

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

EDUC/PSY 6600 Pretest Policy & Instructions

There are two prerequisites for enrollment in EDUC/PSY 6600 (Research Design & Analysis I). The 1st is the successful completion of EDUC/PSYCH 6570, which is a graduate level course in research methods. Alternative graduate-level research methods courses must have approval to be counted as a prerequisite for EDUC/PSY 6600 (contact the College of Education & Human Services' Associate Dean for Research for more information). The second prerequisite for EDUC/PSY 6600 is mastery of the content of Psychology 2800 (Psychological Statistics). EDUC/PSY 6600 is a graduate-level statistics course that requires prior knowledge of basic statistical concepts. Students who have not mastered the PSY 2800 content typically struggle with the content of EDUC/PSY 6600 and place an undue burden on the instructor, who must help them learn concepts they should have mastered previously. As an additional consequence, other students are disadvantaged because the time the instructor spends on remediation.

To address problems created by class members who lack the prerequisite knowledge, all students will be required to pass a pretest covering the content of PSY 2800 prior to enrolling in EDUC/PSY 6600. The test must be passed by the end of the first week of the semester (Friday), but within a year of the semester in which the student wants to enroll in EDUC/PSY 6600. Please be advised that the course may fill before the first week of the semester and students are advised to take the pretest as soon as possible. A student must obtain at least 70% correct to enroll in EDUC/PSY 6600. Students who do not pass the pretest on the first attempt may take it up to two more times. Students who do not pass on the third attempt will have to wait until the next semester to take the pretest and enroll in EDUC/PSY 6600. The pretest consists of 30 multiple choice and true/false questions. Students have one hour to take the test and results are made available immediately. Students also receive feedback about the areas in which they missed items (e.g., standard scores, measures of central tendency, correlation). Although notes, calculators, or other electronic devices are not permitted during the pretest, plain scratch paper and a pencil/pen are allowed. A study guide and a practice pretest with answers are available online at <http://www.coe.usu.edu/ors/6600.asp>. Although the pretest is not specific to any text, students who need additional preparation may review *Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences* by Gravetter & Wallnau.

The pretest is administered through the Computer & Information Literacy (CIL; <http://cil.usu.edu/>) center, located on the main campus of Utah State University. However, distance students may take the pretest at the nearest USU extension campus. Directions to the CIL center and its schedule are located at: <http://cil.usu.edu/lab.html>. In order to take the pretest, students should login to <http://ciltest.usu.edu> with their A-number and Banner password to register for the EDUC/PSY 6600 pretest (see "Start Here" link). Then, students can go directly to the CIL center, present their student ID, and tell the staff that they need to take the EDUC/PSY 6600 pretest. Please note, the CIL center is generally closed to open testing during university breaks (see schedule on CIL web site). However, individuals may contact the CIL center to make an appointment for testing during these closed periods (the appointment should be scheduled well in advance of these closed periods, however). Students planning to take the pretest at a USU extension location must contact the CIL proctor at that particular site to make appointment to take the pretest. Please check with the CIL center well in advance to ensure that their facilities will be available for taking the pretest at the desired time and to also allow for multiple pretest attempts in case it is necessary before the beginning of the semester. USU extension sites are also available to students living in Logan if the CIL center is closed.

The Psychology Department Advisor (EDUC 475) or the instructor teaching EDUC/PSY 6600 will sign an add slip after verification of completion of EDUC/PSY 6570 (or approved alternative) and a passing score on the EDUC/PSY 6600 pretest.