San José State University  
Psychology  
Psychology 117, Section 2, Test & Measures, Fall 2016

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Gregory Feist
Office Location: Clark 140
Telephone: (408) 924-5617
Email: greg.feist@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tue & Thurs noon to 1pm
Class Days/Time: T TH 9-10:15am
Classroom: Clark 111

Course Format

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging (Optional)
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page on https://sjsu.instructure.com/ You are responsible for regularly checking (3x week) with the messaging system through MySJSU at http://my.sjsu to learn of any updates.

Course Description
The fundamentals of psychological test construction and evaluation will be covered, including but not limited to how items and tests are constructed as well as their reliability and validity. Specific psychological tests will be described and discussed, including but not limited to intelligence and ability tests, personality and adjustment questionnaires.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) (Required)
After successfully completing this class, students shall be able:

1. Recognize the major uses of psychological measurement procedures.
2. Recognize principles of administering, scoring, and interpreting psychological measures.
3. Identify sources of information about published and unpublished measures and know how to obtain that information.
4. Understand basic descriptive statistics as applied in psychological measurement.
5. Identify and differentiate among the major ways of estimating reliability and validity; identify the major principles of practicality, classical reliability theory, and validity.
6. Recognize the major characteristics, advantages, limitations, and proper uses of the following types of psychological measures (as well as specific examples of each):
   a). group and individual tests of intelligence
   b). tests of abilities and aptitudes
   c). self-report and projective measures of personality
   d). paper-and-pencil rating procedures
   e). situational measures
   g). behavioral observation
   h). forensic assessments
   h). neuropsychological measures
Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Other Readings
Plus two chapters that I will copy and post on Canvas from Adrian Raine’s The Anatomy of Violence (Pantheon, 2013)

Other technology requirements / equipment / material
Regular access to a computer (with Internet connection), a basic handheld calculator, and possession of a wordprocessor program (Word, GoogleDocs, Pages, WordPerfect)

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Classes: This class covers a large amount of material, therefore, attending lectures is crucial for your success in this class. There is too much information discussed in class that cannot be found in text and in the slides for you to do well in this course, without you attending regularly. If you want to do well, you will have to attend most every class. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the information from that class.

2. Attendance: I do not check attendance, but it is STRONGLY recommended. You are paying for this education. Although class attendance is no guarantee of doing well in the course, I can tell you from teaching thousands of students that missing class regularly is the single biggest predictor of getting a D or an F! Much of every exam comes from class material. You, of course, are responsible for all information and announcements in class and posted on Canvas. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate. You can ask me during office hours about some of the material, but understand I can’t give you a private recount of my lecture.

3. Exams: There will be two unit exams and one final exam, all of which consist of multiple-choice questions. You will have 1 1/4 hrs to complete each unit exam. You have 2 1/4 hrs to complete the final exam. No other make-up exams will be given. No bathroom breaks will be allowed. In most cases, the exams will require no more than 45 minutes to one hour, so please take care of business before the exam.

No Make-up Exams Allowed: Only with valid written medical excuse will any exam be allowed at a time other than those scheduled for your class.

4. Personality Project: You will complete a personality self-other assessment, whereby you compare your ratings of your personality against those of someone who knows you very well (family member, good friend). You will then write up a 6-page evaluation comparing and contrasting your self-ratings against the other person’s ratings of your personality. Late papers are accepted but with a 5%/day penalty. The final Personality Project write-up is due, Thursday November 22nd.

5. Extra-credit: there is NO extra-credit, so if you do not do well on your exams, especially your first Exam. COME SEE ME IMMEDIATELY, so we can discuss in person how to improve your performance.

Final Examination or Evaluation
The final will take place on Friday Dec 16, 2016 from 7:15 to 9:30am in Clark 111. It will be a multiple choice exam that will consist of two portions: a fourth exam and some cumulative material going back to the beginning of the semester.

If you have more than 2 finals in the 24 hour period around our final, you must request from me in writing on or before Dec 1, 2016 a request to move the time up to an earlier time. You must also show me the other two syllabi that lists the final exams and their times.
Grading Information

Determination of Grades

Your grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn throughout the semester. Points will be assigned as follows: Homework, 15 points; 1 exam worth 75 points; 2 exams worth 100 points each; Final worth 125 points; Personality Assessment Project 125 points \( \Rightarrow 540 \text{ total points} \) for the semester. Calculate your exam grades and final course grades using the following percentages:

\[
\begin{align*}
A+ &= 95\% \text{ and above} \quad (513 \text{ and above}) \\
A &= 92-94\% \quad (497-512) \\
A- &= 90-91\% \quad (486-496) \\
B+ &= 87-89\% \quad (470-485) \\
B &= 82-86\% \quad (443-469) \\
B- &= 80-81\% \quad (432-442) \\
C+ &= 77-79\% \quad (416-431) \\
C &= 72-76\% \quad (389-415) \\
C- &= 70-71\% \quad (378-388) \\
D+ &= 67-69\% \quad (362-377) \\
D &= 62-66\% \quad (335-361) \\
D- &= 60-61\% \quad (324-334) \\
F &= 59\% \text{ and below} \quad (323 \text{ and below})
\end{align*}
\]

Category | Point Totals | % of Course Grade
---|---|---
Homework | 15/540 | 03%
Exams | 400/540 | 74%
Personality Project | 125/540 | 23%

No make up exams EXCEPT with written medical excuse.
Late papers are accepted at 5% off per day late (including weekends)
There is no extra-credit for the course

Classroom Protocol

Attendance is strongly recommended, with careful note taking (no slides are posted on Canvas). Be considerate of others and the instructor if you must show up late or leave early.

Laptops are allowed for note taking only. If I sense you surfing the web or doing something other than taking notes (and I can often tell by how long you look at your screen and facial expressions) I will ask you to stop. However, you should know that lots of research shows that because of the distracting nature of laptops, that students who use them do WORSE in the course than those who take notes by hand [http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2014/09/25/why-a-leading-professor-of-new-media-just-banned-technology-use-in-class/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2014/09/25/why-a-leading-professor-of-new-media-just-banned-technology-use-in-class/)

Cellphones are NOT allowed at any time.

As a University student, you are encouraged to engage in professional communication with faculty, staff, and your fellow students. This is especially important in electronic mail notes that you might send. When sending email, I would encourage you to create an email account that includes your name (e.g., greg.feist@sjsu.edu). If you do not create such an email, be certain to include your name in the correspondence. Please be sure to follow the following basic guidelines when communicating in a professional capacity:

- Do not leave the “Subject” empty:
- Be sure to identify yourself clearly by stating your full name and the specific course in which you are enrolled. I have other classes with many students.
- If needed, clearly request a reply.
- Do not expect an immediate reply. Electronic communication is available 24/7. This is not true of your instructor or your classmates.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/)
# Psychology 117 / Test & Measures, Fall 2016, Course Schedule

## Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 25</td>
<td>Course Overview &amp; Introduction to Psychological Testing</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Introduction; Distributions, Central Tendency</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept 1</td>
<td>Variability, Normal Distribution, Skewness</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 6</td>
<td>Standard Scores (T-scores); Normalizing Scores--Homework due Sept 7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 8</td>
<td>Of Tests and Testing: Assumptions and Good Tests;</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 13</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 1</strong> (75 points) on Introduction and Statistical Concepts</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 15</td>
<td>Reliability</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>Reliability-Validity</td>
<td>5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 22</td>
<td>Validity (skip Fairness section for now, p. 204-209)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Test Development</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 29</td>
<td>Test Development</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 2</strong> (100 points)</td>
<td>4, 5, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>Theories of Intelligence</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Theories of Intelligence</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>Intelligence Tests (plus fairness from Ch 6, pp. 204-209)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>Intelligence Tests &amp; Aptitude (Ch 11, pp. 369-381 only)</td>
<td>10-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 20</td>
<td>Personality Assessment</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 25</td>
<td>Personality Assessment</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 27</td>
<td>Personality Assessment; Review</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 3</strong> (100 points)</td>
<td>9-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 3</td>
<td>Personality Assessment Project: NEO-PI</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Personality Assessment Project: NEO-PI</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 10</td>
<td>Personality Assessment Project: NEO-PI; In class scoring of NEO</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Personality Assessment Project: NEO-PI; questions about write up; workshop</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 17</td>
<td>Clinical and Counseling Assessment; Project Questions</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Clinical and Counseling Assessment; Project Questions</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nov 22</td>
<td><strong>Personality Project DUE</strong> (125 points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 24</td>
<td>Thanksgiving; No Class</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Neuropsychology and the Brain</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
<td>Forensic Assessment; Behavioral/Psychiatry, Criminal Profiling</td>
<td>Ch 3 (Raine)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Forensic Assessment; Behavioral/Psychiatry, Criminal Profiling</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</td>
<td>Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dec 8</td>
<td>Forensic Assessment: Pathology, Toxicology (DNA, blood, tissue etc), Jobs, Careers</td>
<td>(Raine)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Friday Dec 16, 7:15 – 9:30am</td>
<td><strong>FINAL</strong> (125 points) (cumulative and non-cumulative)</td>
<td>14, 15, Raine (Ch 3 &amp; 5) + some from all others</td>
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