

Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment

at the Institute for Achievement and Learning



LYNN
UNIVERSITY

The area's only university-based testing center for identifying effective learning strategies and educational accommodations

Offering testing and learning strategies for pre-K through postgraduate students

For the past several years, Lynn University's Institute for Achievement and Learning has performed a variety of testing for accommodation eligibility for Lynn University students. In response to frequent requests from the local community, Lynn is now proud to offer any local school and university student the same high-quality, research-based testing at its Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment.

As part of a university-based center specializing in identifying effective learning strategies and educational accommodations, our professionals regularly research the effectiveness of our support services for college students who have learning and executive functioning disabilities. This uniquely positions the Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment to offer strategies that will positively affect classroom performance from pre-kindergarten through college and postgraduate work.

Just as important, we seek collaboration with schools and coach parents how to be informed and engaged advocates for their child.

Testing and assessment services

The Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment offers:

- testing and evaluation for educational accommodations
- recommendations for learning strategies
- gifted eligibility testing
- determination of accommodation eligibility for college admission testing including SAT, ACT, CSAT, LSAT, GMAT and GRE
- psychoeducational testing
- neuropsychological testing

All testing is conducted under the direction of pediatric neuropsychologist Dr. Theodore Wasserman, the Institute for Achievement and Learning's associate dean for teaching and learning and current president of the American Board of Pediatric Neuropsychology. All reports comply with and meet Broward, Palm Beach and Martin County School District requirements and standards.



Who benefits from the Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment?

If your child exhibits one or more of the following behaviors, he or she can benefit from the services of The Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment.

- seems to lack academic skills in comparison with peers/classmates
- appears easily distracted
- consistently performs significantly above grade level
- complains of boredom with curriculum
- appears not to be adequately stimulated by academic work
- displays disorganization or lack of prioritization
- frequently loses belongings
- fails to retain directions or simple material
- reads text fluently but cannot answer comprehension questions about the material
- articulates ideas well but has difficulty writing
- retains verbal information but not written information
- fails repeatedly in specific coursework (such as math) but performs well in other courses
- already receives extended test time in grades K-12 and now requires documentation for ACT or SAT accommodations
- already receives extended test time in college and now requires documentation for graduate school testing accommodations

Our staff is always available to answer questions regarding other types of student behaviors or parental concerns which can be addressed by testing and diagnostic services.

Referring a student to the center

Any professional, educator, parent or student can make a referral to the Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment.
Contact: Catherine Wharton, Certified Developmental Education Specialist | cwharton@lynn.edu | 561-237-7105

About the Institute for Achievement and Learning

The Lynn University Institute for Achievement and Learning (IAL) is an internationally renowned leader in developing and implementing academic support services for students with learning differences or who are seeking to enhance their academic skills and performance. Its philosophy is to celebrate the individual and help identify the potential in each student.

The Institute for Achievement and Learning stands apart from other collegiate academic support programs because it is an academic unit that is fully integrated with all of Lynn's colleges and academic programs. Therefore, it adheres to the same rigorous academic standards that govern the entire university. The institute participates in ongoing research and assessment to ensure the highest quality of service and support for students.

About the Diagnostic Center staff

Dr. Marsha A. Glines

The Diagnostic Center for Educational Assessment is a division of Lynn University's Institute for Achievement and Learning (IAL), which is headed by Dean Marsha A. Glines. Dr. Glines is an internationally recognized leader in developing successful programs and teaching strategies for students with learning disabilities.

As a former public school resource room teacher, graduate school professor and administrator and consultant, Glines has a diversified career and a national reputation in teaching and learning theory, special education, nontraditional program design and higher education curriculum development.

Since founding the Lynn University Institute for Achievement and Learning in 1991, Dr. Glines has been committed to developing research-based academic support services for students with learning differences and executive functioning weaknesses, such as difficulty with time management.

Dr. Glines was the founding president of Beacon College. After joining Lynn University in 1991, she spent 10 years creating and supervising several innovative alternative programs, including an undergraduate human services degree, The Advancement Program and the Lynn Educational Alternative Program.

Dr. Theodore Wasserman, a pediatric neuropsychologist, is the associate dean for teaching and learning at Lynn's Institute for Achievement and Learning. He developed and implemented the Institute Fellows faculty development program, and conducts empirical reviews and validation studies of the institute's academic support services. Current research projects at the institute are focused on examining the effect of collegiate curriculum on university students with reading disorders and executive functioning weaknesses and development of strategies that help to compensate.

Dr. Wasserman completed his doctorate at Hofstra University in 1974. His combined degree was in school and clinical psychology, coupled with a one-year internship in pediatric neuropsychology at North Shore University Medical Center in Manhasset, N.Y. His post doctoral training was completed in cognitive behavior therapy at the Institute for Advanced Study of Rational Psychotherapy in New York City.

His area of research interest is attention and learning disorders and their impact on school function; autism; Asperger's Disorder; atypical developmental delays; seizures and traumatic brain injury. He is regularly retained and appointed in civil and forensic cases, providing expertise to the court in helping to determine the extent or existence of neurological and psychological impairment. He lectures and provides pediatric neuropsychology consultations throughout the United States and around the world.

Catherine Wharton, who joined Lynn's Institute for Achievement and Learning in 2006, is among fewer than 1,000 professionals to have attained the Certified Developmental Education Specialist certification—one of the most prestigious credentials in the field of developmental education—through the Kellogg Institute at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C.

After achieving the CDES certification in 2007 she modified the diagnostic component of the diagnostic center. Wharton and Dr. Wasserman work collaboratively to research the effect of collegiate curriculum on university students with reading disorders and executive functioning weaknesses and implements compensatory strategy programs. In 2010, they presented a paper, "A Model for Conceptualizing Disorders of Reading Coherence: Attention and Working Memory in Disordered Comprehension," at the American Board of Pediatric Neuropsychology conference.

She received her master's degree in counseling summa cum laude from DePaul University in 1996. Prior to joining Lynn University, Wharton was the director of intake at two Midwestern psychiatric hospitals, where she specialized in crisis intervention, diagnosing and assessing children and adolescents with psychiatric disorders. She also developed and implemented behavior management strategies for psychiatric patients and conducted seminars on various mental health topics. Her management expertise is in program, systems and staff development.

Amanda Evans joined Lynn University in 2004 and provides academic coaching services to students with executive functioning weakness. She is a Senior Certified ADHD Coach through the Institute for the Advancement of ADHD Coaching and is a Certified Academic Coach through the National Tutoring Organization.

A trained Supplemental Instruction (SI) Supervisor through the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Evans has trained academic support staff in SI, developed SI compatible curriculum and implemented this academic support service through the Institute for Achievement and Learning. Her paper on the effectiveness of supplemental instruction at the college level has been accepted for presentation at the 2010 International Supplemental Instruction Conference. Additionally, she has presented on the topic of academic support services for students with learning disabilities and executive functioning weakness at the Southeastern American Psychological Association conference and the Learning and the Brain conference sponsored by Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard School of Education.

Evans speaks to ADHD groups at the local and national level, and has trained college faculty, high school teachers, tutors and academic support staff on providing services to students with learning disabilities and executive functioning weakness.

She received her master's degree in clinical psychology from Murray State University, where she provided university students and community members with psychological assessments and counseling services, with a focus on the assessment of learning disabilities and executive functioning weakness.



LYNN
UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE FOR
ACHIEVEMENT AND LEARNING

3601 N. Military Trail | Boca Raton, FL 33431
561-237-7105 | www.lynn.edu

Lynn University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, disability and/or age in administration of its educational and admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and for other school-administered programs.