait until 11:59 p.m. the submission link will have expired and you will not be able to submit your assignment. ***Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have made prior arrangements with me 48 hours in advance of the due date/time.*** Assignments and due dates are noted on the course schedule located in the syllabus.

There will be NO make-up activities or exams for this course unless there is an extended emergency that encompasses more than the time allowed in the module. Relevant documentation must be submitted (i.e. doctor's note) in the event of a make-up activity to receive full credit.

- **Assignment Submissions:** Assignments will only be accepted via the designated submission links/sites that are specifically noted in each module. I do not accept assignments via email. If the submission link and/or time have expired you have lost the opportunity to submit your assignment.
- **Resubmissions:** It is my policy that once an assignment is submitted that it is considered your best work and is the final draft. Therefore, I do not allow for assignments to be resubmitted even when you do not obtain a passing grade.
- **UniCheck:** All written assignments will be submitted via the Canvas submission link that utilizes UniCheck. UniCheck is a plagiarism detection device. A similarity match of 25% or greater indicates that you may have engaged in unethical behavior and a meeting with me will be scheduled.
- **Tutoring Sessions:** Tutoring session(s) will be available to you on a variety of topics regarding the WISC V. These sessions are optional and you are not required to attend. However, your attendance at these sessions are highly encouraged. There are no points associated with attending these sessions.
- **Zoom Conferences:** Zoom conferences are face-to-face class meetings. Thus, face-to-face class etiquette will apply. Please create a distraction free environment while in our meeting. Zoom Conferences will begin at the time scheduled and will last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. To earn points for the Zoom conference you must do the following:

Zoom Attendance Guidelines

1. **All Zoom meetings that are scheduled are required.** You must be logged in within 1 to 3 minutes of the start time of the meeting you signed up for.

2. **You must attend the meeting you signed up for on the Google Doc.** Once the schedule is set, you cannot change your meeting time and date and you are obligated to attend the meeting you selected. We work very hard to keep our groups small. As teachers, you should appreciate the time it takes to organize meetings and to keep small groups balanced.
3. If you do not attend the Zoom you selected on the Google Doc or you are not on time to your meeting, **you will receive no credit even if you attend another meeting.**

Zoom Participation Guidelines:

- a. Create an environment that is conducive for participating in Zoom conferences. For example, this could be your office at home or school or your kitchen table as long as it is distraction free. Participating in Zoom conferences in your car while driving or riding as a passenger or while engaged in activities not related to the conference will be considered as an inappropriate environment and you will not receive credit for attendance.
- b. Please make sure that you have access to a web-cam. We want to see your bright smiling face. 😊
- c. Make plans to sign in early and have your technology working before the start of the meeting.
- d. If you have family members and or children in the home, please inform them that Zoom conferences are face-to-face class sessions and that you are expected to actively participate and contribute to the discussion without interruptions.
- e. Make plans to attend the entire Zoom conference and contribute to the meeting. That is, have your commute and errands completed, family activities, obligations, and childcare taken care of before signing in for the meeting.

You will not earn points if the environment is inappropriate for the conference, you are absent, you are late to sign in, you attend a different meeting than the one you signed up for on the Google Doc, you exit the conference early, you leave the conference and reenter even if you are only gone for a minute or two, or there are significant interruptions during the meeting.

2. **Contract for Test Administration:** You will be required to initial and sign a contract for test administration prior to the the first test administration in this course.
- **Written assignments:** Possessing the ability to clearly communicate in writing is an essential skill in our jobs as educational diagnosticians for the children and families we serve. Therefore, written assignments must be typed using double spacing lines and have page numbers. In addition, work submitted must reflect a professional quality in terms of scope, depth, writing mechanics, and appearance. Proofread all assignments as only materials with minimal or no errors will receive high scores. **All written assignments must be submitted via Word – (NO PDFs).**

- **Canvas:** You will access class lectures, assignments, grades, and course information through Canvas. Any changes to the course schedule, schedule of assignments, or any special assignments will be posted on Canvas.
 - **Technology:** Because this is an online course, you are expected to possess basic technology skills. However, if you are struggling with technology, please post your questions on coffee and conversations, or in many cases you can find answers to your question on Google or other search engines.
2. **Ethical Principles:** All testing and handling of test materials, examinees, and information obtained will be in accordance with the American Psychological Association's Ethical Principles for Psychologists or the American Association for Counseling and Development. Falsification of records is subject to serious consequences. Any violation of these guidelines will result in failure of this course and possible dismissal from the program.
 2. **Consent for Testing:** Before assessing or interviewing any child or adult, you must obtain informed consent. Consents must be submitted with the respective protocols. The Consent for Evaluation Form is included in this syllabus. If informed consent is not obtained and included with each assessment, a grade of zero will be recorded.
 2. **Test Kits:** You are responsible for locating the required test instruments for EDSP 5371. You will need to borrow test instruments from your school district or local service center to meet the requirements of this course. UT Tyler is not responsible for any agreement that may be entered into between the district and the student as it relates to test instrument use. In the event that you are unable to locate a test instrument, you may check out test instruments from UT Tyler according to the test kit checkout guidelines. There are a limited number of available test kits and will be available on a first come first served basis.
 2. **Protocols:** Protocols for the assessment instruments required in EDSP 5371 will be posted on Canvas. Protocols that are posted are to be used only for the purposes of this course and cannot be used for any other purpose.
 2. **Participant/Client Selection:** You are required to find your own clients in which to administer the assessment instruments required for EDSP 5371. When selecting participants/clients, you *must follow the Participant Guidelines* that are noted at the end of the syllabus. Failure to do so will result in a grade of a zero. There will be no substitutions or swapping of age/grade for specific test administrations. That said, be proactive and have backup plans for each test administration.

