

In the Name of Allah
University of Bojnord, Department of English
Language Testing for BA Students of TEFL (2 Credits)

Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: After class or by Appointment

Course Date: September, 2018

Class Time: Wednesday 8:00 to 10:00

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW

This course aims to provide you with essential background in the area of second or foreign language testing. Questions that are addressed relate to test preparation, administration, and evaluation. Additionally, it provides you with knowledge of basic concepts of testing and characteristics of language tests, ability to evaluate tests and test results, and an understanding of test development procedures. Throughout the course there will be discussions of officially administered tests and their ramifications for the educational system.

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students in this class are expected to

- A. Understand the fundamental concepts, principles, and concerns of language testing.
- B. Understand approaches and techniques in language test development and validation
- C. Plan and construct language tests.
- D. Analyze and interpret the results of language tests.
- E. Explain how test results can be used to describe student performance and/or improve the quality of tests.
- F. Criticize the relationship of testing to teaching practice and syllabus design
- G. Evaluate a test format in terms of purpose and appropriateness

3. REQUIRED TEXT AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Fulcher, G. (2010). *Practical language testing*. London: Hodder Education/Routledge.

4. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes. They are to read the required texts in advance and supposed to raise their problems on the issues. The dominant class method would follow cooperative approach through class discussions. Throughout the course, students are to handle at least two presentations on a language-related issue geared to course objectives. The essential requirements could be summarized as follows:

- A. Class participation:** Prompt attendance and participation at scheduled class meetings and examination dates are expected.
- B. Individual Oral Presentation:** Each student will make two presentations on two given topics to the class (30 to 50 minutes).
- C. Formal examinations:** A mid-term and a final exam are required in this course.

5. COURSE PROCEDURES/CLASS POLICIES

Primary instructional modalities in this course are lecture and self-directed study, but a part of most class sessions will be devoted to participative learning. Active participation is the central requirement for the class. Effective participation requires preparation. It is crucial to come to class having carefully read and thought about the day's reading. To ensure a smooth flow of discussions, students are encouraged to listen with an open mind, respect the contributions of others, and avoid personal attacks. Students will often be faced with alternative viewpoints from the professor or their peers. Thus, students should be prepared to defend their own positions with empirical data, obtained from the assigned readings, and reasoned argument.

Plagiarism or academic dishonesty will have consequences from failure of the assignment or exam to failure of the entire course. Rest assured that I am an expert in tracing plagiarism using various computer programs and other resources and must and will treat all cases very seriously.

Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class work because of unexpected problems shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The makeup will apply to the unavoidable absence only. Making up false excuses for absences will be considered cheating and may result in a grade of 'F' for missed work. Opportunity to make-up the missed work requires prior notification of the absence and an excused absence (that is one that your instructor accepts as reasonable and legitimate). How and when the work will be made up will be determined by the instructor. Students who represent UB at any official extracurricular activity shall have the opportunity to make up assignments, but they must provide official written notification to the professor no less than one week prior to the missed class.

6. GRADES

Participants are assessed through formative and summative evaluation. Performance-based evaluation would also play a part of measurement process. The grade assigned for this course is based on the total points earned on all assignments and class participation. The possible points earned for each exam and for class participation are as follows:

Class Participation	10 points
Individual Oral Presentation	30 points
Midterm Exam	30 points
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>30 points</u>
TOTAL	100 points

7. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

WEEK	TOPIC	READING(S)	SOURCE
1	Introduction		
2	Testing and Assessment in Context	Chapter 1	Fulcher (2010)
3	Standardized Testing	Chapter 2	Fulcher (2010)
4	Classroom Assessment	Chapter 3	Fulcher (2010)
5	Deciding What to Test	Chapter 4	Fulcher (2010)
6	Designing Test Specifications	Chapter 5	Fulcher (2010)
7	MID-TERM EXAM	Chapter 1-5	Fulcher (2010)
8	Evaluating, Prototyping and Piloting	Chapter 6	Fulcher (2010)
9	Scoring Language Tests	Chapter 7	Fulcher (2010)
10	Aligning Tests to Standards	Chapter 8	Fulcher (2010)
11	Test Administration	Chapter 9	Fulcher (2010)
12	Testing and Teaching	Chapter 10	Fulcher (2010)
13	Glossary		Fulcher (2010)
14	Miscellaneous Presentations	Reliability & Validity	General
15	Miscellaneous Presentations	GRE	www.ets.org/gre
16	Miscellaneous Presentations	IELTS TOEFL	www.ielts.org www.ets.org/toefl
17	FINAL EXAM	Chapter 6-10	Fulcher (2010)