

ERSH 7600: Construction of Educational Measuring Instruments

Fall, 2007: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 to 1:45

Instructor: Dr. Karen Samuelsen

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Office Hrs: Tuesdays/Thursdays 10:45 to 12:15 and by appointment

Office: 325 S Aderhold Hall

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Class	Date	Approximate Topics Covered	Work Due
1	8/16	Overview, Introduction to measuring instruments	
2	8/21	Measuring instruments, Scales of measurement	Homework
3	8/23	Thurstone's scale	
4	8/28		
5	8/30		
6	9/4		Project #1 (group)
7	9/6	Likert's scale	
8	9/11		
9	9/13		
10	9/18		Project #2 (group)
11	9/20	Guttman's scale	
12	9/25		
13	9/27	Semantic differential	
14	10/2		
15	10/4		Project #3 (group)
16	10/9	Limitations of self-report	
17	10/11	Mid-term	
18	10/16	Reliability	
19	10/18		Homework
20	10/23		
21	10/25	Fall Break	
22	10/30	Validity	Homework
23	11/1		
24	11/6		
25	11/8		Project #4 (individual)
26	11/13	Factor Analysis	
27	11/15		Homework
28	11/20		
29	11/22	Choosing and evaluating instruments	Homework
30	11/27		
31	11/29		
32	12/4	No class – Friday schedule in effect	
33	12/6		Project #5 (individual)

Readings: Material will be assigned in class. Whenever possible this material will be available on line. When that is not possible material will be available to be copied in my office.

Grading: Tests: 30%
Homework: 10%
Class participation: 10%
Projects: 50%.

No curve. 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, Less than 60% = F

Exams: Although the exams are not really cumulative, knowledge and skills used early in the semester will be needed throughout the course. Make-ups will only be given with a verifiable doctor's note, and may differ from the original exams. You will be allowed to bring sheets of notes and a calculator with you into the exams.

Homework & Classwork: Homework and classwork are a very important part of this class. All assignments will count toward your final grade. Students that need help on their homework assignments are encouraged to see me during office hours or email me with specific questions. Homework assignments that are late will have points deducted.

Projects: The projects in this class have been designed to give you hands-on experiences with creating and evaluating instruments.

Attendance: Mandatory. Plan to be present for each class. Exams will follow definitions used in class. Some graded class work may be done during class meetings.

Cheating: Activities such as working in groups, discussing one's work with other students, and sharing ideas are encouraged in this class and are not considered to constitute cheating. However, work on exams must be done on your own without any consultation with other students (former or present), faculty, or anyone else. Cheating is defined as copying work from another person or any misrepresentation of another's work as your own. Students found to engage in cheating behavior will receive a grade of zero for the assignment on which the cheating occurred and possibly a failing grade in the course. In addition, the behavior will be reported to the student's advisor and other University authorities.

Cell Phones: Cell phone use during class is extremely disruptive and shows a lack of respect for other class members. For that reason cell phone use in class should be limited to emergency situations. Cell phones may not be used under any situation during an exam.

Grades of "Incomplete": Unless the student can demonstrate that a catastrophic event has led to extreme hardship, grades of "Incomplete" will not be given for ERS 7600.

Students requiring religious accommodation: Contact the instructor early in the semester to discuss alternate arrangements if the schedule indicates that you will need academic accommodation for religious reasons.

Students with documented disabilities: Contact the instructor early in the semester to discuss your needs. Students with documented disabilities must meet the same achievement standards for this class as all students; accommodations may be made only in terms of how such achievement is demonstrated.