



18th Annual Conference Featured Workshop

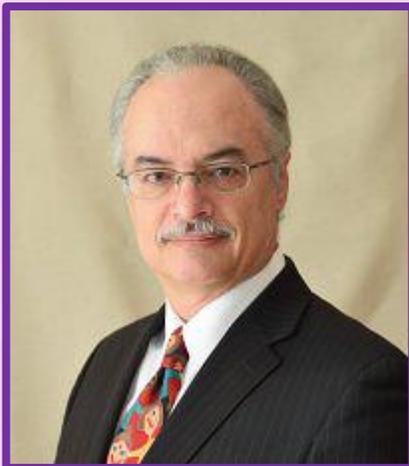
Tuesday 8:30pm - 3:30pm

October 16th, 2018

Evidence-Based Evaluation of English Learners: A Contemporary Approach to Testing

Presented by Sam Ortiz

This two part presentation outlines an evidence-based approach to evaluating English learners with emphasis on contemporary methods for using tests in a nondiscriminatory manner. Specific procedures are presented which permit any evaluator to conduct assessments of English learners in a manner that can generate valid data to support conclusions and diagnostic decisions. Advances in tests and testing will be presented, including the dual-norming feature of the Ortiz PVAT and its utility in resolving the question of “difference vs. disorder.” Topics include: understanding bias in testing; issues regarding test score validity; advantages and disadvantages of typical methods for evaluating English learners; the importance of “true peer” comparisons, research foundations and use of the Culture-Language Test Classifications and Interpretive Matrix, and application of the new Ortiz PVAT for evaluation of both native English speakers and English learners via a dual-norming feature that controls for relative exposure in learning English. The knowledge and skills gained will be useful to practitioners at all levels and provides a solid base for engaging in evaluation of English learners that incorporates contemporary research and advances in tests and testing.



Dr. Ortiz is Professor of Psychology at St. John's University, New York. He holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Southern California and a credential in school psychology with postdoctoral training in bilingual school psychology from San Diego State University. He is an internationally recognized expert on a variety of topics including nondiscriminatory assessment, evaluation of English learners, cross-battery assessment (XBA), and learning disabilities. He is author of the Ortiz PVAT, primary author of X-BASS and his books include “Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students: A practical guide,” and “Essentials of Cross-Battery Assessment, 3rd Edition.” Dr. Ortiz is bilingual (Spanish) and bicultural (Puerto Rican). Dr. Ortiz has served as:

- Visiting Professor and Research Fellow at Nagoya University, Japan, as
- Vice President for Professional Affairs of APA Division 16 (School Psychology),
- Member and Chair of APA's, Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment,
- Member of the Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education, as
- Representative on the New York State Committee of Practitioners on ELL and LEP Students,
- Member of APA Presidential Task Force on Educational Disparities.
- Editorial board member of Journal of School Psychology, School Psychology Quarterly, and Journal of Applied School Psychology.

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