PSYC 318-41, 318-42, 318-43, 318-44:
Psychological Testing and Measurement Laboratory Sections

Fall 2008

Teaching Assistant (TA): Sara Redahan (3012E Stern, sredahan@tulane.edu, 415-420-4130)
Lab Time and Room: Psyc 318-42: Wednesdays 9:00 am – 10:50 am, 202 Newcomb Hall
Lab Time and Room: Psyc 318-44: Wednesdays 3:00 pm – 4:50 pm, 202 Newcomb Hall

Teaching Assistant (TA): Angelique Trask-Tate (3015C Stern, atrask@tulane.edu, 504-236-8096)
Lab Time and Room: Psyc 318-41: Tuesdays 11:00 am – 12:50 pm, 202 Newcomb Hall
Lab Time and Room: Psyc 318-43: Wednesdays 11:00 am – 12:50 pm, 202 Newcomb Hall

PREREQUISITES: Psyc 100 and Psyc 209 (or 212)
CO-REQUISITE: You **MUST** be enrolled in the lecture portion of the course (Psyc 318-01)

LAB OBJECTIVES

The goal of the lab is to provide you with an opportunity to work "hands-on" with the development, administration, and analysis of a psychological test. The lab is designed to maximize the learning experience by allowing you to apply the concepts we discuss in the lecture portion of the course. In order to achieve this goal, you will be asked to write and critique items, enter test data, analyze test data, and write up the results of your analyses in the form of reports.

LAB STRUCTURE

Labs are held once each week for **2 hours**. The lab is relatively self-contained: material covered during lab sections generally will **NOT** be repeated in the lecture portion of the course. Therefore, it is **REQUIRED** that you attend **ALL** lab sessions!!! **Ten points** will be deducted from your final lab grade each time you miss a lab session (unless your absence is excused by Dr. Alvarez). Assignments, new material, and help on the projects will be given during the lab times. If you aren't there, you won't be able to get this information in lectures. The lab projects will involve data analysis, interpretation, and written explanations of results. You should expect to do a fair amount of work for the projects. They are data intensive and require you to integrate difficult course concepts.

EVALUATION OF LAB PERFORMANCE

Your performance in the lab will be graded and combined with your performance in the lecture portion of the class as explained in the course syllabus. Collectively, the points you earn in the lab section will be worth **25%** of your final course grade. In other words, the work you do in lab will have a significant influence on the final grade you receive in the course. Remember: you **MUST** earn a passing grade in the lab (60 or above) in order to earn a passing grade in the course! Failure to complete the lab work successfully will result in a failing grade for the course irrespective of your exam grades.

There will be **four** major projects as well as several smaller assignments. All work in the lab section must be **typed**. Lab assignments and projects are due on the date indicated on the following schedule, and they must be turned in directly to your TA during lab. **Ten points** will be deducted for **each day** a project is late. These points add up quickly and can severely affect your grade, so please complete assignments **on time**!

Note: you must work **INDEPENDENTLY** on your lab assignments and projects – consulting with any persons other than the teaching assistant or Dr. Alvarez regarding the lab assignments or projects is an honor code violation. Honor Code violations will be reported to the Honor Board in accordance with the Code of Academic Conduct, which may be found at http://college.tulane.edu/code.htm.

LABORATORY SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS*

Week	Topic	Assignment
1) Tue 9/16 – Wed 9/17	Overview of Lab Developing Constructs Developing Tests / Types of Test Items *****Write Class Test Items*****	Clean up class test items using "Track Changes" in Microsoft Word
2) Tue 9/23 – Wed 9/24	Choose Final Test Items *****Turn in "cleaned up" class test items*****	Take class test
3) Tue 9/30 – Wed 10/1	Basics of Data Management Introduction to Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) Overview of Data Entry and Coding *****Bring in completed class test – input items into SPSS*****	
4) Tue 10/7 – Wed 10/8	Computation of Basic Test Statistics *****Recode items in SPSS and compute total score***** Explanation of Project 1	Complete Project 1
5) Tue 10/14 – Wed 10/15	Reliability and Validity Analyses *****Project 1 Due*****	
6) Tue 10/21 – Wed 10/22	Reliability and Validity Analyses continued	Complete Project 2
7) Tue 10/28 – Wed 10/29	Factor Analysis lecture *****Project 2 Due*****	
8) Tue 11/4 – Wed 11/5	Factor Analysis – Explanation of Project 3	Complete Project 3
9) Tue 11/11 – Wed 11/12	Test Bias and Fairness *****Project 3 Due*****	
10) Tue 11/18 – Wed 11/19	Putting It All Together – Explanation of Project 4	Complete Project 4
Tue 11/25 – Wed 11/26	**THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO LABS THIS WEEK**	
11) Tue 12/2 – Wed 12/3	*****Project 4 Due***** / Complete Lab Evaluations	

* Note: I reserve the right to modify this schedule.