



**PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT (CC9)
M.A SEMESTER-2**

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PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- The Psychology of individual differences seeks to describe the ways in which people differ, and to understand how and why these arise, and because of this assessment is used.
- Psychological assessment consists different procedures that are implemented in various ways to achieve different purposes. An assessment involves combining and comparing information from a variety of sources such as interviews, records, observation, test results and information from other sources including family, friends, or professionals. The Assessment tools are founded upon an objective, scientific and empirical approach to making justifiable and verifiable predictions about people, rather than being based on subjective opinion.
- A Psychological assessment is a comprehensive examination about different aspects of a person's psychological functioning or likely future behavior. It is a flexible process aimed at reaching a defensible determination concerning one or more psychological issues or questions, through the collection, evaluation, and analysis of data appropriate to the purpose.



HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT:

- The roots of the Psychological assessment can be traced in the 1890s and early 20th century. It was the period when McGuire (1990) and Cattell started the assessment of intellectual and personality functioning.
- Witmer established the first psychological clinic in 1896 for assessment and treatment of children with Mental Retardation, Learning Disabilities and intellectual problems.
- Experimental psychologists such as Gustav Fechner, Wilhelm Wundt and Hermann Ebbinghaus, discovered that psychological phenomena could be described in rational and quantitative ways.
- Galton was the first to emphasize the importance of individual differences, created the first tests of mental ability and was the first to use questionnaires. He discovered a number of statistical procedures to analyze data, like, normal curve', or 'bell curve' or 'normal distribution. Galton also invented the Correlation method which specify the degree of relationship between individuals or any two attributes.
- Alfred Binet (1857–1911) constructed a series of tests, including short, varied problems about daily life, as well as tests of cognitive processes such as memory. He developed the first Intelligence Test with his assistant Simon.



- Galton's works also influenced Karl Pearson (1857–1936), who contributed to the development of regression analysis and the correlation coefficient (Pearson Product–Moment Correlation Coefficient), and discovered the chi-square test of statistical significance.
- One of the most productive scaling theorists was Louis Thurstone (1887–1955), who founded the Psychometric Laboratory at the University of Chicago. He designed techniques for measurement scales, for the assessment of attitudes and developed test theory (Thurstone, 1919, 1953).
- Georg Rasch (1901–1980) is best known for his contribution to psychometrics through the development of a group of statistical models known as Rasch models (Rasch, 1980).
- Raymond Cattell (1905–1998) extended existing methods of factor analysis and explored new approaches to assessment of individual differences, intelligence and personality.
- Anne Anastasi (1908–2001) have done major studies of test construction, test misuse, misinterpretation and cultural bias, and was the author of the influential book Psychological Testing (1988), which has been the base of Psychological Measurement.



- Paul Kline (1937–1999) discussed about truly scientific forms of measurement in his book *The New Psychometrics: Science, Psychology and Measurement* (1998).
- In the beginning of the 20th century the Clinical Psychologists mainly focused on the multimodal assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of children and youths.
- At the same time Counselling Psychology emerged which emphasized on the assessment of vocational skills and Aptitudes.
- The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) and the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) have worldwide use in assessment of mental disorders.
- Right now, the different assessment techniques are frequently being used in the Clinical, Educational, Counselling and Neuropsychology.



ASSESSMENT PROCESS:-THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS CONSISTS OF THREE STAGES- INFORMATION INPUT, INFORMATION EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION OUTPUT.

- **Information Input-** Information input is the collection of information. With the help of different appropriate tools, different information about the client or situation are being gathered. These tools include Tests, Interview, Case study, Observation etc.
- **Information Evaluation-** Information evaluation refers to the interpretation of the gathered information or collected data. Evaluation of the assessment data involves scoring and interpreting.
- **Information Output-** Information output refers to the interpretation of assessment data consists of drawing inferences and forming impressions concerning what the findings reveal about a respondent's psychological characteristics.



TECHNIQUES OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- Testing
- Observation
- Case study
- Interview
- Computerized Test
- Role Play
- Audio-Video Techniques
- Portfolios



AREAS OF ASSESSMENT:

- Assessment in Clinical Psychology
- Assessment in Educational Psychology
- Assessment in Occupational Psychology
- Assessment of Neuropsychological Functioning
- Assessment in Mental Health
- Assessment in Medical Settings
- Assessments of Interests
- Assessment of Needs and Values
- Assessment of Personality
- Assessment of Intelligence
- Assessment in Social Psychology

