

PSYD34

Human Intelligence

Summer 2015

Instructor: Dr. Douglas A. Bors
Office: SW438
Email: bors@utsc.utoronto.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday 3:30 to 5:00 and by appointment

This course revolves around a review of the classical theories of human intelligence and their social and historical contexts, with a focus on psychometric theory and factor analysis. We will start with the fundamental question of understanding what an individual's score on a test represents and then work our way up to the issue of consistent individual differences. Crucial to all of this are the notions of reliability and validity. Following this, we will survey contemporary approaches to intelligence and the researches that they have generated. Next we will critically examine the concept of heritability, how it is estimated, and its application regarding the investigation of the individual and group differences found on IQ tests. Throughout this course the interrelated questions of "what is intelligence?" and "how do we measure it?" will need to be cycled and recycled.

Texts: Cianciolo, A. T. & Sternberg, R. (2004). *Intelligence: A brief history*. New York: Wiley-blackwell.
MacKintosh, N.(2011). *IQ and human intelligence*. New York: Oxford University Press.
Gould, S.J. (1996). *The mismeasure of man*. London, W.W. Norton.

Assigned articles to be announced.

Grading:

Your final grade in the course will be based on weekly thought-papers (50%) and a final paper (50%). The thought-paper's (hard copy) will be due the week after they are assigned. There will be eight thought-papers assigned and you best five (10% each) will count towards your final grade. Each paper should end with a question that arises out of your weekly readings and may form the basis for our weekly in-class discussions. The final paper (hard copy) will be due at the last meeting of the class. For the final paper you will be given three topics from which to choose. The papers should follow APA format and have a cover page. I will be happy to review a one-page outline of your final paper with you on a one-to-one basis during my office hours. Three percent will be deducted for each day that a paper is late.