

COURSE UNIT INFORMATION SHEET (SYLLABUS)

(2020/2021)

Name PSYCHOMETRICS (IMP: 1 st Cycle / 3 rd Grade / 1 st Semestre / Compulsory Course Unit)
Teaching staff Maria João Afonso, PhD (Professor in charge) Maria João Varandas dos Santos, MA
ECTS 6 credits
Functioning - Four hours of classes / week, two theoretical and two practical. - <u>Theoretical Class</u> (all students): <u>Tuesday</u> , 17:00 -19:00 (Room: <i>Anfiteatro I, Ferreira Marques</i>) - <u>Practical Classes</u> (4 alternative classes): <u>Wednesday</u> , <u>P1</u> 09:00 -11:00 / <u>P2</u> 11:00 -13:00 (Room 10) <u>Thursday</u> , <u>P4</u> 09:00 -11:00 / <u>P3</u> 11:00 -13:00 (Room 4) As established by the Contingency Plan (COVID-19), all students will attend classes on alternate weeks, according to a distribution list given by the FP Direction. In the non-face-to-face week, students attend either the Theoretical Lesson or the Practical Lessons online, through direct transmission on the Zoom Platform. Tutorial (Office A330 and online on the Zoom Platform): - <u>Theoretical Classes</u> (Maria João Afonso): <u>Tuesday</u> , 14:00 - 17:00 - <u>Practical Classes</u> (Maria João Santos/Afonso): <u>Wednesday</u> 14:00 - 17:00
Learning goals General: Development of methodological skills, scientific humanism and ethical / deontological attitudes in psychological measurement and assessment.

Specific:

- Achieving and constructing scientific knowledge in the field of psychological measurement: test construction and psychometric study;
- Achieving and constructing scientific knowledge about the variety of instruments for psychological measurement in the cognitive and conative domains;
- Achieving practical and deontological skills in psychological measurement and assessment,
- Achieving technical skills for the use of research methodologies (development of psychological measurement instruments suited for the Portuguese population, scientifically relevant and technically appropriate);
- Developing scientific, technical and deontological skills for the use of psychological tests in behavior observation and in assessment for intervention purposes, in various psychological intervention contexts.

Skills to be developed

- Knowledge about the Psychometric Theory (theoretical models and empirical research): Measurement Theory (epistemological foundations of psychological measurement) and Tests Theory (theoretical and technical foundations of psychological measurement);
- Technical skills for the construction, metrological study, critical evaluation and practical use of instruments for psychological measurement and assessment;
- Knowledge of the ethical and deontological principles underlying measurement and assessment in psychology and development of adequate attitudes regarding its application;
- Skills for applying statistical methods to psychological measurement;
- Conceptualization of psychological measurement in the field of Psychology: connection to various domains (Differential Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Personality Psychology); connection to application and intervention contexts (Clinical, Organizational, Educational, Forensic, Research, etc.).

Prerequisites (precedences)

Not applicable.

Contents

1.PSYCHOMETRIC THEORY: MEASUREMENT THEORY

- Measurement in Psychology: origins, contexts, purposes and foundations
- Measurement Theory: measurement concepts; measurement stages; measurement models

2. PSYCHOMETRIC THEORY: TEST THEORY

- Techniques for constructing, translating and adapting psychometric instruments
- Techniques for studying the psychometric proprieties of tests in different measurement models
 - Item Analysis
 - Reliability
 - Validity
 - Norms

3. PSYCHOMETRICS AND THE ETHICS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- Technical and ethical perspectives on psychological assessment
- The assessment of cognitive dimensions
- The assessment of conative dimensions

4. PRACTICAL USE OF PSYCHOMETRIC INSTRUMENTS

- Observation and measurement techniques
- Data analysis and score interpretation in the practical use of psychometric instruments.

Bibliography

Coaley, K. (2014). *An Introduction to Psychological Assessment and Psychometrics* (2nd ed). Los Angeles: Sage Publications.

Cohen, R.J. & Swerdlik, M.E. (2017). *Psychological testing and assessment: an introduction to tests and measurement*. 9th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Gregory, R.J. (2014). *Psychological Testing: History, principles, and applications* (7th ed.). Harlow, UK: Pearson.

Kaplan, R.M. & Saccuzzo, D.P. (2013). *Psychological Assessment and Theory. Creating and using psychological tests*. 8th ed. (International Edition). Canada: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

Urbina, S. (2014). *Essentials of Psychological Testing*. New Jersey, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Teaching methods

- Dissertation lessons allowing student participation; theoretical presentation focusing on epistemological and conceptual frameworks for the understanding and the resolution of the kind of problems that emerge from psychological measurement and assessment;
- Theoretical-practical lessons – face-to-face and online –, linking conceptual and application contents with practical components of the subject;
- Practical lessons – face-to-face and online –, for direct contact and confrontation with contexts, problems and situations emerging from individual differences and their assessment;
- Compulsory practical assignments, aiming the development of practical skills and ethical and deontological attitudes in testing and assessment;
- Tutorial sessions, weekly scheduled, to support students in their study planning and in the practical assignment tasks;
- E-learning, using the Moodle platform, for the distribution of documents and the assistance of student's training and practical assignment tasks.

Evaluation Regimes (General and/or Alternative)

- General Evaluation Regime: includes Written Examination and two Practical Assignments. The compulsory Practical Assignments must be accomplished during the semester, while attending the practical lessons that support its execution.

- Alternative Evaluation Regime: in this CU, there is no alternative regime. However, Portuguese students displaced in the ERASMUS Program will be allowed to carry out the Practical Assignments during the 2nd Semester.

Evaluation Elements (Dates due, weights, minimum required grades)

- **Written Final Examination, compulsory**: for the assessment of students learning in the content areas explored in the theoretical, theoretical-practical and practical classes;

Weighting in the final grade: **0,70**, applied to the examination mark, when $\geq 9,5$ (14 points / 20).

Examination structure: 10 Multiple Choice items (with theoretical, theoretical-practical and practical contents), with a brief written justification required, for the response choice made + 1 Dissertation item (with theoretical, theoretical-practical or practical content).

- **Practical Assignments, compulsory**: group assignments (4 or 5 students) supervised and supported by the Tutorial sessions.

Weighting in the final grade: **0,15 x 2**, applied to the practical assignments mark, when $\geq 9,5$ (6 points / 20).

- **Attendance and Participation**: as defined by the Contingency Plan (COVID-19), students must attend 50% of the face-to-face classes. Class attendance will be monitored, both for students who are present and for those who are online. The attendance information will be considered qualitatively for the purposes of rounding the final classification.

→ FINAL GRADE:

- In accordance to the Article number 7 of the Learning Assessment Regulation [*Regulamento de Avaliação das Aprendizagens*], only the students who succeeded in both compulsory evaluation elements are considered to be in conditions to be evaluated, and then receiving an approved or a not approved evaluation.

- If **all of the three** compulsory evaluation elements meet the respective minimum criteria (are equal or above the minimum mark required for approval, 9,5), the weighting coefficients are applied, and the student receives the respective final grade.

- If **at least one of the three** required elements of evaluation do not reach the minimum standard of achievement, the student will receive the mark of the evaluation element that has not fulfilled the minimum criteria of use.

- If **at least one of the** required evaluation elements is missing, the student will receive a registration of "NA" [*Não Avaliado*] (No Evaluation) which means he or she has not the complete information to allow the grade attribution.

Rules for students having previously failed the course unit

- Students will have to repeat the course unit if they don't achieve a grade which is equal or above 9.5, in one or both elements of evaluation (Written Examination and Practical Assignment) in 2019/2020.

- The grade obtained in one of the evaluation elements, Written Examination or Practical Assignments, while in the same year the approval is not attained at the other elements of evaluation, is stored for one school year, although it can still be improved in the first or in the second season of the following school year.

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- Students whose Practical Assignment grade was kept in the last academic year (2019/2020), maintain this classification with the respective weighting (.30), and must only take the Written Examination.

Rules for grade improvement

- All the grades - examination and / or practical assignments - can be improved in the 2nd Season;
- If one of the grades is stored for one year, because in the other required evaluation element it was not obtained the necessary approval, it can be improved in the following year;
- Practical assignments grades cannot be improved in the Special and Specific Season.

Requirements on attendance and punctuality

- Attendance regime: the attendance to the classes is sincerely advised, and so the student should seek to be present at least at the minimum of 9 lessons / semester, as the students should attend at least 2/3 of the lessons of each type (Theoretical and Practical lessons) (Article number 8 of the Learning Assessment Regulation [Regulamento de Avaliação das Aprendizagens]). According to the Contingency Plan (COVID-19), students must attend 50% of face-to-face classes.
- There is no maximum limit of nonattendances allowed; the number of attendances is entirely a student's responsibility. However, attendance in class will be registered for summary purposes and may be considered as qualitative information in student evaluation.

Rules for special students (workers, elite athletes, student body leaders, military, fathers/mothers, with special needs) *

- The only students qualified for the application of the law regarding the worker-student status, as well as other statutes covered by the law, are those who have formalized their status at the Academic Services.
- The working students who have formalized their status at the Academic Services can use the Tutorial periods for individual supervision of their training.
- The same principle of individual supervision is applied to other groups of students considered exceptions (top athletes, students association leaders, military students, parent students, students with special educational needs) who have formalized their status at the Academic Services.

Languages of instruction

- Lectures: Portuguese
- Readings: Portuguese, English, French or Spanish

Disciplinary violations and penalties

According to the Evaluation of Learning Regulation of the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Lisbon, the following behaviors are considered as disciplinary offenses subject to disciplinary action:

- a) To use or attempt to use materials, information, notes, study resources or other objects and equipment not authorized in academic exercises;
- b) To help or try to help a colleague in committing a disciplinary offense;
- c) To submit the same written work for evaluation in different course units without permission from the instructors, even if with minor changes;
- d) To present someone else's work as one's own;
- e) To forge, or change without permission from the author, any information or citation in an academic work;
- f) To interfere, change or attempt to change grades;
- g) To try to prevent or interfere with the proper functioning of classes, research or other academic activities;
- h) To make false accusations regarding instructors, governance bodies, other students or non-teaching staff of the FPUL;
- i) To falsify signatures in attendance sheets, documents relating to evaluation elements or in any official document relating to an academic process or status.

Disciplinary offenses committed in any assessment element can lead to its annulment, and must be reported to the Pedagogical Council or, considering their gravity and repetition, may lead to other penalties, to be determined by the Rector of the University of Lisbon.