

PSYC3030

Psychology Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE)

Title of Project	Developing Open-Source Validity Scales for Psychological Assessment
Supervisor	Conal Monaghan Bruce Christensen
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Expressions of Interest due by	14 February 2025
Project Background	<p>Validity assessment is crucial in psychological measurement, as it ensures that test responses accurately reflect the constructs being measured. Key validity domains include over-responding, under-responding, conscientiousness, inconsistency, fading, and social desirability/impression management. While comprehensive validity scales exist for proprietary clinical tools such as the MMPI and PAI, there is a critical lack of open-source, public-domain validity measures for broader use. This project addresses this gap by working towards the development of an open-source and public-domain set of validity scales accessible to researchers and practitioners worldwide.</p> <p>Students will collaborate to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Index a Framework: Create a comprehensive framework of validity domains, outlining best practices for designing and building each type of validity scale. (<i>Assessment Item 1; due week 6</i>)Item Development: Identify and draft example items tailored to each validity domain. (<i>Assessment Item 2; due week 12</i>)Interpretation and Communication: Deliver a group presentation on how these scales could be interpreted and communicated effectively to researchers and clinicians. (<i>Assessment Item 3; due exam week 2</i>)

	<p>This project provides an exciting opportunity to engage with foundational aspects of psychological assessment, contribute to an impactful open-source initiative, and gain skills in psychometric development and communication. It will involve weekly meetings with the conveners, and activities to complete between each meeting. In this way, students will have the opportunity to engage with academic staff, and provide their own insight and perspectives on real world research.</p>
Time and duration of project	Semester 1, 2025 (12 weeks)
Pre-requisites	Undergraduate student in Psychology
Proposed Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework Report (1000 words) – 30% • Item Development Report (1000 words) – 30% • Oral Group Presentation 15 minutes total (5 mins per member) – 20% • Active Participation in Meetings – 20%
Any additional information	<p>We are seeking students who are well-organised, collaborative, and interested in psychometrics and psychological assessment. This project is ideal for those aspiring to careers in psychological research and assessment. Students will contribute to a public-domain initiative with the potential for real-world impact.</p>
Places Available	3