Using *Mental Measurements Yearbook* and *Tests in Print*

This guide will assist you in locating and using research tools that contain information about psychological tests.

Psychological test? Sure, you know … assessment, battery, checklist, device, examination, form, index, inventory, measure, observation, profile, project, protocol, questionnaire, scale, schedule, series, simulation, system, survey, technique, test, matrix, or tool? Your instructor should have made it clear what you need; if not, check with them.

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This publication was written by Jay Brandes, Reference Librarian, Troy University. Updated 6/13/08

Available online at the TROY Global Campus Library site http://uclibrary.troy.edu in the Information and Help section.
Mental Measurements Yearbook

*Mental Measurements Yearbook* is an online, electronic database that is the online version of the print book series *The Mental Measurements Yearbook*. It includes the information contained in the books from the ninth edition to the present.

These online and print resources are published by the Buros Institute of Mental Measurements. This well-respected resource is a standard research tool and is often referred to simply as “Buros,” after the original editor of the yearbook and founder of the institute, Oscar K. Buros. When you hear *Buros*, think Mental Measurements Yearbook.

From the publisher: *Mental Measurements Yearbook*, produced by the Buros Institute at the University of Nebraska, provides users with a comprehensive guide to over 2,000 contemporary testing instruments. Designed for an audience ranging from novice test consumers to experienced professionals, the MMY series contains information essential for a complete evaluation of test products within such diverse areas as psychology, education, business, and leadership. First published by Oscar K. Buros, the MMY series allows users to make knowledgeable judgments and informed selection decisions about the increasingly complex world of testing. MMY provides coverage from Volume 9 to the present.

*Luella Buros*: “Oscar in his favorite work clothes. A succession of kittens usually occupied his desk area along with voluminous piles of papers, journals, books, and other work materials. He was a compulsive and tireless worker—generally eighteen hours a day was routine.”

Image and text from http://www.unl.edu/buros/bimm/html/photopage05.html
WHAT IS IN BUROS?

This guide uses the term **record** to refer to the complete information provided for each test within the *MMY*, i.e., the Test Entry and one or more Reviews of the test.

The first section of the record is the **Test Entry**, and the second section is the **Review**.

Based on an actual record in the *MMY*, this sample record has been abbreviated so as not to infringe on the publisher's copyright.

**Sample record within *The fifteenth mental measurements yearbook***

The first component of each record is the **Test Entry**. This information is provided by the editor(s) of the *MMY*, not the test reviewer.

The second component of each record is the **Review** (or Reviews). This information is written by individual author(s), not the editors. All tests have at least one review, many have two, and a few have three.

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**Faculty Morale Scale for Institutional Improvement.**

**Purpose:** Designed "as a diagnostic instrument—an attitudinal fact-finding device."

**Population:** Faculty Members

**Scores:** Total score only.

**Administration:** Group.

**Price Data, 2001:** $3 per specimen set.

**Time:** Administration time not reported

**Author:** A Local Chapter Committee, American Association of University Professors.

**Publisher:** Psychometric Affiliates

**Review of the Faculty Morale Scale for Institutional Improvement**

by KEITH HATTRUP, Associate Professor of Psychology, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA:

**DESCRIPTION.** The Faculty Morale Scale for Institutional Improvement is a paper-and-pencil measure of faculty members' attitudes toward their jobs and universities. It includes 34 items that are rated with a 5-point Likert scale. As stated in the manual, the goals of the inventory are to provide diagnostic information about…
YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE

To access the MMY database, go to the Library Web page, http://uclibrary.troy.edu, and select databases. The MMY is listed in the area for Counseling and Psychology.

I ALREADY WENT TO THE TESTS IN PRINT DATABASE AND I KNOW THE “RELATED MMY REVIEW” NUMBER.

It doesn’t get much simpler than that. What Tests in Print labels “Related MMY Review” number is an accession number. Just go to the MMY and search on the number preceded by the letters AN. For example:

Results for: AN 17133218  Add search to folder  Display link to search  Create alert for this search  
Find: AN 17133218  
  in: Mental Measurements Yearbook  
  (Searching: Mental Measurements Yearbook )  

All Results: 1 of 1  Page: 1  
Narrow Results by Author  
  Woodcock, Richard W.  
  Muller, Nancy  
  Schrank, Frederic A.  

1. Woodcock-Johnson III (0) Diagnostic Reading Battery, (WJ III DRE) B  
   Woodcock, Richard W., 2004, Yearbook: 17  
   AN: 17133218  
   ▼ HTML Full Text  

See the information “Here is the trick … sort of,” at the bottom of the next page of this guide.
I KNOW THE EXACT NAME OF THE TEST I AM LOOKING FOR

Super! Just type it in the search box, look it over quickly to make sure it is spelled correctly, and then hit the search button.

The result of that search looks like this…

Here is the trick … sort of. Don’t click on “HTML Full Text,” click on the title of the test. Here’s why: If you click on the HTML, you get Review(s) of the test, and that is it. If you click on the title, you get the same Review(s), but you also get the Test Entry, data about the test, such as its purpose, its target populations, etc. Together, the Test Entry and the Review(s) make up a complete record for a given test.

In the paragraph above, what is meant by “sort of”? Well, it’s like this. The Test Entries in the MMY database are the exact ones that are present in the print version of the MMY—the books. If the book containing your test was published in 2001, than the entry is from 2001. For the most part, the data will not have changed over time, but some items, e.g., the price or the name of the publisher, may have. If you want the most recent test entry data, look in the Tests in Print database, detailed later on this guide.
I DO NOT KNOW THE EXACT NAME OF THE TEST I AM LOOKING FOR

If you know part of the name or are unsure of the name, try searching a single word that you think is in the title, e.g., *beck*. Using the basic search screen, a search for *beck* finds 11 items (pictured on the next page).

   - HTML Full Text

   - HTML Full Text

   - HTML Full Text

   - HTML Full Text

   - HTML Full Text

   - HTML Full Text

Another way to search is using the **advanced** search screen. To select that, use the tabs near the top of the screen, pictured here:

Here are three good ways to use the advanced search screen:

1. **By test name.** Put your terms in the search box (usually the fewer the words the better). To the right of the search box, select TI Test Name. The search will look for your term within the Title data of the Test Entries.

   \[
   \text{Find: depression} \quad \text{in} \quad \text{TI Test Name} \quad \text{Search}
   \]

   You can’t always know the best words use, so you might do something like this…

   \[
   \text{Find: sex or sexual or sexuality} \quad \text{in} \quad \text{TI Test Name} \quad \text{Search}
   \]

2. **By purpose.** Put your terms in the search box (usually the fewer the words the better). To the right of the search box, select PU Purpose. The search will look for your term within the Purpose data of the Test Entries.

   You can use several similar terms connected by the “magic search term” or.

   \[
   \text{Find: joy or enjoyment or happy or happiness} \quad \text{in} \quad \text{PU Purpose} \quad \text{Search}
   \]
3. **By category.** Put your terms in the search box (usually the fewer the words the better). To the right of the search box, select SU Test Category. The search will look for your term within the Test Category data of the Test Entries. All tests from 1985 to the present are assigned one of 18 Test Categories (to help you locate tests in a given subject area).

The categories are:

- Achievement
- Behavior Assessment
- Developmental
- Education
- English and Language
- Fine Arts
- Foreign Languages
- Intelligence and General Aptitude
- Mathematics
- Miscellaneous
- Neuropsychological
- Personality
- Reading
- Science
- Sensory-Motor
- Social Studies
- Speech and Hearing
- Vocations
I'M SURE OF THE NAME OF MY TEST, BUT I CAN'T FIND IT IN BUROS

The quickest thing to do is to contact the Library. Our contact information is located on our Web site http://uclibrary.troy.edu. If you prefer to e-mail, in addition to your immediate question, please tell us your first and last name, the name of your class and your instructor, a phone number we can reach you at, and the site at which you are registered. It is much preferred that you contact us using your Troy e-mail address.

The test may not be included for several reasons:

• Reviews are planned, but not yet completed (this is the case for some very recent tests.)
• Some tests are not in there because they are simply “not that type of test.” They may not be up to the level of quality or reliability to be included. Very often, tests that can be openly accessed online or obtained by persons other than certified counselors or other professionals, whose credentials can be verified by the test distributor are not reviewed. Those simply aren’t the types of tests the Buros Institute deals with. See also the comments under the next heading.
• Some tests are too old or too new. For more information, review the information within the Buros Institute of Mental Measurements Web site section of this guide.

I JUST CAN’T FIND ANYTHING ON MY TOPIC

Your best bet is to check with your instructor. They are usually familiar not only with the general types of tests that are out there, but oftentimes, they are also familiar with many specific tests.

You may need to apply a general test to a specific topic. You won’t find a test for “Test anxiety among African-American students attending community colleges.” You will, however, find tests for test anxiety. You won’t find a “chocoholics index,” but you will find tests for addictions, drug use, and alcohol dependence.

Snoop around in the MMY database to get a feel for the kinds of tests that are in there.

There are tons and tons of so-called “tests” out there on the Internet. Some of them are fun and interesting, and may even be of benefit to the end user, but are not real, validated, scientific tests. Web sites such as http://www.queendom.com have “fun” tests. If you can find an actual test itself there, or anywhere else on the Internet, it probably is NOT in the MMY.
**Tests in Print**

From the publisher:

Produced by the Buros Institute of Mental Measurements at the University of Nebraska, *Tests in Print* (TIP) serves as a comprehensive bibliography to all known commercially available tests that are currently in print in the English language. TIP provides vital information to users including test purpose, test publisher, in-print status, price, test acronym, intended test population, administration times, publication date(s), and test author(s).

**YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE**

To access the TIP database, go to the Library Web page, http://uclibrary.troy.edu, and select databases. The TIP is listed in the area for Counseling and Psychology.

**WHAT IS IN TESTS IN PRINT?**

Basic, up-to-date information about tests. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Name</th>
<th>Woodcock-Johnson III® Diagnostic Reading Battery.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acronyms</td>
<td>WJ III DIB.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authors</td>
<td>Schrank, Fredrick A.; Mathur, Nancy; Woodcock, Richard W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication Date</td>
<td>2004.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>'Measures important dimensions of phonological awareness, phonic oral language abilities.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test Category</td>
<td>Reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Individual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Ages 2-80+.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scores</td>
<td>Basic Reading Skills, Reading Comprehension, Phonics Knowledge, Comprehension, Brief Reading, Broad Reading, Total Reading, L Word Attack, Reading Vocabulary, Reading Fluency, Spelling of Vocabulary, Oral Comprehension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>(50-60) minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments</td>
<td>Composed of 8 tests from the WJ III Tests of Achievement and 2 Woodcock-Johnson III; 00303; includes software for scoring and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price</td>
<td>2007: $397.25 per complete kit with carrying case including test (197 pages), software package, and 25 test records and subject subject response booklets; $67 per comprehensive manual; $141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtests</td>
<td>10: Letter-Word Identification, Passage Comprehension, Word A Spelling of Sounds, Sound Awareness, Sound Blending, Oral Vo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related MMY Reviews</td>
<td>17133218.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I KNOW THE EXACT NAME OF THE TEST I AM LOOKING FOR

Super! Just type in the search box, look it over quickly to make sure it is spelled correctly, and then hit the search button.

Within the Test Entry, users may want to make notation of the “Related MMY Review” number. That accession number can be used to quickly and easily find test reviews in the *Mental Measurements Yearbook* database. The first portion of this guide addresses how to search the *MMY* in that manner.

I DO NOT KNOW THE EXACT NAME OF THE TEST I AM LOOKING FOR

If you know part of the name or are unsure of the name, try searching a single word that you think is in the title, e.g., *beck*. Using the basic search screen, a search for *beck* finds 17 items (pictured below).
Another way to search is using the **advanced** search screen. To select that, use the tabs near the top of the screen, pictured here:

Here are three good ways to use the advanced search screen:

1. **By test name.** Put your terms in the search box (usually the fewer the words the better). To the right of the search box, select TI Test Name. The search will look for your term within the Title data of the Test Entries.

   - **Find:** depression
   - **in:** TI Test Name
   - **Search**

   You can’t always know the best words use, so you might do something like this…

   - **Find:** sex or sexual or sexuality
   - **in:** TI Test Name
   - **Search**

2. **By purpose.** Put your terms in the search box (usually the fewer the words the better). To the right of the search box, select PP Purpose. The search will look for your term within the Purpose data of the Test Entries.

   - **Find:** happiness
   - **in:** PP Purpose
   - **Search**

   Better yet…

   - **Find:** joy or enjoyment or happy or happiness
   - **in:** PP Purpose
   - **Search**
3. **By category.** Put your terms in the search box (usually the fewer the words the better). To the right of the search box, select SU Test Category. The search will look for your term within the Test Category data of the Test Entries. All tests from 1985 to the present are assigned one of 18 Test Categories (to help you locate tests in a given subject area).

Find: [speech and hearing] in SU Test Category

The categories are:

- Achievement
- Behavior Assessment
- Developmental
- Education
- English and Language
- Fine Arts
- Foreign Languages
- Intelligence and General Aptitude
- Mathematics
- Miscellaneous
- Neuropsychological
- Personality
- Reading
- Science
- Sensory-Motor
- Social Studies
- Speech and Hearing
- Vocations
I'M SURE OF THE NAME OF MY TEST, BUT I CAN'T FIND IT IN TESTS IN PRINT

The quickest thing to do is to contact the Library. Our contact information is located on our Web site http://uclibrary.troy.edu. If you prefer to e-mail, in addition to your immediate question, please tell us your first and last name, the name of your class and your instructor, a phone number we can reach you at, and the site at which you are registered. It is much preferred that you contact us using your Troy e-mail address.

The test may not be included for several reasons:

- Reviews are planned, but not yet completed (this is the case for some very recent tests.)
- Some tests are not in there because they are simply “not that type of test.” They may not be up to the level of quality or reliability to be included. Very often, tests that can be openly accessed online or obtained by persons other than certified counselors or other professionals, whose credentials can be verified by the test distributor are not reviewed. Those simply aren’t the types of tests the Buros Institute deals with. See also the comments under the next heading.

I JUST CAN’T FIND ANYTHING ON MY TOPIC

You may need to apply a general test to a specific topic. You won't find a test for “Test anxiety among African-American students attending community colleges.” You will, however, find tests for test anxiety.

You won’t find a “chocoholics index,” but you will find tests for addictions, drug use, and alcohol dependence.

Snoop around in the Tests in Print database to get a feel for the kinds of tests that are in there. You may get an even better feel by looking in the Mental Measurements Yearbook (because it contains lengthy test reviews).

There are tons and tons of so-called “tests” out there. Some of them are fun and interesting, and may even be of benefit to the end user, but are not real, validated, scientific tests. Web sites such as http://www.queendom.com have “fun” tests. If you can find an actual test itself there, or anywhere else on the Internet, it probably is NOT in Tests in Print.
Buros Institute of Mental Measurements Web site

The Internet address of Test Reviews Online is http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/search.jsp
The site is linked in the WWW Subject Links area of the Library site at http://uclibrary.troy.edu.

You should never, ever, purchase a review there (they are available from the Mental Measurements database provided by the Library).

However, students may find the search interface fast and effective for identifying tests.

- The alphabetical search button displays thousands of tests, alphabetically.
- The category search button displays, at a glance, tests in the 18 categories (discussed earlier) assigned to all tests since 1985.
- The keyword search box can be used to search quickly for terms that appear in one or more parts of a test entry, e.g., both title and purpose can be searched simultaneously.

The Buros Web site has two features, not found in the Mental Measurements Yearbook database, that researchers may find useful.

- It lists tests that were reviewed prior to the 1985 (9th) edition of the MMY.
- It lists tests that will be viewed in upcoming editions of the MMY.

Journal databases

For the most part, the Library's journal databases do not contain reviews of tests or detailed information about tests. Nevertheless, databases such as ProQuest Psychology Journals or Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection may contain articles about research studies that employed a given test. Reading such articles may help the reader understand how a test may fit in with what they are researching.

To access counseling and psychology databases, go to the Library Web page, http://uclibrary.troy.edu, and select Databases. Choose Counseling and Psychology from the drop-down menu. Your login user name is your last name and your password is your seven-digit student ID number.

As far as tests are concerned, the following databases will be of primary interest:

- PsycArticles
- Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection
- PsycINFO
- ProQuest Psychology Journals
Can I get the actual test?

In general, no. Your instructor should understand this. If you think they are asking you to get, try, or read the actual test, check with them. Tests of a scholarly nature are not easily acquired—this is why:

- Access to many “real” tests is restricted; often only to licensed counselors or professors teaching in the field. Some tests are available only to individuals who have been certified (by taking an exam, etc.) to administer it. Some tests may be administered at the local level but must be scored by the publisher.
- Real tests are copyrighted and may only be acquired by purchase. The quality of the test materials is ensured by the fact that they are professionally published. The authors of the test, either individual or corporate, are entitled to profit from their work.
- Making tests openly available may invalidate them. Tests that you can find online, while entertaining, are rarely scientifically valid (even if they are labeled as such).