

**Psychometrics and Clinical Inference**

**Psychology 770**

**Fall, 2005**

**Professor: Drew Westen**

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**Goals:**

- (1) To gain a working knowledge of psychometrics and scale construction.
- (2) To develop clinical inference skills that facilitate valid and reliable judgments about personality and psychopathology in clinical practice and research.

**Sept 7: Videotaped interview and scoring using the SWAP-200, Axis II Construct Ratings, and BFI**

**Sept 14: Clinical and psychometric approaches to assessment**

Meehl, P. (1973). Why I do not attend case conferences. In P. Meehl (Ed.), *Psychodiagnostics: Selected papers*. New York: Norton, pp.225-302.

Garb, H. (1998). *Studying the clinician: Judgment research and psychological assessment*. Washington, D.C.: APA Press, pp.9-38.

Westen, D., & Weinberger, J. (2004). When clinical description becomes statistical prediction. *American Psychologist*, 59, 595–613.

Westen, D., & Weinberger, J. (in press). In praise of clinical judgment: Meehl's forgotten legacy. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*.

Sept 21: Constructing scales and aggregating data: Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis

**Bryant, F.B., & Yarnold, P.R. (1995). Principal-components analysis and exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis. In L.Grimm & P. Yarnold (Eds.), *Reading and understanding multivariate statistics* (pp.99-136). Washington, D.C.: APA Press.**

Fabregar, L.R., Wegener, D.T., MacCallum, R.C., & Strahan, E.J. (1999). Evaluating the use of exploratory factor analysis in psychological research. *Psychological Methods*, 4, 272-299.

Markon, K. E., Krueger, R. F., & Watson, D. (2005). Delineating the structure of normal and abnormal personality: An integrative hierarchical approach. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 88, 139-157.

*Recommended (particularly for students without prior coursework on assessment):*

Anastasi, A. and Urbina, S. (1997). *Psychological testing*, 7th Ed. New York: Macmillan, pp. 84-112.

Nunnally, J.,C., & Bernstein, I.H. (1994). *Psychometric theory* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). NY: McGraw-Hill, pp.83-113.

Cronbach, L., & Meehl, P. (1955). Construct validity in psychological tests. *Psychological Bulletin*, 52, 281-302.

Campbell, D., & Fiske, D. (1959). Convergent and discriminant validation by the multitrait-multimethod matrix. *Psychological Bulletin*, 56, 81-105.

Sept 28: Beyond factor analysis: item response theory, generalizability theory, cluster analysis, and taxometric methods

Reise, S., Ainsworth, A., & Haviland, M. (2005). Item response theory Fundamentals, applications, and promise in psychological research. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 14, 95-101.

Fraley, R.C., Waller, N., & Brennan, K.A. (2000). An item response theory analysis of self-report measures of adult attachment. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 78, 350-365.

**Strube, M.J. (2000). Reliability and generalizability theory. In L.Grimm & P. Yarnold**

**(Eds.), Reading and understanding more multivariate statistics (pp.23-66). Washington, D.C.:**

**APA Press.**

Lorr, M. Cluster analysis: Aims, methods, and problems. In S. Strack & M. Lorr (Eds.), *Differentiating normal and abnormal personality* (pp. 179-195). New York: Springer.

Meehl, P. (1995). Bootstrap taxometrics: Solving the classification problem in psychopathology. *American Psychologist*, 50, 266-275.

**Oct 5: Self-reports, informant reports, and projective measures: Controversies and criticisms**

Lilienfeld, S., Wood, J.M., & Garb, H. (2000). The scientific status of projective techniques. *Psychological Science in the Public Interest*, 1, 27-66.

Meyer, G.J., Finn, S.E., Eyde, L.D., Kay, G.G., Moreland, K.L., Dies, R.R., Eisman, E.J., Kubiszyn, T.W., & Read, G.M. (2001). Psychological testing and psychological assessment: A review of evidence and issues. *American Psychologist*, 56, 128-165.

Westen, D., Feit, A., & Zittel, C. (1999). Methodological issues in research using projective techniques. In P.C. Kendall, J.N. Butcher, & G. Holmbeck (Eds.), *Handbook of research methods in clinical psychology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (pp.224-240). New York: Wiley.

Hiller, J.B., Rosenthal, R., Bornstein, R.F., Berry, D.T.R., & Brunell-Neuleib, S. (1999). A comparative meta-analysis of Rorschach and MMPI validity. *Psychological Assessment*, 11, 278-296.

Clifton, A., Turkheimer, E., & Oltmanns, T. F. (2005). Self- and Peer Perspectives on Pathological Personality Traits and Interpersonal Problems. *Psychological Assessment*, 17, 123-131.

**Oct 12: Coding narrative data using the Thematic Apperception Test**

McClelland, D.C., Koestner, R., & Weinberger, J. (1989). How do self-attributed and

implicit motives differ? *Psychological Review*, 96, 690-702.

**Westen, D. (1991). Social cognition and object relations. *Psychological Bulletin*, 109, 429-455.**

**Oct 19: No class**

**Oct 26: Coding narrative data using the Rorschach test**

Rapaport, D. Gill, M., & Schafer, R. (1945). *Diagnostic psychological testing*, Vol.1. Chicago: Yearbook Publishers, pp.313-367.

Exner, J. (1986). *The Rorschach: A comprehensive system*, Vol.1, *Basic foundations*, 2nd Ed. New York: Wiley, pp.3-56.

Holzman, P., Shenton, M., & Solovay, M. (1986). Quality of thought disorder in differential diagnosis. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 12, 360-371.

Holzman, P., et al. (1986). Scoring manual for the Thought Disorder Index. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 12, 483-496.

**Nov 2: Research interviews for assessing personality**

First, M., Spitzer, R., Gibbon, M., & Williams, J. (1995). The Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-III-R Personality Disorders (SCID-II). Part I: Description. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 9, 83-91.

First, M., Spitzer, R., Gibbon, M., Williams, J., Davies, J.B., Howes, M., Kane, J., Pope, H., & Rounsaville, B. (1995). The Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-III-R Personality Disorders (SCID-II). Part II: Multi-site test-retest reliability study. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 9, 92-104.

Westen, D. (1997). Divergences between clinical and research methods for assessing personality disorders: Implications for research and the evolution of Axis II. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 154, 895-903.

Alexander, I. (1988). Personality, psychological assessment, and psychobiography. *Journal of Personality*, 56, 265-294.

Peebles-Kleiger, M.J. (2002). *Beginnings: The art and science of planning psychotherapy* (Chapters 6 and 7, pp.69-97). New York: Analytic Press.

**Nov 9: Systematic clinical interviewing**

McWilliams, N. (1999). *Psychoanalytic case formulation*, Chapter 2 (pp.29-47). New York: Guilford.

Kernberg, O. (1984). Structural diagnosis. *Severe personality disorders*. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp.3-51.

Westen, D., & Muderrisoglu, S. (2003). Reliability and validity of personality disorder assessment using a systematic clinical interview: Evaluating an alternative to structured interviews. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 17, 350-368.

Westen, D. (2004). *Clinical diagnostic interview*.  
<http://www.psychsystems.net/lab/clinical%20diagnostic%20interview%2011%2003.doc>

### **Nov 16: Case formulation: I**

**Westen, D., Gabbard, G., & Blagov, P. (in press). Back to the future: Personality structure as a context for psychopathology. In R.F. Krueger & J.L.Tackett (Eds.), *Personality and psychopathology: Building bridges*. New York: Guilford.**

Shapiro, D. (1965). *Neurotic styles*. New York: Basic, pp. 23-53, 108-133.

McWilliams, N. (1994). *Psychoanalytic diagnosis*, Chapter 4 (pp.67-95). New York: Guilford.

McWilliams, N. (1999). *Psychoanalytic case formulation*, Chapter 7(pp.122-138). New York: Guilford.

### **Nov 23: NO CLASS**

### **Nov 30: Case formulation: II**

Haynes, S.N., & Williams, A.E. (2003). Case formulation and design of behavioral treatment programs. *European Journal of Psychological Assessment*, 19, 164-174.

Persons, J.B., & Tompkins, M.A. (1997). Cognitive-behavioral case formulation. In T. D. Eells (Ed.), *Handbook of psychotherapy case formulation* (pp. 314-339). New York: Guilford.

### **Dec 7: Scaling clinical inference**

Block, J. (1978). The Q-sort method in personality assessment and psychiatric research. Palo Alto, CA: Consulting Psychologists Press, pp.3-26.

Shedler, J., & Westen, D. (2004). Refining personality disorder diagnoses: Integrating science and practice. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 161, 1-16.

Westen, D., Nakash, O., Thomas, C., & Bradley, R. (in press). Clinical identification of attachment patterns in adolescents and adults: The relation between attachment and personality disorders. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*.

Betan, E., Heim, A., Zittel, C., & Westen, D. (2005). Countertransference phenomena and personality pathology in clinical practice: An empirical investigation. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 162: 890-898.

### **Dec 14: “Exam”: Videotaped interview, case formulation, and scoring using the SWAP-200 and FFI**

**Grades will be based on class participation (10%) and on a written and quantitative case formulation (90%).**