



LEVEL 1 CERTIFICATE SYLLABUS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This program would normally be covered over a year or more in graduate school. It is highly intensive and immersive. You will learn theory, anecdotes for daily application, as well as have the opportunity to administer these assessments for practice with feedback.

INTRODUCTORY CONCEPTS

Orientation to the program and the neurodiversity affirming assessment approach. What skills are needed to become an excellent evaluator and why this might be a portion of the cause for gate-keeping.

Review of functional neuroanatomy, structure, and function.

Assessment, evaluation, and the direct versus indirect "testing process."

Where do tests come from: Sources, pricing, and utilizing technology for efficiency and accuracy.

Qualification levels for assessments.

Psychometrics for assessment: What are we actually measuring?

Furniture arrangement for testing.

Ethics and test security.

PROCESSES & CONSIDERATIONS FOR CLINICAL ASSESSMENT

Neurodevelopmental perspectives versus psychiatric.

Case conceptualization and case studies.

The Process of Testing: Onboarding, intake, testing expectations and the day of, post testing tasks, the feedback session, and the report.

SENSORY PROCESSING, SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL, MEMORY, & LEARNING

Sensory functions, interoception, and alexithymia.

Memory and learning.

Executive function.

Clinical study of the Sensory Profile-2 and The Comprehensive Assessment of Interoceptive Abilities.

Clinical study of the BASC-3, The Brown EF/A, and the Connors-4.

Clinical study of the California Verbal Learning Test.

Corroborating screeners: The Vanderbilt, The DIVA-5/Young DIVA-5, The RCADS.

Clinical study of the Beck Anxiety Inventory and the Beck Depression Inventory.

Clinical study of Trail Making Tests: the DKEFS Trails and more.

Visual motor ability.

Clinical study of the NEPSY-II Design Copying and an introduction to the Beery VMI and the Koppitz-2.

LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION

Social skills and social pragmatics.

Clinical study of the CELF-5, the SRS-2, and the Clinical Assessment of Pragmatics Auditory Processing.

Clinical study of the Test of Auditory Processing-4.

Listening and reading comprehension.

Clinical study of the KTEA-3 and the WIAT-4.

NEURODEVELOPMENT, COGNITION, & ADAPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Trauma, ADHD, and Autism: Considerations and the Covington.

Introduction to cognition, cognitive measures, adaptive skills, patterns, and red flags.

Giftedness and the social emotional needs of the gifted: Purpose in life and existential depression.

Clinical study of the DP-4.

Clinical study of the Vineland.

Cognitive flexibility and concept development.

AUTISM ASSESSMENT ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Autism screeners online: M-CHAT-R, AQ, RAADS-R, CAT-Q.

Clinical study of the CARS-2.

Clinical study of the MIGDAS-2.

Review of the ADOS-2 and considerations for use.

ELEVATING YOUR ASSESSMENT PRACTICE

Non-credible performance and validity testing in practice.
Observations in the office, in the community, and online.
Pediatric interviews.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMPETENCY

Early years evidence from adults you assess and the collateral process.
Other considerations 1: Sleep questionnaire, prodrome questionnaire.
Other considerations 2: Depression, burnout, pathological demand avoidance, rejection sensitive dysphoria, and more.
Other considerations 3: Autism, sensory processing, and eating disorders.
Gender and cultural responsiveness: The data, test selection, stereotype threat, and considerations.

TURNING ASSESSMENT INTO EVALUATION

Bringing it all together: Analysis and the differential in action.
Preparing for your case studies & exam.
Managing the testing session: from distractibility to resistance.
Focusing on the feedback session.
Supporting challenging parents and partners: Perceived loss, disappointment, and buying a diagnosis.
The pièce de resistance: The evaluation report – report styles and traditions.
Report considerations: The audience, tricks and trends.
Report recommendations: A neurodiversity affirming perspective for all ages
Understanding school supports: The process, 504 v IEP, and Ed versus Med
Recommendations for Adults
Unconscious bias in the assessment process.

THE PRACTICE & BUSINESS OF EVALUATION

The practice of evaluation: Geographic pricing, flat fee versus hourly, consent, and the fee agreement.
The evaluation superbill.
Things to consider before launching a testing practice.
Getting efficient with time and report writing.
How to remedy those mess-ups that will inevitably happen.
Financial considerations of digital versus paper assessment.
Tools for feedback with kids.