

# PSYC\*3250, Course Outline: Winter 2022

## General Information

DUE to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic some courses are being offered virtually and some face to face. **This course is offered using a combination of the Alternate-Delivery-Synchronous (AD-S) format and Face-to-Face format. Lectures are delivered virtually at assigned days and times, and seminars take place face to face at an assigned location on campus at the set day and time.**

**Course Title:** Psychological Measurement

### **Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to the theory of psychological measurement and measurement procedures presently used in psychology. Coverage will include such topics as reliability, validity, factor analysis and test construction, and the measurement of ability, personality, and achievement. You will learn not only how to evaluate psychological tests and measures, but also construct and refine your own. This knowledge is essential for both future practitioners and researchers in psychology.

**Credit Weight: 0.50**

**Academic Department (or campus):** Psychology

**Semester Offering: W22**

### **Class Schedule and Location:**

Blended delivery. Zoom lectures: Monday and Wednesday.  
In-person workshops Fridays (in-class when possible, otherwise Zoom).

## Instructor Information

Instructor Name: David Stanley  
Instructor Email: [psyc3250@gmail.com](mailto:psyc3250@gmail.com)  
Zoom office hours: See Courselink for details.

See [Courselink](#) each week for new content. Also be sure to check out the Brightspace Pulse iOS/Android app to access Courselink on your mobile devices (and receive notifications).

## GTA Information

GTA Name: Brooke Charbonneau, [charbonb@uoguelph.ca](mailto:charbonb@uoguelph.ca)  
GTA Name: Diogo Borba, [dborba@uoguelph.ca](mailto:dborba@uoguelph.ca)

Office hours are offered by Zoom by both TAs and the instructor: See [Courselink](#) for details.

## Course Content

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

**2 Literacy, Facet 2. Methodological Literacy:** The ability to understand, evaluate, and design appropriate methodologies for rigorous psychological science

**2 Literacy, Facet 3. Quantitative Literacy:** Includes numeracy, and competence in working with numerical data

**2 Literacy, Facet 4 Technological Literacy:** The ability to select and use appropriate technology

**2 Literacy, Facet 5 Visual Literacy:** The ability to effectively find, interpret, evaluate, use, and create images and visual media and content.

**4 Communicating, Facet 2 Written Communication:** The ability to express one's ideas and summarize theory and research through a variety of writing styles (e.g., American Psychological Association [APA] style, term papers, posters)

### Lecture Content:

#### Lectures

Jan 10. Week 1. Constructs and basic statistics.

Jan 17. Week 2. Measure development. Variance/SD.

Jan 24. Week 3. Correlation and covariance. \* **[No lecture on Wed. Jan. 26]**

Jan 31. Week 4. Scaling, percentiles, interpreting scores. \*

Feb 7. Week 5. Introduction to reliability \*

Feb 14. Week 6. Estimating reliability \*

Reading Week

Feb 28. Week 7. Project work and midterm.

March 7. Week 8. Reliability and individual scores \*

March 14. Week 9. Item analysis

March 21. Week 10. Validity

March 28. Week 11. Project work.

April 4. Week 12. Project work.

See [CourseLink](#) each week for new content – and additional readings beyond those listed. Also be sure to check out the Brightspace Pulse iOS/Android app to access CourseLink on your mobile devices (and receive notifications).

Beyond the above specifications: Additional content will be posted most weeks on the class notes website: <https://bit.ly/psyc3250>

**Course Assignments and Tests:**

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Course outline quiz	January 16	2	2 Literacy, Facet 2
Assignment 1	January 31	2	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3, and 4
Assignment 2	February 7	2	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3
Assignment 3	February 14	2	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3, and 4
Assignment 4	Feb 28	2	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3, and 4
Assignment 5	March 14	2	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3, and 4
Midterm	March 2nd	25	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3, 4, and 5
Major Project: Part 1	March 11	15	2 Literacy, Facet 2 and 4
Major Project: Part 2	April 4	20	2 Literacy, Facet 2, 3, 4, 5 4 Communicating, Facet 2

**Midterm (ONLINE): Wed March 2, during class.**

The midterm takes place Wed March 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:00am during class.

If you are unable to write the midterm due to acute medical, academic, or personal reasons, its contribution to their final grade will be automatically shifted to the final exam (i.e., the midterm will contribute 0% to their final grade, and the final exam will contribute 55%). **This is automatic -- no instructor consent is required for this redistribution of grading.**

**Additional Notes:**

Midterm (Online): 25%

Final Exam (Online): 30%

Scale development project total: 35% (Part 1 15% + Part 2 20%)

Course outline quiz: 2%

In class assignments: 8% (best 4 of 5)

### **Additional Notes (if required):**

In this course we use a universal accommodation approach – that does not require medical documentation or instructor consent. If you are unable to write the midterm to acute medical, academic, or personal reasons, its contribution to their final grade will be automatically shifted to the final exam. Likewise, we only count the best 4 of 5 minor assignments – this is not to optimize your grade but rather to take into account extenuating circumstances that may be different for each student.

Both the midterm and final exam will take place online.

**Final examination date and time:** See [WebAdvisor](#)

**Final exam weighting: 30%**

[Examination Regulations](#)

### **Course Resources**

#### **Required Texts:**

Furr, R.M. (2021). Psychometrics.

#### **Other Resources:**

##### ***Via ARES link in Courselink: (2 articles)***

Hinkin, T. R. (1998). A brief tutorial on the development of measures for use in survey questionnaires. *Organizational research methods*, 1(1), 104-121.

Cohen, R. J., Swerdlik, M. E., & Phillips, S. M. (2013). *Psychological testing and assessment: An introduction to tests and measurement*. Mayfield Publishing Co. Chapter 8 only pp. 240 -284.

##### ***Via the web:***

[Courselink](#)

**Additional course notes:** [bit.ly/psyc3250](http://bit.ly/psyc3250)

**Software:** We will also use the software R and RStudio (both free), download links below. But please see the installation instructions on our [Course Notes](#) website.

[R](#)   [RStudio](#)

## **Course Policies**

### **Grading Policies**

Only 4 of the 5 minor assignments will be counted for a maximum of 8%. Late minor assignments will receive a grade of zero.

### ***Major Project: Groups***

You will conduct the major project in groups of 4 people. You must join a group by January 14<sup>th</sup>. If you do not join a group by this date, you will be randomly assigned to a group.

### ***Course Concerns***

Any concerns about the course or course administration should be brought up during office hours – not sent via email. Email is prone to misunderstanding and consequently not an appropriate venue for expressing course concerns. I am happy to discuss any concerns you may have about the course during office

### **[Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)**

### **Course Policy on Group Work:**

Unless otherwise noted, you must work individually on your projects and submit written work this based on your own thoughts and work. On the final project you should work together as a group to a) create a construct definition, b) items that reflect that construct definition. Because you work together on these items – they are a group submission. You must also write an overview of the process used to create the construct definition and items – this should be done on your own. You should NOT work with others when writing the rationale for your construct definition and items. Though, of course, you may well reference some similar papers given the nature of the project.

Additionally, for the item analysis in the final project – you may conduct the item analysis as a group. But you must write-up the result of that item analysis individually. If you prefer, you may conduct the item analysis on your own.

## **University Policies**

### **Disclaimer:**

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

### **Academic Consideration**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

### **Academic Misconduct**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

### **Illness**

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

### **Accessibility**

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible. For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email [accessibility@uoguelph.ca](mailto:accessibility@uoguelph.ca) or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

## **Student Feedback Questionnaire**

These questionnaires (formerly course evaluations) will be available to students during the last 2 weeks of the semester: March. 28<sup>th</sup> – April 08<sup>th</sup>. Students will receive an email directly from the Student Feedback Administration system which will include a direct link to the questionnaire for this course. During this time, when a student goes to login to Courselink, a reminder will pop-up when a task is available to complete.

[Student Feedback Questionnaire](#)

## **Drop date**

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is April 08, 2022. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#) [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).

Instructors must provide [meaningful and constructive feedback, at minimum 20% of the final course grade, prior to the 40th class day](#). For courses which are of shorter duration, 20% of the final grade must be provided two-thirds of the way through the course.

## **Additional Course Information**

Course instructors are allowed to use software to help in detecting plagiarism or unauthorized copying of student assignments. Plagiarism is one of the most common types of academic misconduct on our campus. Plagiarism involves students using the work, ideas and/or the exact wording of other people or sources without giving proper credit to others for the work, ideas and/or words in their papers. Students can unintentionally commit misconduct because they do not know how to reference outside sources properly or because they don't check their work carefully enough before handing it in. Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin.com to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to prevent plagiarism in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.