

PSY 6430 Personnel Selection and Placement, CRN 15257  
Spring 2011 Course Syllabus and Calendar

*Instructor Information*

Instructor: Dr. Alyce M. Dickinson	Office: 3744 Wood Hall
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*Course Materials*

1. Gatewood, R. D., Feild, H., S., & Barrick, M. (2008). *Human Resource Selection* (6th ed.). Mason, OH: Thomson Southwestern (now part of Cengage). ISBN 0-324-20728-X
2. Course Pack: This packet includes the study objectives for the course, extra required readings, and sample projects.

*General Course Description*

This course is designed to teach students: (1) the professional and legal requirements for personnel selection systems; (2) how to design and evaluate the adequacy of personnel selection systems; and (3) the relative feasibility and effectiveness of different selection procedures (application blanks, interview, ability tests, training and experience evaluations, drug testing, integrity testing, etc.)

*General Course Format*

In general, there will be two lectures followed by an essay examination. Thus, the exams will rotate between Mondays and Wednesdays. There are a few exceptions to this general format, so please refer to the attached calendar frequently. I use ppt for my lectures and you can download those from my web page: [alycedickinson.com](http://alycedickinson.com)

*Course Grades*

Your course grade will be based on the number of points that you accumulate on the unit assignments. Points cannot be earned by doing alternative activities. There are 10 unit assignments as follows.

8 exams each worth 35 points (Units 1-8)

1 job analysis worth 70 points (Units 9 and 10)

A total of 350 points is available. Grades will be determined as follows:

	A	BA	B	CB	C	DC	D	E	
Percent		92	85	80	75	70	65	60	<60*
Points	322	298	280	263	245	228	210	<210*	

\* "<" means less than

Psychology students must obtain at least a "B" in order to receive credit for the course in their program.

### *Students with Disabilities*

If you have a documented disability and need reasonable accommodations, please contact me during the first week of classes so that I have time to ensure that your needs are met in a timely manner. Students with disabilities should contact the University's Disabled Student Resources and Services and the Office of Services for Students with Learning Disabilities at the beginning of the semester to inform them of the disability and obtain information about their services. According to University policy: "Any student with a documented disability who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the professor and the appropriate Disability Services office at the beginning of the semester." Per University policy, in order for me to provide accommodations, I need authorization from the University.

### *Religious Holidays and Religious Observance*

I will excuse students from class for the purpose of observing major religious holidays provided they make a request to me two weeks in advance so that I can alternative arrangements for them to make up the work.

### *Unit Exams*

*Exam study objectives.* The course pack contains unit study objectives over the text. The week's assignment is indicated at the top of each week's study objectives. Only the text material specified in the objectives will be covered on the exam (although the exams will also cover any additional material that I provide in lecture). Note carefully that the exams will be based on all of the study objectives whether or not I discuss them in lecture. It is important that you keep all of the study objectives so that you can refer to them later in the course. You will need to restudy some of the unit objectives for the make-up exams. I will give you a set of the objectives to review before to the make-up exams.

*Exams.* Exams will consist of short-answer questions (essay, fill-in-the-blank, listing information - they will NOT be multiple-choice). Questions will cover the study objectives **and** any additional material that I provide in lecture. It is important that you keep all of the exams so that you can refer to them later in the course.

*Exam regrade policy.* After exams have been graded, returned and discussed in class, you may, by submitting a written regrade request, ask me to regrade an item on your exam if you believe that it was not graded accurately. I have attached a sample regrade request form at the end of the syllabus - you can use your computer to make the form.

Regrade requests **MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING** and **WITHIN ONE WEEK** after the exams have been returned.

When submitting a regrade request you should attach the exam questions and your answers. The request should state the reasons why more points should be awarded for a particular answer. References to a text page and paragraph or to specific lecture material will increase the likelihood that your request will be granted. Note that while I encourage students to submit regrade requests, I am unlikely to give points back if you use justifications such as the following: "because it is right" (without further explanation), "but that is what I meant to say", "I missed lecture when you explained this", or "Pat answered the same way and got more points" (I might have graded Pat's answer too leniently). If a particular student requests too many regrades or inappropriate regrades (e. g., asking me to review my grading on all or nearly all questions), I will first discuss the problem with the student. If the student continues to abuse the regrade

request procedure I will regrade all of the offending student's exam answers in addition to the ones requested. If I feel my original grading was too lenient, I will take off additional points.

**NOTE AGAIN: YOU MAY NOT REQUEST REGRADES VOCALLY**

I need to review the test question, recall my original grading criteria and re-evaluate your answer. In order to do this I MUST have the requests in writing.

### *Make-up Exams*

If you miss an exam for any reason (illness, car trouble, injury, work, conference, starting vacation early, etc.) you will receive a score of zero. Two make-up exams will be given to enable you to make up for two such absences; one each half of the semester. In other words, you may miss one exam each half of the semester without having it hurt your grade as long as you then take the scheduled make-up exam.

The job analysis project cannot be made up with make-up exams. You must complete this assignment or receive a zero.

The first make-up exam will be given on Wednesday, March 11. This exam will review material from Units 1-3. The score you earn on this exam may be used to replace a missing exam score on one of the first three exams.

The second make-up exam will be given on Monday, April 25 during final exam week. It will review material from Exams 4-8. (Units 9 and 10 consist of the job analysis project). The score you earn on this second make-up exam may be used to replace a missing score on one of these exams.

If you do not miss any exams and only if you do not miss any exams, the score you obtain on the first make-up exam may be used to replace the lowest score you obtained on Exams 1-3, and the score you obtain on the second make-up exam may be used to replace the lowest score on Exams 4-8. If your make-up exam scores are lower than the scores of your unit exams, then the make-up exam scores will be discarded. In other words, the make-up exams cannot hurt your grade.

If you do not miss any exams, the make-up exams are optional. If you are satisfied with the scores you have obtained on the unit exams, then you do not have to take the make-up exams - you get the day off.

*Additional make-up exams.* As a rule, *no* make-up exams will be given in addition to the scheduled make-up exams. Under very, very special circumstances (such as a documented long illness or an automobile accident) you may be able to take a special make-up exam but this will be completely at my discretion.

### **MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN FOR THE SCHEDULED MAKE-UP EXAMS**

### *Job Analysis Project*

During this class, you will be learning about a number of different types of job analysis methods. You will conduct one type of analysis, a task analysis. Detailed instructions on how to conduct this analysis and how to format the report are provided in the study objectives and will be discussed in class on Monday, March 21.

The task analysis is due on Monday, April 25 during final exam week (the same day as ME2). I am always willing to accept the task analysis earlier. If you want to know your grade on the job

analysis in order to determine whether you should take ME2, then the task analysis is due on Monday, April 18.

Points will be automatically deducted if you hand in the project late. Seven points (10%) will be deducted if you hand in the project after Monday, April 25 at 5:00 pm (the time class starts that day). If you do not hand the project in by Wednesday, April 27 at 5:00, you will receive a zero for the project because we will have reached the end of the semester and I need a day (or two) to read and grade your work.

#### *Attendance at Lectures*

Attendance at lectures is not required. However, if you miss a lecture you are responsible for the lecture material that I provide and any announcements regarding changes in the unit assignment, schedule, etc. Therefore, if you must miss a lecture, you should ask another member of the class to take notes for you.

#### *Cell Phones and Pagers*

Cell phones and pagers must be turned off during all classes, both lecture days and exam days.

#### *Academic Dishonesty*

If I have evidence of any form of academic dishonesty, I will charge the student with violating the Academic Honesty Policy of the University in a report to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs (OSJA) (see the Student Code). You will be given the opportunity to review the charge by the OSJA. If you believe that you are not responsible, you will have the opportunity for a hearing. I will recommend to the committee that any student who is found responsible for an act of academic dishonesty be given a *failing* grade in the *course*.

Academic dishonesty consists of, but is not limited to, copying from another student's exam paper, from "crib sheets", from notes, from books, from any other material on which course information has been written, altering your original exam answers when submitting regrade requests, submitting work by another as your own, or submitting the same work for two different classes without prior permission to do so.

#### *Incompletes*

In keeping with the university's policy on incompletes, I will not give an incomplete as a substitute for a failing grade - the failing grade stands.

#### *Emergency Class Cancellation*

In the event that classes are officially cancelled (due to a snow storm, for example) the following schedule changes will automatically be in effect:

1. If the day cancelled is a day on which an exam has been scheduled or a project due, then the exam will be given or the project will be due in the first class that occurs after classes resume.
2. If the lecture day that immediately precedes the exam is cancelled or if both lectures that precede a scheduled exam are canceled, the exam will be given as scheduled in the first class that occurs after classes resume.

Please remember about this policy. It is not possible to predict when classes will be canceled and thus I cannot remind you about it, although I may send an email out to the class when/if classes are canceled.

## COURSE CALENDAR

## Monday

1/10 First Class  
 1/17 No class: MLK Day  
 1/24 E1  
 1/31 L2  
 2/07 L3: Legal Issues  
 Guest Speaker: Michele Henry  
 Attorney, Priddy, Cutler, Miller and Meade  
 Louisville, Kentucky  
 Employment discrimination  
 2/14 E3  
 2/21 L4  
 2/28 No Class: Spring Break  
 3/07 ME1 (Units 1-3)  
 3/14 Validity

## Wednesday

1/12 L1: Legal Issues  
 1/19 L1  
 1/26 L2: Legal Issues  
 2/02 E2  
 2/09 L3  
 2/16 L4: Correlation & Reliability  
 2/23 E4  
 3/02 No Class: Spring Break  
 3/04 L5: Validity  
 3/16 E5

MONDAY, 3/21: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

3/21 L6: Job analysis &  
 U9 Task analysis description  
 3/28 E6  
 4/04 L7: Tests  
 4/11 E7  
 4/18 E8  
 Task analysis due if you want  
 your grade before ME2  
 3/23 L6  
 3/30 No class: OBM Network conference  
 4/06 L7  
 4/13 L8: Application blanks/Interviews/T&E's  
 4/20 Return of E8  
 ME2 study objectives handed out

**Final Exam Week**

**MONDAY, 4/25, 5:00-7:00 pm: ME2 and task analysis due**

REGRADE REQUEST FORM  
Dr. A. Dickinson

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Course #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exam Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach:

1. The exam questions
2. Your answers
3. My answers

Where to return the request:

1. Hand it to me in class or
2. Put in my faculty mailbox in Wood Hall

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EXAM ITEM NUMBER      REASON FOR THE REGRADE REQUEST