



**Appraisal of Individuals-COUN6378**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Counseling Division**  
**Spring 2022 (NOLA2U Live)**  
**Wednesday 8:00-10:50 AM**

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**Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

**Mission Statement of the Counseling Program**

The mission of the NOBTS Counseling Program is to provide training and supervised experience in evidence-based counseling methods to help people deal with life issues in a biblically sound way and prepare students for licensure in counseling and counseling-related professions. We seek to produce graduates who have the values, knowledge, skills, and personal disposition to promote the mental health and holistic wellness of clients across diverse populations.

**Course Description**

*COUN6378 Appraisal of Individuals (3 hours)* This course will examine the context of psychological testing, technical and methodological principles, tests 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.

**Syllabus Distribution**

This syllabus will be made available via blackboard one week prior to the first day of class. Due to regular semester updates, any version accessed prior to this date may contain inaccuracies.

**Program Objectives:** #2. Upon successful completion of one of the Master’s Programs in Counseling, graduates should be able to synthesize theoretical and empirical knowledge in the field of counseling, #4. Upon successful completion of one of the Master’s Programs in Counseling, graduates should be able to integrate historical Christian beliefs, faith, and spirituality with the best practices of mental health science, in an ethical manner.

**Course Objectives**

Course Objectives	Learning Experiences	Assessments
Students will become acquainted with the history and development of psychological assessment and the classification of intelligence and psychological function. <b>(2.F.7.a.)</b>	<i>Instruction</i> Class lecture, video and discussion  <i>Readings</i> Textbook	<i>Course Assignments</i> Resource Presentations Midterm Exam Final Exam
Students will develop a basic understanding of major psychological assessment instruments and technical, statistical, and methodological principles of evaluating various	<i>Instruction</i> Class lecture, video and discussion  <i>Readings</i> Textbook	<i>Course Assignments</i> Personal Assessment Midterm Exam Final Exam

types of psychological tests. <b>(2.F.7.f., 2.F.7.g., 2.F.7.h.)</b>		
Students will explore ethical and culturally relevant strategies for selecting, administering, and interpreting assessment and test results. <b>(2.F.7.m.)</b>	<i>Instruction</i> Class Lecture, video and discussion  <i>Readings</i> Textbook	<i>Course Assignments</i> Midterm Exam Final Exam
Students will practice performing lethality assessments taking social histories, mental status exams. <b>(2.F.7.c.)</b>	<i>Instruction</i> Class lecture, video and discussion  <i>Readings</i> Textbook	<i>Course Assignments</i> Midterm Exam Final Exam

### Course Requirements and Evaluation of Grades

Assignment/Requirements & Description	Percentage	Due Date
<b>Resource Presentation</b> 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.	<b>15%</b>	
<b>Personal Assessment Paper</b> 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.	<b>30%</b>	<b>April 13</b>
<b>Class Participation</b> 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.	<b>10%</b>	
<b>Quizzes</b> 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.	<b>10%</b>	
<b>Mid-Term Examination</b> <i>The mid-term and final exams will contain questions from both reading and lecture.</i>	<b>15%</b>	<b>March 9</b>
<b>Final Examination</b> The final examination will be a live assessment exercise. Details about this exercise will be provided in class.	<b>20%</b>	<b>See Catalogue</b>

## Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methods of instruction: reading assignments, discussion, lectures and video.

## Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Resource Presentation	15%
Personal Assessment Paper	30%
Class Participation	10%
Quizzes	10%
Mid-Term Exam	15%
Final Exam	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Grading Scale:

The following grading scale is used at NOBTS:

A: 93-100    B: 85-92    C: 77-84    D: 70-76    F: below 70

## If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Live student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. The course on the New Orleans campus will be connected synchronously via Web conferencing with Internet students. These courses will require weekly attendance at the stated class meeting times.
2. Students are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See "Absences" category in the website catalog at: <https://catalog.nobts.edu/generalinfo/academicpolicies>.)
3. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a class session.

## Textbooks

Cohen, R. J., Schneider, W. J. & Tobin, R. M. (2022). *Psychological Testing and Measurement: An Introduction to Tests and Measurement*, (10<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill. 9781260837025

## 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 Policies, Academic Conduct, and Professional Conduct

### 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.

### Academic Policies

Academic policies relating 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](#).

### 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.

### **Classroom Participation/Active Dialogue**

Student participation is expected. Class interaction is an important and valuable aspect of the learning environment where we can experience the truth of the Great Commandment by truly knowing one another.

### **Disabilities and Accommodations**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary does not discriminate against applicants/ students on the basis of personal disabilities. The Seminary, in voluntary compliance with the American Disabilities Act, will provide reasonable institutional accommodations, modifications, and adjustments to enable and empower students with disabilities to participate in Seminary programs and activities to the fullest extent possible. However, NOBTS cannot support accommodations that place undue hardship on the Seminary or its resources or which alter the essential requirements of curriculum and academic progress. While the seminary does not provide direct assistance to students in the form of equipment or personnel, accommodations may be made by individual professors at their discretion. These accommodations usually take the form of early access to lecture materials in electronic format and additional time to complete tests and assignments. The most efficient way to pursue such accommodations is to provide the Director of Testing and Counseling (Dr. Jeff Nave, [jnave@nobts.edu](mailto:jnave@nobts.edu), 504-282-4455 ext. 8004) with documentation of the condition for which you seek accommodation, an explanation of helpful accommodations received in the past, and a description of the specific accommodations you desire. The Director of Testing and Counseling will document your request and communicate on your behalf with the professors who teach the course(s) for which you are registered. The seminary reserves the right to consider each request for “special” accommodations on a case by case basis pursuant to the criteria enumerated above.

### **Diversity**

The Counseling Program at NOBTS affirms the Christian doctrinal position that God created man in His own image, and that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love. We believe the counseling profession affords our students and graduates the opportunity to be “salt and light” (Matthew 5:13-16) whatever their places of service, and that a robust appreciation for and sensitivity to human diversity is key to that end. Further, a learning environment diverse in its people, curricula, scholarship, research, and creative activities expands opportunities for intellectual inquiry and engagement, helps students develop critical thinking skills, and prepares students for social and civic responsibilities. Students and faculty benefit from diversity. The quality of learning, research, scholarship, and creative activities are enhanced by a climate of inclusion, understanding, and appreciation of the full range of human experience. We are committed to nurturing and training a diverse student body in an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation of differences. As a result, the counseling program is committed to diversity and equal opportunity and recognizes that it must represent the diversity inherent in American society, reflected in our local community, and aligned with the core values of the NOBTS community.

### **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.

### **Extra Credit**

No extra credit is available in this course.

### **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.

### **Plagiarism on Written Assignments**

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

### **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.

### **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 one letter grade per week late.

### **Professional Conduct**

Students are expected to adhere to the appropriate codes of ethics for their particular programs. Any behavior deemed unethical will be grounds for dismissal from the program.

### **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. Student feedback on graded assignments will be provided through the grading rubric located in the student's Blackboard Grade Book. The student will find comments in the grading rubric, as well as on graded paper assignments. The student may also email the course grader with questions regarding grading.

### **Reading Assignments**

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

### **Technical Assistance**

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. [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.)
2. [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).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

### **Writing Center**

NOBTS has adopted a Quality Enhancement Plan to improve English writing at the graduate level. As part of this effort, NOBTS has established a writing center located in the Hardin Student Center (290B). Visit the official [NOBTS Writing Center](#) online help site for writing academic papers and essays. 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. You will also find language fonts for Greek and Hebrew.

More information about how to set up an appointment for writing assistance is available on the writing center page.

### **Writing Style**

All papers in counseling courses are to be written in American Psychological Association (APA) style. Please see the latest edition of the [Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association](#).

### Student Services

*This is a partial list of NOBTS student services available to all students, no matter your delivery system or location.*

<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>

*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!*

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 –



TWITTER.COM/NOBTS    INSTAGRAM.COM/NOBTS    FACEBOOK.COM/NOBTS

## Course Schedule

Week	Tentative Topic	Reading
1	Introduction	
2	Historical, Cultural, and Legal/Ethical Considerations Shifting Conceptions of Human Differences and Accompanying Changes in Measurement and Classification	Chapter 1-2
3	A Statistics Refresher Statistics Concepts: Scales of Measurement, The Normal Curve, Variability, Correlation	Chapter 3
4	Norms, Correlation, and Inference Basic concepts of Testing and Assessment, Standardization and Norm-Referenced vs. Criterion Referenced Tests Culture and Inference	Chapter 4
5	Reliability and Validity	Chapters 5-6
6	Test Development Tests of Intelligence Assessment for Education	Chapter 8-10
7	Personality Assessment	Chapters 11
8	MID-TERM Available 8AM-8PM CST, Wednesday, March 9	
9	(3/15-18) Spring Break *NO CLASS*	
10	Personality Assessment Methods Personality Tests for Clinical and non-Clinical Subjects	Chapter 12
11	Clinical and Neuropsychological Assessment and Diagnosis, Intake Assessment Priorities, Mental Status Exams, Lethality Assessment, Clinical and Counseling Assessment; SLAP and Dirt Assessments, Forensic Assessment, Custody Evaluations and Reporting Abuse Activity: Role-play Lethality Assessment	Chapter 13
12	Mental Status Exams	Chapter 15
13	Lethality Assessment	
14	Refining Initial Session Assessment	
15	Review for Final	
16		

## 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.

Graham, J. R. & Lilly, R. S. (1984). Psychological testing. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

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.