



## Appraisal of Individuals-PSYC6378

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### Church and Community Ministries Division

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*The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill  
the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.*

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### Purpose of Course

This class is intended to serve as an introduction to the theory, tools and techniques of psychological assessment for professional counseling students. Students are expected to respond to the lectures, discussions and assignments in this class as professionals in training for the administration, scoring, and interpretation of psychological assessment instruments in professional and clinical settings. Students are also expected to ask questions that facilitate professional development.

### Our Core Values

The seminary has five core values.

*Doctrinal Integrity:* Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the "Articles of Religious Belief" and the "Baptist Faith and Message 2000."

*Spiritual Vitality:* We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

*Mission Focus:* We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

*Characteristic Excellence:* What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*Servant Leadership:* We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

The Core Value Focus for this academic year is *Mission Focus*.

### **Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following seven areas:

*Biblical Exposition:* To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.

*Christian Theological Heritage:* To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.

*Disciple Making:* To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

*Interpersonal Skills:* To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.

*Servant Leadership:* To serve churches effectively through team ministry.

*Spiritual and Character Formation:* To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.

*Worship Leadership:* To facilitate worship effectively.

The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: *Biblical Exposition, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership* and *Spiritual and Character Formation*.

## Course Catalog Description

### **PSYC6378 Appraisal of Individuals** (3 hours) Faculty

This course will examine the context of psychological testing, technical and methodological principles, test of general intellectual level, tests of separate abilities, personality tests, behavioral assessments, and ethical principles of psychological assessment. An additional fee of approximately \$35 is required to cover appraisal materials. Prerequisite: PSYC6474 Scientific Research I.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Students will...

1. Develop a basic understanding of major psychological assessment instruments, including objective instruments (including MMPI-2, the 16PF, the MBTI, and the MCMI-III) and projective personality assessment instruments.
2. Become acquainted with technical, statistical, and methodological principles of evaluating various types of psychological tests.
3. Be enabled to decide on a basic battery of tests to answer specific referral questions.
4. Understand the basics of interpreting some of the major intelligence, personality, and vocational tests.
5. Learn to take social histories and complete mental status exams.
6. Understand multicultural factors which might affect the use and interpretation of psychological instruments.
  - ❖ It is not the goal of this course to qualify or privilege individuals to administer psychological tests in any setting. This course will serve as only one of the requirements for Appraisal Privileging of Licensed Professional Counselors in the State of Louisiana. Additional requirements for appropriate use of psychological instruments will be examined as instructional content in this course.

## Textbooks

### **Textbook**

Cohen, R. J. & Swerdlik, M. E. (2010). *Psychological Testing and Measurement: An Introduction to Tests and Measurement*, (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

### **Testing Fee**

A fee of \$35.00 per student will be collected in this class to pay for testing resources. In

order to facilitate the ordering of testing materials, please come to the first class meeting prepared to pay this fee. Make checks out to NOBTS and write “Appraisal testing fee” in the memo line.

## Course Requirements

### **Description of Assignments:**

1. Exams tend to be multiple choice, with some short answer. I do reserve the right to add discussion questions to the exam. Exams will be available on Blackboard from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM on the day scheduled.
2. Resource Presentation: Each student will be required to discover and present to the class a resource (journal article, book, book chapter, web site, etc.) that relates to the use of assessment tools or techniques in the professional/clinical setting. These presentations should take 10-15 minutes and will be scheduled during class time each Wednesday.
3. Personal Assessment Paper: During the course of the semester, each student will take and personally score a number of published psychological assessment instruments. The materials for this exercise will be purchased with the \$35 fee mentioned above. The scores from these instruments will be the basis of a personal assessment paper. The paper will be at least seven (7) pages in length (text), include a description and explanation of each instrument utilized, a section containing objective interpretation of the results of each instrument, and personal reflection about the meaning and usefulness of these results for you in your process of professional development as a therapist. Resources will be required at a ratio of two (2) for every test taken and scored. Consult APA manual for format guidelines. **Due Wednesday, April 20th, by midnight CST.**
4. I consider class participation vital to the success of this class, and will grade you accordingly. I expect you to come to class with materials read, assignments prepared, and ready for discussion.
5. Quizzes will be necessary only if the class appears to not be prepared for daily assignments. If no quizzes need to be administered, you will receive full credit.

### **Course Assignment Evaluation Percentages**

Exams (Mid-term=15%, Final=20%)	35 %
Resource Presentation	15%
Personal Assessment Paper	30%
Daily Bible Reading	5%
Class Participation	5%
Quizzes	10%
	<hr/>
	100%

## **Course Policies**

### **Reading Assignments**

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

### **Professor's Policy on Late Assignments**

All work is due on the assigned date in the syllabus. The grade for late assignments will automatically be reduced by 4 points plus 4 additional points for each subsequent 48 hours until turned in.

### **Professor's Availability and Assignment Feedback**

The student may contact the professor at any time using the email address provided in the course syllabus. The professor will make every effort to return answers to emailed questions within a 24-hour period of time. Assignments requiring grading will be returned to the student within a reasonable period of time. The student may also email the course grader with questions regarding grading.

### **Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"**

This is the official NOBTS Writing Center online help site for writing academic papers and essays. <http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html> You will discover writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help you become a better writer. Go here for Turabian and APA style helps and guidelines.

### **Academic Honesty Policy**

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

### **Plagiarism on Written Assignments**

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Please be aware that plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. Refer to the NOBTS Student Handbook <http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/student-services/NOBTSHandbook.pdf> where the definition, penalties and policies associated with plagiarism are clearly defined.

### **Classroom Parameters**

Please arrive on time.

Turn off cell phones. Utilize laptops and other technology for class purposes only.

Respect the professor and other members of the class.

Maintain confidentiality when someone shares personal information.

Participate in class and group discussions.

### **Extra Credit**

The policy for extra credit in this course will be discussed in class when necessary.

### **Blackboard and ITC Technical Support**

Blackboard is the instructional platform used in this class. Please make sure that your contact information is accurate and up-to-date. If you need assistance accessing Blackboard, Selfserve, or other technical support, please contact the Information Technology Center (Hardin Student Center 290 or call **504.816.8180**). Here are other helpful links to ITC assistance.

- [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
- [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
- [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.
- For Student Assistance in using Blackboard, visit: [Student Bb Help](#)

### **Netiquette**

Netiquette refers to appropriate online behavior in Blackboard or other online discussions. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web, digital, or other electronic medium. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

### **Academic Policies**

Academic policies related to absences, grading scale, final examination schedules, and other topics can be found in the current online catalog: [New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Academic Catalog](#).

### **Web-based Course Reminder/Warning**

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses taught in the traditional classroom. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom courses. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Internet

courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at a responsible pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the learning of course content. Note that your instructors are praying for your success.

### **Policy for Graduating Seniors**

Graduating Seniors are responsible for alerting the professor of your intention to graduate. All of your assignments must be completed by noon (12:00 PM) on the Wednesday prior to commencement exercises.

### **Emergencies**

In cases of emergency, such as hurricanes, disease outbreaks, or other disasters, go to the seminary website ([www.nobts.edu](http://www.nobts.edu)) for information. The seminary administration will post information, such as the nature of the emergency, instructions for response, and evacuation and return dates. Please check Blackboard for information specific to this course. Because Blackboard is available, the course will continue even if the main campus is closed. Please consider registering for the seminary's priority text messaging service through SelfServe. This service is used only in emergencies, and will allow the seminary to deliver urgent information to you as needed.

## Course Schedule

<b>Week</b>	<b>Tentative Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
1	Introduction	
2	Historical, Cultural, and Legal/Ethical Considerations	Chapter 1-2
3	A Statistics Refresher	Chapter 3
4	Norms, Correlation, and Inference	Chapter 4
5	Reliability and Validity	Chapters 5-6
6	Test Development Tests of Intelligence	Chapter 7
7	Preschool and Educational Assessment	
8	Personality Assessment	Chapters 8-9
9	<b>(3/14-18) Spring Break *NO CLASS*</b>	Chapter 10
10	<b>!!!Mid-Term!!!</b> <b>Available 8AM-8PM CST, Wednesday, March 23</b>	Chapter 11
11	Personality Assessment Methods	
12	Clinical and Neuropsychological Assessment	Chapter 12
13	Mental Status Exams	Chapter 13-14
14	Lethality Assessment	Chapter 15
15	Refining Initial Session Assessment	
16	<b>Review for Final</b>	

## Selected Bibliography

American Educational Research Association, American Psychological Association & National Council on Measurement in Education. (1999). Standards for educational and psychological testing. Washington: American Psychological Association.

Anastasi, A. & Urbina, S. (1997). Psychological testing, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Cohen, R. J. & Swerdlik, M. E. (2002). Psychological testing and measurement: An introduction to tests and measurement, (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Corcoran K. & Fischer, J. (1987). Measures for clinical practice: A sourcebook. New York: Free Press.

Domino, G. (2000). Psychological testing: An introduction. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

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Groth-Marnat, G. (2003). Handbook of psychological assessment, (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Kaplan, R. M. & Saccuzzo, D. P. (2001). Psychological testing: Principles, applications, and issues, (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Stamford: Wadsworth.

Lowman, R. L. (1991). The clinical practice of career assessment: Interests, abilities, and personality. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Lyman, H. B. (1991). Test scores and what they mean, (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Murphy, K. R. & Davidshofer, C. O. (2001). Psychological testing: Principles and applications, (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Newmark, C. S. (1996). Major psychological assessment instruments, (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Tallent, N. (1992). The practice of psychological assessment. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

## Student Services

*This is a partial list of NOBTS student services available to all students, no matter your delivery system or location. If you have questions or do not see what you need here, please refer to [www.nobts.edu/student-services](http://www.nobts.edu/student-services), email us at [studentservices@nobts.edu](mailto:studentservices@nobts.edu), or call the Dean of Students office at 800-662-8701, ext. 3283. We are glad to assist you!*

<b>Need</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Web Page</b>
Advising – Graduate Program	<a href="mailto:studentservices@nobts.edu">studentservices@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3312	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising">www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising</a>
Advising – Undergraduate Program	<a href="mailto:lcadminasst@nobts.edu">lcadminasst@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8590	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege">www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege</a>
Church Minister Relations (for ministry jobs)	<a href="mailto:cmr@nobts.edu">cmr@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3291	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/CMR">www.nobts.edu/CMR</a>
Financial Aid	<a href="mailto:financialaid@nobts.edu">financialaid@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3348	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/financialaid">www.nobts.edu/financialaid</a>
PREP (help to avoid student debt)	<a href="mailto:Prepassistant1@nobts.edu">Prepassistant1@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8091	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/prep">www.nobts.edu/prep</a>
Gatekeeper NOBTS news	<a href="mailto:pr@nobts.edu">pr@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8003	<a href="http://nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com">nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com</a>
Information Technology Center	<a href="mailto:itcsupport@nobts.edu">itcsupport@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8180	<a href="http://selfserve.nobts.edu">selfserve.nobts.edu</a>
Help with Blackboard	<a href="mailto:blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu">blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8180	<a href="http://nobts.blackboard.com">nobts.blackboard.com</a>
Library	<a href="mailto:library@nobts.edu">library@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8018	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/Library">www.nobts.edu/Library</a>
Online library resources	<a href="mailto:library@nobts.edu">library@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8018	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html">http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html</a>
Writing and Turabian style help	<a href="mailto:library@nobts.edu">library@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8018	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html">http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html</a>
Guest Housing (Providence Guest House)	<a href="mailto:ph@nobts.edu">ph@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x4455	<a href="http://www.provhouse.com">www.provhouse.com</a>
Student Counseling	<a href="mailto:lmccc@nobts.edu">lmccc@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8004	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/student-services/counseling-services.html">www.nobts.edu/student-services/counseling-services.html</a>
Women's Programs	<a href="mailto:womensacademic@nobts.edu">womensacademic@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3334	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/women">www.nobts.edu/women</a>

For additional library resources in your state, check <http://www.nobts.edu/library/interlibrary-loan.html>

- GALILEO for Georgia students
- LALINC for Louisiana students
- Florida Virtual Library (<http://www.flelibrary.org/>) for Florida students
- Interact with us online at –



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