

## PC 784-Evaluation of Mental and Emotional Disorders

Dr. Bradford Price  
330-671-9906 C  
[bprice@mtso.edu](mailto:bprice@mtso.edu)

Fall Semester 2014  
Wednesday, 6:30-9:20  
L-200

This course will focus on diagnosis and treatment planning. The primary emphasis will be on administering individual and group standardized tests of mental ability and personality measurement.

Prerequisites: PC 640, PC 655 or PC 680

### **Objectives**

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the philosophical and clinical foundation of assessment and evaluation.
2. Describe the process of assessment and evaluation.
3. Articulate three ethical concerns regarding evaluation.
4. Describe and demonstrate the components of a *Mental Status Examination*.
5. Describe the types of psychological evaluation instruments most commonly used in the United States.
6. Describe the strengths and limitations of the:
  - Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI)*
  - Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory (MCMI)*
  - California Psychological Inventory (CPI)*
  - House-Tree-Person Test (HTP)*
  - Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)*
  - Rorschach Inkblot Test*
  - Symptom Checklist 90 (SCL-90)*
  - Beck Depression Inventory (BDI)*
  - Beck Anxiety Inventory (BAI)*
  - Bender Visual Motor Gestalt Test (BVMGT)*
  - Wechsler Intelligence Scales (WAIS)*.
7. Articulate how the process of assessment/evaluation/appraisal relates to:
  - treatment planning*
  - the therapeutic relationship*
  - the therapeutic process.*

### **Reading**

August	27	Introduction & Stuff
September	3	G-M Chs. 1-3

	10	Trczepacz
	17	Trczepacz & G-M 13
	24	G-M 12
October	1	G-M 7
	8	G-M 8-9
	15	NO CLASS
	22	G-M 10
	29	G-M 11
November	5	G-M 5-6
	12	G-M 14
	19	G-M 15
	26	<i>Thanksgiving</i>
December	3	Reflection Paper Due
	10	FINAL

## **Weeklies**

Weeklies are quizzes and short exams administered on a weekly basis. The purpose of these exercises is to monitor the progress with and comprehension of the reading assignments. The content of each weekly will be the reading due for that class session and any prior sessions. The scores of each weekly will be added together creating one final score which will count for 40% of the total grade for the semester.

## **Exams**

There will be a mid-term and final exam. Each will examine the material covered in the course to the time of the exam.

## **Reflection Paper**

Present a paper reflecting your current conceptualization of *evaluation, assessment, testing, appraisal*. Of particular interest are the questions and struggles you are currently holding. These may reflect the utility of the enterprise overall, a concern regarding ethics and the various processes involved in evaluation, perceived strengths or limitations you bring to *evaluation, assessment, testing and appraisal*, cutting edge issues for you and/or the challenges, issues and/or questions you have about a particular instrument or procedure. *Specific references to both the lecture material and reading are expected.* Of course, material imported from other courses and personal/professional experiences are expected as well. ***DUE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 3.***

## **Evaluation**

Weeklies	40%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Reflection Paper	20%

## **Reading List**

### ***Required***

Groth-Marnat, G. (2009). *Handbook of psychological assessment* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Trzepacz, P. & R. Baker (1993). *The psychiatric mental status examination*. NY: Oxford.

### ***Recommended***

Zimmerman, M. (2013). *Interview guide for evaluating DSM-5 psychiatric disorders and the mental status examination*. East Greenwich, RI: Psych Products Press.

Morrison, J. (2014). *DSM-5 made easy: The clinician's guide to diagnosis*. NY: Guilford.

Morrison, J. (2014). *The first interview*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. NY: Guilford.

## **METHESCO Policies**

**Please see Student Handbook for sections providing policy details on the following:**

**ADA**—MTSO seeks to remove barriers to inclusion in its learning communities. Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a documented disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs at the beginning of the semester. Please contact the Director of Student Services to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Any accommodation must be agreed upon prior to the due date of the affected course requirement.

**Class attendance**—Regular attendance is expected in all classes. During unavoidable absences, students are responsible for missed work. An excessive number of absences may result in grade reduction or course failure, despite successful completion of all assigned work. In most cases, a student will not be allowed credit for a course if he or she is absent for 25% of the class sessions. As it relates to blended courses, students may not be allowed

credit if they are absent for 25% of class meetings or if 25% of online course work is not completed. Use of Skype or similar technology is not a substitute for attendance in class.

**Electronic Devices**—Turn mobile devices off or “vibrate only” during class. Browsing the Internet or engaging in email or social network conversations during class is discouraged. Instructors have the right to impose grading penalties for disruptions due to electronic devices.

**Human Subjects Research**—Research by MTSO faculty, students, or affiliated personnel that collects non-public information from and/or about living individuals or contemporary organizations/groups for purposes of publication or public presentation (including class assignments) must be approved by the Human Subjects Research Committee. MTSO faculty, students, or affiliated personnel should err on the side of caution and apply for committee approval of any activity that may fit this description.

**Inclusive Language**—In accordance with MTSO’s policy on inclusive language, all students are expected to use gender inclusive or gender neutral language in their writing and in the classroom discussions when referring to human beings.

**Incompletes**—To receive a course grade of Incomplete, students must submit the petition form from the Registrar with all signatures to the Dean’s Office before the last day of regularly scheduled classes. See Student Handbook for intensive term deadlines. Any petition submitted without a due date for outstanding work will be denied. If work is not complete by the due date the Registrar will record the grade of F for the course.

**Pass/Fail**—The decision to exercise this option must be made before the end of the second week of the course by completing the appropriate form available through the Registrar. To receive a grade of “pass” the student must do at least the equivalent of C minus work in the course.

**Plagiarism**—Plagiarism is a serious matter of academic, professional, and personal integrity. All students at the masters level are expected to understand the requirement to provide attribution when the work of others is used. Students are also expected to be familiar with and understand the school’s policy on Academic Misconduct found in the Student Handbook. If students have questions about attribution, citation, and how to avoid plagiarism they should consult the course instructor, the school’s writing instructor, or library staff. When in doubt it is better to provide attribution even if one is uncertain about the proper citation form. Plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct that results in disciplinary actions per the Student Handbook that may range from failing an assignment or course to expulsion.