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University of Toronto at Scarborough
Division of Life Sciences

Clinical Neuropsychology

PsychC31
Thursday's 9-11AM, Lecture Hall S.128
Professor Konstantine Zakzanis
Office Hours: Thursdays 1-2pm (or by appointment)
Office Locations: S-Wing 564
Your TA : Zachariah Campbell
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Brief Description of Clinical Neuropsychology:

Neuropsychology seeks to gain knowledge about brain and behavior relationships through the study of both healthy and damaged brain systems. It seeks to identify the underlying biological causes of behaviors, from creative genius to mental illness, that account for intellectual processes and personality. *Clinical* neuropsychology seeks such understanding, particularly, in the case of how damaged or diseased brain structures alter behaviors and interfere with mental and cognitive functions.

The neuropsychologist uses objective tools--neuropsychological tests--to tie the biological and behavioral aspects together. Through the use of tests, the clinical neuropsychologist is able to differentiate whether or not a behavioral abnormality is more likely caused by a biological abnormality in the brain or by an emotional or learned process.

Important Notes:

Every effort will be made to post the overheads on the course web-page prior to each lecture. However, on occasion, overheads will be posted following the lecture should there be any server problems (which has happened in the past).

Also, please note that if for any reason (e.g., snow-storm cancellation, unexpected illness) a lecture is cancelled because of an unforeseen circumstance, students are still responsible for the material that was to be presented in the lecture.

Textbook: Lezak, M.D. (1995). *Neuropsychological assessment (third edition).* New York: Oxford University Press.

Helpful Readings:

Spreen, O., & Strauss, E. (1999). *A compendium of neuropsychological tests (second edition)*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Snyder, P., & Nussbaum, P.D. (1998). *Clinical neuropsychology: A pocket handbook for assessment*. Washington: American Psychological Association

Grading Scheme:

(1) Mid-Term Examination worth 35% of your final grade

Your mid-term examination will consist of 70 multiple-choice questions. It will cover chapters one, two, three, four, five, six and eight from Lezak's Neuropsychological Assessment and from Lectures.

(2) Final Examination worth 65% of your final grade

Your final examination will consist of 130 multiple-choice questions. It will cover chapters seven, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen and sixteen. However, don't be fooled. To do well on the final you will need to be familiar with the concepts learned in the earlier chapters.

Important Dates:

January 19: Last day to add Winger Session Courses (Section 'S')
February 17-21: Reading Week
March 9: Last day to cancel Winter session course (Section 'S') from academic record and G.P.A.
March 12: Annual Examination Schedule Published
April 14-May 2: Final Examination Period

*NOTE: Students with a disability/health consideration are encouraged to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office @287-7560. They can also drop by the office, S302B, inside the Resource Centre. The Coordinator is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.

Lecture Dates:

January 9: Welcome; Course Description and Requirements; Lecture: "The Practice of Clinical Neuropsychology and Neuropsychological Assessment"

Readings: Chapter 1 The Practice of Neuropsychological Assessment

January 16: Lecture: "Basic Concepts" & "Behavioral Geography of the Brain"

Readings: Chapter 2 Basic Concepts
Chapter 3 The Behavioral Geography of the Brain

January 23: Lecture: "The Rationale of Deficit Measurement" & Neurobehavioral Variables and Diagnostic Issues"

Readings: Chapter 4: The Rationale of Deficit Measurement
Chapter 8: Neurobehavioral Variables and Diagnostic Issues

January 30: Lecture: "The Neuropsychological Examination: Procedures" & " The Neuropsychological Examination: Interpretation"

Readings: Chapter 5: The Neuropsychological Examination: Procedures
Chapter 6: The Neuropsychological Examination: Interpretation

February 6: NO CLASS—YOUR PERSONAL STUDY TIME FOR MID-TERM EXAMINATION

February 13: Mid-Term Examination (35% of your final grade)

February 20: NO CLASS—READING WEEK

February 27: Lecture: "Neuropathology for Neuropsychologists"

Readings: Chapter 7: Neuropathology for Neuropsychologists

March 6: Lecture: "Orientation and Attention" & "Perception"

Readings: Chapter 9: Orientation and Attention
Chapter 10: Perception

March 13: Lecture: "Memory"

Readings: Chapter 11: Memory I: Tests
Chapter 12: Memory II: Batteries, Paired Memory Tests, and Questionnaires

March 20: Lecture: "Verbal Functions and Language Skills"

Readings: Chapter 13: Verbal Functions and Language Skill

March 27: Lecture: "Concept Formation and Reasoning" & "Executive Function and Motor Performance"

Readings: Chapter 15: Concept Formation and Reasoning
Chapter 16: Executive Functions and Motor Performance

April 3: Lecture: "Construction" & "Summary"

Readings: Chapter 14: Construction

April 14-May 2: Final Examination Period