

**Course Title : Psychological Assessment**

**Course Code : PSY-809**

**Credit Hours : 3**

**Course Objectives:**

1. In this course students will learn about understanding referral questions and addressing these by conducting initial interviews and history taking, conducting behavioral observations, selecting appropriate tools for psychological assessment, administration and scoring of tests, and integrating findings from these different sources into coherent written and verbal reports and recommendations. **Emphasis of the course will be on developing analytical and diagnostic skills and clinical judgment with attention to social, educational, cultural and ethical factors involved in test-taking behaviors, scores and interpretation.**

**Course Objectives:**

2. The course is designed to:
- Impart skills for behavioral observation and history-taking interviews
  - Teach administration, scoring, interpretation and reporting of psychological tests to assess for intelligence, academic achievements and developmental delays
  - Train students to write integrative psychological assessment reports
  - Train students to address social, cultural and educational implications of test scores and interpretation

**Learning Outcomes:**

3. The course will enable students to:
- a Understand and assess psychometric properties of tests
  - b Choose appropriate assessment methods in the context of referral questions**
  - c Conduct history taking interviews and behavioral observations
  - d Administer, score, integrate and interpret batteries of psychological tests in the context of background information and observed behaviors, while being mindful of ethical, cultural considerations**

- e Write integrative assessment reports.
- f Be able to suggest recommendations based upon their findings

**Course Content:**

3. Classification and Theoretical Models:
  - a. Psychological Testing: Principles and Issues
  - b. Clinical Interview/History taking and behavioral observations
  - c. Neuropsychological screening (MMSE/ BGVMT)
  - d. Assessment of Intellectual Functioning (WAIS IV/WISC IV)
  - e. Academic achievement (WRAT IV)
  - f. Adaptive Functioning (ABAS II)
  - g. Rating Scales to assess mental health and illnesses
  - h. Objective versus projective tools
  - i. Psychological Testing: conceptual basis of personality assessment
  - j. NEO-PI –II
  
4. **Suggested readings**
  - a. Lichtenberger EO & Kaufman AS (2013). *Essentials of WAIS IV assessment*. (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley and Sons.
  - b. Wright, J (2011) *Conducting Psychological Assessment: A Guide for Practitioners*. John & Wiley Sons. USA.
  - c. Gary Groth-Marnat (2009). *Handbook of Psychological Assessment, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
  - d. Sattler & Hoge (2006) *Assessment of Children: Behavioral, Social and Clinical Foundations*.
  - e. APA (2010) *Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct*.
  
  - a M. Antony & D. H. Barlow (Eds.) *Handbook of Assessment and Treatment Planning for Psychological Disorders*, Guilford Press.
  - b Goldfinger, K. & Pomarantz, A.M.(2010). *Psychological Assessment and Report Writing*. *SAGE Publications, Inc*
  - c Hebben, N., & Milberg. W. (2009). *Essentials of Neuropsychological Assessment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*.

d American Psychiatric Association. (2022). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5TR ed.). Washington, DC: Author.