

ASSESSMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS: EVIDENCE-BASED EVALUATION AND BEST PRACTICE

Presenter: Samuel Ortiz, Ph.D.

**Friday, May 25, 2018 ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida**

This presentation provides a review of the relationship among linguistic, cognitive, and academic development and the application of research regarding EL evaluation within a practical, systematic framework. Specific procedures are presented which permit any evaluator to conduct assessments of English learners that generate valid data to support conclusions and diagnostic decisions regarding English learners. Topics include: understanding bias in testing; issues regarding test score validity; advantages and disadvantages of typical methods for evaluating English learners; the importance of “true peer” comparisons, research foundations and use of the Culture-Language Test Classifications and Interpretive Matrix, integration of the Ortiz PVAT in conducting EL evaluations. The knowledge and skills gained will be useful to practitioners at all levels and provides a solid base for engaging in evaluation of English learners that constitutes defensible and current best practices.

PROGRAM LOCATION

Nova Southeastern University
College of Psychology – Maxwell Maltz Bldg.
3301 College Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314

For maps and directions to Nova Southeastern University, please visit our web site at <http://www.nova.edu/cwis/campusmaps/maincampus.html>. Telephone directions to the main campus are available 24 hours a day by calling (954) 262-1563.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Samuel Ortiz, Ph.D. is a professor of psychology at St. John's University, New York. He holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Southern California, and a credential in school psychology with postdoctoral training in bilingual school psychology from San Diego State University. He has served as Visiting Professor and Research Fellow at Nagoya University, Japan, as Vice President for Professional Affairs of APA Division 16 (School Psychology), as member and Chair of APA's, Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment, as member of the Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education, as representative on the New York State Committee of Practitioners on ELL and LEP Students, and as member of APA Presidential Task Force on Educational Disparities. Dr. Ortiz has served on various editorial boards including Journal of School Psychology, School Psychology Quarterly, and Journal of Applied School Psychology. He is an internationally recognized expert on a variety of topics including nondiscriminatory assessment, evaluation of English learners, cross-battery assessment (XBA), and learning disabilities. His is author of the Ortiz PVAT, primary author of X-BASS and his books include *Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students: A practical guide*, and *Essentials of Cross-Battery Assessment, 3rd Edition*. Dr. Ortiz is bilingual (Spanish) and bicultural (Puerto Rican).

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

- Describe the true nature of bias in testing as a function of construct validity.
- Identify the two main variables that affect test score validity for English learners.
- Discuss the limitations of various approaches to testing English learners and the extent to which validity is undermined by cultural and linguistic factors.
- Apply research findings in a manner that permits a “true peer” comparison for English learners.
- Learn how to apply and use the Culture-Language Test Classifications and Interpretive Matrix as a method for evaluating the extent to which cultural and linguistic factors may have compromised the validity of test performance and results.
- Integrate the Ortiz PVAT to enhance the quality and diagnostic validity of testing.
- Use a systematic process for evaluation of English learners that constitutes current best practice.

PROGRAM AGENDA

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Understanding issues and problems in testing with English learners
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Limitations of current approaches with ELs for addressing test score validity
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Using research to establish a “true peer” norm group for nondiscriminatory comparison
2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Integrating the Ortiz PVAT into a systematic framework for evaluation of ELs
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Question and Answer Session

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CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

Psychologists: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Nova Southeastern University maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Clinical social workers, mental health counselors, and marriage and family therapists: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the state of Florida's Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling to offer continuing education. Provider number: BAP# 330, Exp. 03/31/19

School psychologists: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the state of Florida's Board of Medical Therapies/Psychology, Office of School Psychology, to offer continuing education. Provider number: SCE# 11, Exp. 11/30/19.

Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists to offer continuing education for school psychologists. Nova Southeastern University maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Provider# 1024

Professional counselors: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 4548. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

All mental health professionals will receive six (6) continuing education credits for the workshop. Full attendance is required. No partial credit will be awarded. Check your licensing state's rules and regulations for more information regarding your continuing education requirements.

Nova Southeastern University is committed to making its programs accessible to all prospective attendees. Let us know if you have specific requirements due to a disability.

ABOUT THE SPONSOR

Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is dedicated to providing high-quality training, education, research, and service for its students and the community. The college offers three American Psychological Association (APA)-accredited doctoral programs (Ph.D. and Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology; Psy.D. in School Psychology); a specialist program in school psychology; master's degree programs in mental health counseling, school counseling, counseling, forensic psychology, experimental psychology, and general psychology; and bachelor's degree programs in psychology and behavioral neuroscience. The college also has two APA-accredited doctoral internship programs.

NOTICES OF ACCREDITATION, MEMBERSHIP, AND NONDISCRIMINATION

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's, baccalaureate, master's, educational specialist, doctorate, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Nova Southeastern University. • Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. • The College of Psychology Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology (Ph.D.) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association (APA). The College of Psychology Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The College of Psychology Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (Psy.D.) program is accredited by the commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The College of Psychology has two APA-accredited doctoral internship programs, the South Florida Consortium Internship Program and the Psychology Services Center Internship Program. Questions related to the programs' accreditation status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association, 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002, phone: 202-336-5979, E-mail: apaaccred@apa.org, www.apa.org/ed/accreditation. The college's degree programs in school counseling and the specialist and doctoral programs in school psychology are approved by the Florida Department of Education. In addition, the specialist and doctoral programs in school psychology hold the designation of National Recognition by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The College of Psychology offers three programs, (1) the M.S. in School Counseling, (2) the Psy.S. in School Psychology, and (3) the Psy.D. in School Psychology for practitioners in P-12 schools that have been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The accreditation for these programs is awarded to the university through the Fischler College of Education as follows: The Abraham S. Fischler College of Education at Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), www.ncate.org.

