Universidad de Jaén

VI Course on Language Test Design and Validation (2027)

Universidad de Jaén (Spain)

This two-week 40-hour course will cover key issues in language test design and validation. The course will be held at the Universidad de Jaén (Spain) from May 31 to June 11, 2027.

Participants
15

Price
350€

Course dates
MAY 31 - JUNE 11, 2027 (40 hours)

Inscription
Until MAY, 23, 2027

Language
English

Format
Face-to-face

Syllabus
https://tinyurl.com/LTDV27contents

Website
https://tinyurl.com/LTDV27home

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Views of the open-air auditorium of the university campus

This course is the first of its type in Spain and one of the few in existence in Europe. It seeks to cover the needs of professionals from different areas of testing with theoretical and practical sessions on test design and statistical validation.

First week | Test design

During the first week we will analyze how to identify and design the main parts of a test: construct, specifications, components (listening, reading, writing, speaking, interaction, and use of language), through theoretical and practical sessions in which participants will have the opportunity to create their own items and tasks.

Second week | Test validation

During the second week we will focus on the statistical analysis of aspects related to validity arguments. We will use both Classical Test Theory and Item-Response Theory to analyze facility values, discrimination indexes, internal reliability, bias, variable maps, etc. and we will see how analytic scales can be statistically validated through Rasch models. No previous knowledge of statistics is necessary. Lecturers will provide bibliography for those participants who whish to expand the contents. The course will be held in English but its theoretical and practical contents can be applied to test development and validation in any language other than English.

Our experts

The course will be taught by experts in language test design with extensive experience: **Brian North**, co-author of the *Common European Framework for Languages* and the *Companion Volume* (1.5 hours); **David Bradshaw**, Senior Assessment Services and Recognition Manager at Cambridge University Press and Assessment (4 hours); **Adolfo Sánchez**, expert on mediation and lecturer at the Universidad de Granada, co-translator of the Spanish version of the *Companion Volume* (2 hours); **Javier Fruns**, Head of language assessment at the Instituto Cervantes (4 hours); **Carmen Álvarez**, Assessment coordinator at the Language Center of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (4 hours), **Jane Lloyd**, ALTE Services Unit Consultant (2.5 hours) and **Joaquín Cruz**, Deputy Director and Assessment coordinator at the Center for Higher Studies in Modern Languages at the Universidad de Jaén (22 hours).

Profile of participants

This course is aimed at international researchers, lecturers and postgraduate students who wish to learn how to design language proficiency tests and how to construct their corresponding validity arguments. The course is particularly suited to those professionals who have no prior knowledge on test design but who need such knowledge in their careers. The course is also suited to participants with previous experience who would like to deepen into practical areas of test development and test analysis.

Participants must be over 18, have a university degree, an interest in language proficiency test development and a minimum B2 CEFRL level in English.

Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate (*Diploma de Postgrado*) worth 5 ECTS credits.

Travel and accommodation

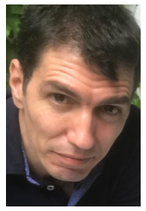
The closest airport is Aeropuerto Federico García Lorca FGL Granada-Jaén. Jaén is one hour away from this airport by car. There are also trains and buses to commute from Airport Adolfo Suárez MAD Madrid-Barajas in 4.5 hours.

For accommodation, participants may use the university dorm, contact local or private tourist apartments or use a hotel. In case participants have any trouble finding accommodation, the organization will assist them.

Find more about our university here https://www.ujaen.es, and about different tourist possibilities in the province of Jaén here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDT-CArZr0I.



Brian North
Co-author of the *Common European Framewor of Rererence* and its *Companion Volume*



Javier Fruns
Instituto Cervantes
Responsible of the unit for linguistic certification



David Bradshaw
Cambridge University Press and Assessment
Senior assessment Services and Recognition Manager



Adolfo Sánchez
Universidad de Granada
Lecturer at the Department of Linguistics
Co-translator of the Spanish version of the *Companion Volume*



Carmen Álvarez
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid
Assessment Coordinator at the Language Center



Joaquín Cruz
Universidad de Jaén
Deputy Director and Assessment Coordinator at the Center for Higher Studies in Modern Languages



Jane Lloyd
ALTE
Services Unit Consultant