

The University of Manitoba
Faculty of Education
Department of Educational Administration, Foundations & Psychology

EDUA 7870 A01 Measurement and Evaluation in Schools

(3 credit hours)

(CRN 24497)

Course Outline Jan. to Apr. 2009

CERTIFIED ORGANIC !!!

Time: Wednesday 5:30 to 8:30

Room: 334 Education Building

Instructor: Robert Renaud

215 Education Building

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Course Overview:

As stated in the calendar, this course will include an advanced study of the principles of measurement and evaluation and their application to teaching and learning in schools. Current issues in measurement and evaluation, including alternative forms of classroom assessment and standard setting, will be discussed. Prerequisite: 129.581 or the former 043.301 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

Course Requirements:

1. Students are expected to attend all classes, read and reflect critically on assigned readings prior to class, and participate actively in class discussion. Class participation will be weighted 20% in the determination of final grades.
2. Each student will make two separate 40-minute class presentations on current topics, controversial issues, or practical applications relating to measurement and evaluation in schools. Presentations may be given in any class between March 4 and April 1. Presentations will be graded on content, clarity, and facilitation of class discussion. To help the class prepare for your presentation, I would like you to provide the class with a relevant article or chapter one week before you are scheduled to present. In addition, unless you are planning to give handouts that cover the main aspects of your presentation, please submit a brief 1-2 page summary of your presentation. The two presentations will count 40% (20% each) toward the final grade in the course.

For the remaining 40% of the course requirements, you may choose from either of the following:

3. A take-home examination consisting of 4 questions (selected from a total of 6), each of which requires a 4- or 5-page (double-spaced) answer. Exam questions will be made available one at a time throughout the course, and answers may be submitted any time up to and including the last class on April 1.
4. A research proposal that contains the following components:
 - a. Introduction
 - i. Review of relevant literature
 - ii. Formulation of proposed research question(s)
 - b. Method
 - i. Subjects
 - ii. Materials
 - iii. Procedure
 - c. Analyses
 - i. Description of data
 - ii. How data will be analyzed (must explain why the analysis you chose is appropriate considering the research questions and type of data)
 - d. Appendices (if necessary)

Your research proposal may focus on either any of the topics in this course outline or any other topic that has clear relevance to measurement and evaluation in schools (if you are thinking of new topic, please see me before proceeding).

Topical outline:

Basic concepts in measurement and evaluation	Jan. 7 to Jan. 28
Functions of measurement and evaluation	
Norm-referenced vs. criterion-referenced assessment	
Test construction	
Reliability and validity	
Impact of assessment on students	
Current practices in measurement and evaluation	Feb. 4 to Feb. 25
Achievement testing	<i>Note: there is no class on Feb. 18</i>
Aptitude testing	<i>- during Reading Week</i>
Assessment of noncognitive characteristics	
Current issues and controversies (potential topics)	Mar. 4 to Apr. 1
Minimum competency testing	
Detecting and reducing biases in testing	
Authentic assessment	
Student evaluation of teaching	
Cross-national comparison of achievement test scores	
Outcomes assessment in education	
Teacher competency testing	
Performance indicators in education	
Assessment of learning disabilities	
Standardized achievement tests	
Qualitative and constructivist models of assessment	
Longitudinal comparison of achievement test scores	
Ethical considerations in measurement and evaluation	

General Comments

Below are some general comments on how this course will run. If you require any modification to insure your full participation in this course, please talk to me as soon as possible.

University policies. The University of Manitoba requires that I draw your attention to a number of policies and regulations regarding attendance and debarment, cheating and plagiarism, incompletes, appeals of assigned grades and voluntary withdrawal. You will find these explained in the 2008-2009 Graduate Calendar (pages 19-20). Also, please see pages 11-12 for policies regarding the responsibilities of academic staff towards students.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the Faculty of Education grading conversion scheme:

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Level of Achievement	Percentage Range
A+	4.5	WOW!	95+
A	4	Excellent	90-94
B+	3.5	Very Good	85-89
B	3	Good	80-84
C+	2.5	Satisfactory	75-79
C	2	Adequate	70-74
D	1	Marginal	60-69
F	0	Failure	Below 60