

***Language Testing and Assessment (MA)***

***Sunday: 16:00-17:40***

***Room: 126***

**English Department  
Arak University**

**Winter 2020**

**Objectives:**

This course aims to acquaint graduate students of English language teaching with the main issues in language testing. Both the practical and theoretical issues will be discussed and handled in the course. The course covers research and current topics in language testing, too.

**Topics**

1. General issues
2. Language testing & language teaching (washback effect/impact on instruction)
3. Context in language testing
4. Test types
  - A. Skills & subskills tests
  - B. Function tests
  - C. Cloze procedure
5. Reliability
6. Validity
7. Assessment
8. Assessment and accountability
9. Language testing and assessment literacy
10. Classroom assessment
11. Social dimensions
12. Dynamic assessment
13. Research in language testing and assessment
14. Analysis of high-school English language tests
15. Statistics & language testing
16. Codes of ethics

**Course Grade**

1. *Assignments & class participation ... 08%*
2. *Mid-Term exam ... 35% (Week 8:Far. 25, 1399; April 13, 2020)*
3. *Report on high-school tests analysis ... 07% (Week 15: Khordad 12, 1399;June 01, 2020)*
4. *Term project... 15% (Week 16: Khordad 19, 1399; June 08, 2020)*
5. *Final exam ..... 35%*

**Office Hours\*:**

***Monday: 08:30-09:30***

***Tuesday: 11:00-12:00***

***\*And by appointment***

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## **Main References**

1. Bachman, L. F. 1990. *Fundamental Considerations in Language Testing*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2. Bachman, L. and A. Palmer. 2010. *Language Assessment in Practice*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
3. Brown, H. D. 2010. *Language Assessment: Principles and Classroom Practice*. Second Edition. New York: Longman.
4. Fulcher, G. and F. Davidson. (Eds.). 2012. *The Routledge Handbook of Language Testing*. London: Routledge.
5. Shohamy, E., L. G. Or, and S. May. (Ed.). 2017. *Language Testing and Assessment*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Gewerbestrasse: Springer.

## **References for further reading**

1. Alderson, J. C. 2000. *Assessing Reading*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2. Bachman, L. F. 2004. *Statistical Analyses for Language Assessment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
3. Bachman, L. F. and A. S. Palmer. 1996. *Language Testing in Practice*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
4. Baker, D. 1989. *Language Testing: A Critical Survey and Practical Guide*. London: Edward Arnold.
5. Brown, H. D. 2004. *Testing in Language Programs: A Comprehensive Guide to English Language Assessment*. New York: McGraw-Hill
6. Brown, H. D. and T. Hudson. 2002. *Criterion-referenced Language Testing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
7. Buck, G. 2001. *Assessing Listening*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
8. Chen, L., Y. Watanabe, and A. Curtis. (Eds.) 2004. *Washback in Language Testing: Research Contexts and Methods*. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
9. Coombe, C., K. Folse, and N. Hubley. 2007. *A Practical Guide to Assessing English Language Learners*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press.
10. Davies, A. 1990. *Principles of Language Testing*. Oxford: Blackwell.
11. Fulcher, G. and F. Davidson. 2007. *Language Testing and Assessment: An Advanced Resource Book*. London: Routledge.
12. Fulcher, G. 2010. *Practical Language Testing*. London: Hodder Education.
13. Hatch, E. and H. Farhady. 1982. *Research Design and Statistics for Applied Linguistics*. Rowley, Massachusetts: Newbury House.
14. Hughes, A. 2003. *Testing for Language Teachers*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
15. Luoma, S. 2004. *Assessing Speaking*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
16. McNamara, T. 2000. *Language Testing*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
17. McNamara, T. and C. Roever. 2006. *Language Testing: The Social Dimension*. Oxford: Blackwell.
18. Mousavi, S. A. (Compiler & editor) 1999. *A Dictionary of Language Testing*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Tehran: Rahnama.
19. Mousavi, S. A. (Compiler & editor) 2012. *An Encyclopedic Dictionary of Language Testing*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Tehran: Rahnama.
20. Oller, J. W. 1979. *Language Tests at School*. London: Longman.
21. O'Sullivan, B. (Ed.). 2011. *Language Testing: Theories and Practices*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
22. Poehner, M. E. 2008. *Dynamic Assessment: A Vygotskian Approach to Understanding and Promoting L2 Development*. New York: Springer.
23. Ross, S. J. and G. Kasper. (Eds.). 2013. *Assessing Second Language Pragmatics*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
24. Weigle, S. C. 2002. *Assessing Writing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
25. Weir, C. J. 1990. *Communicative Language Testing*. New York: Prentice Hall.
26. Weir, C. J. 2005. *Language Testing and Validation: An Evidenced-Based Approach*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

## **Weekly Schedule**

Week 1: Introduction: General issues; Language testing & language teaching & washback effect; some useful terms

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Week 2: Measurement; Evaluation; Test

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Week 3: Uses of language tests; Assessment and accountability

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Week 4: Test methods

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Week 5: Reliability

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Week 6: Reliability

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Week 7: Validity

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**Week 8: Mid-Term Exam**

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Week 9: Validity

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Week 10: Skills & subskills tests; Assessing reading

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Week 11: Function tests; Cloze procedure; Language assessment literacy

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Week 12: Social dimensions of language testing; Culture and language assessment

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Week 13: Validity reconsidered; Classroom assessment

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**Week 14: Holiday**

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Week 15: Dynamic assessment; Pragmatics and language testing;  
**(Report on high-school tests analysis)**

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Week 16: Analysis of high-school English language tests/Codes of Ethics;  
**(Term project report)**