COURSE TITLE: Neuropsychological Assessment Reading Course (PSYCHOL 9031)

SUPERVISING INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Ingrid Johnsrude

DATES: Summer 2024

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The aim of this course is to become familiar with the clinical neuropsychological assessment process, from start to finish. This will include theoretical and practical aspects of considering the referral question, interviewing, behavioural observation (via classic cases in neuropsychology), test selection and psychometrics, conducting formal testing, test interpretation, report writing, feedback, and communication with other professionals. Special consideration will be given toward rehabilitation, and neuroimaging and network perspectives, which are increasingly relevant to the future of neuropsychology.

EVALUATION:
- Weekly reaction statements: Students will share a short paragraph or two (post to OWL course site) providing a reflection of and/or questions about content covered in readings (e.g., what did you learn, what excited you, what questions remain?)
- Final evaluation: written response to clinical vignettes involving a description of your approach to neuropsychological assessment in each case with clear justification

REQUIRED TEXTS:
Primary Texts (purchase recommended):


*Note, a newer version of the compendium has been released, with less relevant background on fundamentals of neuropsychological assessment (fewer introductory chapters than the previous edition):*

Additional Readings (PDFs available):


Aliko, S., et al. (2023) The entire brain, more or less is at work: ‘Language regions’ are artefacts of averaging. *bioRxiv*, 555886. https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.01.555886


**OVERVIEW:**

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic (Readings Below)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>May 6, 2024</td>
<td>Overview of the Neuropsychological Assessment Process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>May 13, 2024</td>
<td>Referral, Chart Review, History Taking, Interviewing, and Behavioural Observations</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>May 20, 2024</td>
<td>Psychometrics, Norms, and Test Selection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>May 27, 2024</td>
<td>The Assessment of General (Premorbid) Cognitive Functioning, and use of Screening Measures</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>June 3, 2024</td>
<td>Assessing Change over Time</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>June 10, 2024</td>
<td>Language</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>June 17, 2024</td>
<td>Sensory Perception and Motor Functioning</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>June 24, 2024</td>
<td>Memory</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>July 1, 2024</td>
<td>Executive Functions &amp; Attention</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>July 8, 2024</td>
<td>Comorbid Psychopathology, Differential Diagnosis</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>July 15, 2024</td>
<td>Performance Validity and Secondary Influences on Performance</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>July 22, 2024</td>
<td>Report Writing, Feedback, and Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>July 29, 2024</td>
<td>Finish up any readings/evaluation; Submit final evaluation exercise</td>
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READINGS:

Week 1: Overview of the Neuropsychological Assessment Process


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 2: Referral, Chart Review, History Taking, Interviewing, and Behavioural Observation


Optional/Alternate Readings:

Week 3: Psychometrics, Norms, and Test Selection


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 4: The Assessment of General (Premorbid) Cognitive Functioning, and use of Screening Measures


Week 5: Assessing Change over Time


Selected section: Assessing change over time (pp. 24-27)


Week 6: Language

Aliko, S., et al. (2023) The entire brain, more or less is at work: ‘Language regions’ are artefacts of averaging. bioRxiv, 555886. https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.01.555886


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 7: Sensory Perception and Motor Functioning

Pilgrim, E., & Humphreys, G. W. (1994). Rehabilitation of a case of ideomotor apraxia. In M. Riddoch & G. W. Humphreys (Eds.), Cognitive neuropsychology and cognitive rehabilitation (pp. 271-286). Hillsdale, USA: L. Erlbaum Associate


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 8: Memory


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 9: Executive Functions & Attention


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 10: Comorbid Psychopathology, Differential Diagnosis


Optional/Alternate Readings:


Week 11: Performance Validity and Secondary Influences on Performance


Week 12: Report Writing, Feedback, and Communication


Also see:
