Instructor          Dalia Chowdhury MA, MA, MS, PhD, CRC, CADC, LPC
Class Venue        online
Office             Wednesdays 11.30 to 1.30 or by appointment
Contact            Dalia.Chowdhury@unt.edu

Course Description
RHAB 5740. 3 hours-This course is an orientation to the process and practice of assessing
adults with disabling conditions for rehabilitation plan development and decision-making. Test
selection, administration and interpretation and reporting, through synthesis, integration and
evaluation of assessment data are covered along with the use of the DSM V, Ecological and
Assistive Technology assessment. Course instruction will be provided via modules presented
on CANVAS.

Course Prerequisites
None. Most students are second-year Master’s students when taking this course.

Course Objectives:
This course includes orientation to the process and practice of assessing adults with disabling
conditions for rehabilitation plan development and decision making. It also includes test
selection, administration, interpretation and reporting through synthesis, integration and
evaluation of assessment data as covered along with the use of the DSM IV, Ecological and
Assistive Technology assessment.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to achieve the following course objectives:
• Describe processes, issues, and factors concerning the general scope and role of
  assessment in the rehabilitation process
• Understand the basic measurement and assessment principles of rehabilitation plan
development.
• Recognize the impact of gender, racial and ethnic background, and disability on the
  assessment process,
• Compare assessment tools and procedures commonly used in rehabilitation settings.
• Evaluate the selection, administration, scoring, and interpretation of results from
  assessment, instruments, and procedures, and be aware of their limitation,
• Recognize ethical concerns in assessment.
• Analyze comprehensive assessments in rehabilitation that include the following four
  parts: a) Formulation of assessment questions, b) Selection of assessment instruments and
procedures, c) Administration and scoring of assessment instruments and interpretation of results, and d) Communication of results of assessment to consumers and professionals.

Required Text

CORE Educational Outcomes:

C.7.1 Role of assessment
   C.7.1.a. explain purpose of assessment in rehabilitation process.
   C.7.1.b. use assessment information to determine eligibility and to develop plans for services.

C.7.2 Assessment resources and methods
   C.7.2.a. identify assessment resources and methods appropriate to meet the needs of individuals with a disability.
   C.7.2.b. describe resources to assist rehabilitation counselors in identifying appropriate test instruments and other assessment methods.
   C.7.2.c. describe computer-based assessments for rehabilitation and employment planning,

C.7.3. Individual involvement in assessment planning
   C.7.3.a. facilitate individual involvement in evaluating the feasibility for rehabilitation or independent living objectives and planning
   C.7.3.b. utilize assessment as an ongoing process in establishing individual rapport, rehabilitation services planning, objectives and goals.
   C.7.3.c. evaluate the individual’s capabilities to engage in informed choice and to make decisions

C.7.4. Measurement and statistical concepts
   C.7.4.a. describe basic measurement concepts and associated statistical terms.
   C.7.4.b. comprehend validity, reliability, and appropriateness of assessment instruments

C.7.5. Selecting and administering the appropriate assessment methods
   C.7.5.a. explain differences in assessment methods and testing instruments (i.e., aptitude, intelligence, interest, achievement, vocational evaluation, situational assessment).
   C.7.5.b. apply assessment methods to evaluate a consumer’s vocational, independent living, and transferable skills.

C.7.6. Ethical, legal, and cultural implications in assessment
   C.7.6.a. know the legal, ethical, and cultural implications of assessment for rehabilitation services.
C.7.6.b. consider cultural influences when planning assessment.
C.7.6.c. analyze implications of testing norms related to the culture of an individual

Teaching Philosophy
I believe that effective learning is reflected via two essential related elements: knowledge of the content and ability to communicate it. I will do my part to maximize your learning by organizing each class well, using a presentation style that maximizes your interest, and incorporating a variety of teaching methods to present the material to you. On your end as a student, I expect you to:

- Complete your weekly reading consistently.
- Complete assignments on time and submit via CANVAS only. Late assignments will automatically get a zero. Please note that I do not accept late assignments without proper documentation. As this is a serious issue, it will be judged on a case to case basis.
- Check CANVAS for course information regularly. I will frequently use Course Announcements to convey important course related information to you.
- Use your UNT email for communicating with me outside of the classroom. Use proper email etiquette. I request that you provide me with at least 48 hours to respond to your emails. Usually I respond with 24 hours. However, if you do not hear from me within this time frame, please send me a reminder email.

How the Course is Organized
Log on to the CANVAS course page and access weekly folders. These folders will contain powerpoints, assignment submission links, course activities, and other relevant course information. All assignments will open on Wednesdays at 9.00pm are due by 11:59 pm on Tuesday of the next week. Prior to the opening of each module on, read the chapter(s) listed for that week. The powerpoint will be made available to you to accompany your text book chapter readings. You will also find a Quiz included in each weekly module to enhance your learning. Quizzes will promptly close on Tuesdays at 11:59 pm and I will not make any exceptions regarding quiz availability. However, in the event that you miss a quiz, or perform poorly on it, two lowest quiz grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Course Requirements

1. The student will have more than 90% attendance in class. Less than 80% attendance in class without appropriate documentation will result in an automatic F. Instructor will decide on a case to case basis on the appropriateness of the rational provided for absence.
2. The student will be responsive, polite and interactive in class. Respectful to the professor and other students.
3. The student will access and follow all course instructions found in the weekly content area of the CANVAS course.
4. The student will complete the assigned ‘online’ exams/quizzes by accessing the item in the weekly folder in the CANVAS course.
5. The student will complete and submit assignments electronically using the CANVAS assignment drop box tool/tab.
6. The student will complete an on-going semester project in accordance with the instructions given in this syllabus and in class.

Communications

All course related communication outside of the classroom should be emailed to me at Dalia.Chowdhury@unt.edu through your UNT student account. Please allow a minimum of 48 hours for me to respond to your email. IF you do not hear from me within this period, please send me a reminder email. Additionally, when sending me emails, please take some time to think about any other questions you may have: I would prefer to see one slightly longer email with several questions instead of several emails with brief questions all sent relatively close to each other. Additionally, weekends are my personal time, so any email that you send during Friday night and during the weekend, may receive reply on Monday. Please employ proper email etiquette when contacting me. Consider reading this document to familiarize yourself with email etiquette http://ceoas.oregonstate.edu/resources/undergraduate/files/email-etiquette.pdf

Assessments and Grading

Assessments
This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course learning objectives/outcomes. Each week you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, etc. which will be made available to you by each Monday and close on the following Sunday.

Weekly Quizzes: 100 points
Each week, each student will take a brief quiz about the information presented in the weekly module. A total of 12 Quizzes worth 10 points each will be administered throughout the semester. Two lowest quiz grades will be dropped at the end of the semester. Make-up quizzes will not be provided. If you miss a quiz for any other reason and are unable to take the quiz, your quiz grade for that week (zero) will be used as the allowed dropped quiz grade. Weekly Quizzes will open on Monday at 9.00am and will stay open till Sunday, 11.59pm.

The quizzes are assigned as a means of assessing your learning of the fundamentals of the coursework after each lecture. By taking these quizzes and doing well on them, you will demonstrate your ability to synthesize learning of the key elements for the day/week.

Assessment Method: Quizzes will be graded by instructor and grades will be periodically uploaded on CANVAS.
Midterm and Final Exam: 50 points each for a total of 100 points
Two exams will be administered during this semester. Exams will be administered via CANVAS. You will find the link to each Exam in the corresponding weekly folder. The exam will be timed and grade made available following the submission of the exam. If you lose Internet connectivity during the exam, log back in immediately and continue on with the exam. Save your answers often (every 5-10 minutes). If you experience any issues while taking the exam, you must contact the CANVAS Helpdesk immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding exam issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation.

Midterm exam will contain information presented in Chapters 1-7
Final exam will contain information presented in Chapters 8-15

Assessment Method: Exam will contain multiple choice, True/False, Matching, and short answer questions.

Test Critique (100 points)
Using various resources available that critically evaluate assessment instruments, choose a Vocational Aptitude Assessment/Instrument from the list of pre-approved assessment instruments and write a 7-10 page test critique (double spaced, 12 inch font; 1 inch margin). All papers must cite a minimum of 8 peer-reviewed journal articles and follow APA format. Remember, cover page and reference page do not count as part of the page limit. Papers should not have more than 10% of direct quotes. For example, a 500 word paper should not have more than 50 words of direct quotes.

The paper should include background of the test, norms used, psychometric properties, age ranges, purpose, strengths, weaknesses etc. and then about your thoughts about the scale (will you use it? If so, what for and why? If not, provide reasons as well). Detailed instructions on the content of this test critique will be provided later in the semester.

Assessment Method: Test Critique will be graded based on the content, richness of sources, APA format, and level of critique. Your grade will be based on your content mastery of the chosen assessment and your explanation of its usage in the field of assessment, as evidenced by the paper you submit. Your grade will also be based on how familiar you are with the test, its purposes, psychometric properties, strengths and limitations.

Vocational Assessment Project 100 points
Students will work with a chosen classmate for this project. Each student will complete a
vocational evaluation report of his/her “client.” Each student will administer, score, and interpret the assessment instruments. All tests that need to be administered will be made accessible to you. I will provide examples of interpretation reports for each test presented and you will use this as a model for the individual test write-ups. Information derived from these individual tests will then be compiled to generate a vocational report/assessment.

This assignment will be divided into smaller sections which will be due at pre-assigned dates throughout the semester. More information about this project will be provided and compiled each week. Each report will include:

1. Initial Interview
2. Intelligence Test (WAIS IV)
3. Achievement test (WJ-III)
4. Clinical diagnostic test (BDI-II, BAI, BHS, Suicide assessment inventory)
5. Personality inventory (MBTI)
6. Minor tests to assess for any neuroimpairment/dementia (Trail Making Test and MMSE)
7. Substance Use inventory (CAGE, MAST, DAST)
8. Vocational and interest test (Strong Interest Inventory, Self-Directed-Search)
9. DSM diagnosis
10. Recommendations

**Grading**

*Grading will be done by points:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points Possible for Semester = 400</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>360-400 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320-359 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>280-319 = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240-279 = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-0 = F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Accessing Grades**

Grades will be available on the CANVAS course page.
Course Evaluation
All students are encouraged to complete course evaluations before the end of the semester. Additionally, if you have feedback regarding the course that you feel comfortable discussing with me directly, I invite you to do so at any time during the semester.

Scholarly Expectations
All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level.

Copyright Notice
Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

Syllabus Change Policy
Syllabus, course information, and due dates may be subject to change upon Instructor’s discretion.

UNT POLICIES

Student Conduct and Discipline: Student Handbook.
Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Student Code of Conduct Policy.

Academic Honesty Policy
You are encouraged to become familiar with the University's Policy of Academic dishonesty found in the Student Handbook. The content of the Handbook applies to this course. Additionally, the following specific requirements will be expected in this class: all work submitted should be your own. All assessments must be administered, scored, and evaluated by the student. If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with me before you complete any requirements of the course.

ADA Policy
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be
provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. **Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment.** Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://disability.unt.edu/. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

**Federal Regulation**

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at "Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)" and can be found buried within this document: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&TTYPE=TEXT

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.
Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Add/Drop Policy  
*Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Add/Drop Policy.*

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE

Minimum Technical Skills Needed:

- Using the learning management system (CANVAS)
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats (MS Word and Adobe)
- Copying and pasting
- Downloading and installing software
- Scanning Documents

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.

UIT Help Desk: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)  
Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/)  
Internet Access with compatible web browser  
Word Processor

RESOURCES

Links to Academic Support Services, such as Office of Disability Accommodation, Counseling and Testing Services, UNT Libraries, Online Tutoring, UNT Writing Lab and Math Tutor Lab can be located within CANVAS Learn on the “Academic Support” tab.

- UNT Portal: [http://my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu)
- UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users:  
  [http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access](http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access)
- UNT Computing and Information Technology Center:  
  [http://citic.unt.edu/services-solutions/students](http://citic.unt.edu/services-solutions/students)
- UNT Academic Resources for Students: [http://www.unt.edu/academics.htm](http://www.unt.edu/academics.htm)
Computer Labs: [provide information if departmental labs are available for use to students]. General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: http://www.gacl.unt.edu

Student Technical Support
The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of CANVAS and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) for updated hours.

Student Support Services
Also known on at the University of North Texas campus as SSS. All activities and services provided by SSS are intended to help students progress through their degree to an on-time graduation. Please refer to the website (https://trio.unt.edu/sss) for detailed list of services.