

PSY 3500 80 Theories of Personality
Winter Session 2019/2020
William Paterson University

Professor: Dr. Megan Chesin
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Office hours: By appointment via Blackboard Collaborate.

Course credits: 3

Course meetings: This course is an online course. There are no face-to-face meetings.

Course Description

Course Overview: This course is a survey of the nature and concerns of personality theory. Coverage includes the contributions of major theorists from the classical psychoanalytic, neo-analytic, behaviorist, humanistic, cognitive, social-cognitive, and interactionist viewpoints. Biological aspects of personality are also considered. Coverage includes the history of personality theory, the measurement of personality, and controversies in the field.

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the concept of human personality.
2. To introduce students to philosophical and empirical issues in constructing a theory of personality.
3. To introduce students to the work of major personality theorists, including: Freud, Adler, Jung, Horney, Sullivan, Erikson, Allport, Maslow, Rogers, Skinner, and Bandura.
4. To stimulate critical thinking concerning a variety of personality theories.
5. To stimulate critical thinking concerning clinical applications of personality theories.
6. To stimulate critical thinking concerning empirical testing of propositions derived from personality theories.

Student Learning Objectives: By the end of the course, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Understand the issues involved in constructing a theory of personality.
2. Understand and discuss the differences between various major theories of personality.
3. Understand and discuss specific content of various theories of personality.
4. Understand and discuss issues related to the empirical testing of statements from theories of personality.

Required Text:

Friedman, H. S. & Schustack, M. W. (2016). *Personality: Classic Theories and Modern Research, 6th edition*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education. ISBN-13: 978-0-205-99793-0

Note on the text:

This course uses a Pearson digital product. The required link below is unique to this course. Here is how to register:

1. Visit this link: <https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/yf2cdp>
2. Sign in with your Pearson Account. You can either: sign in with an existing Pearson username and password OR create a new Pearson account if this is your first Pearson digital product.
3. Choose your course under 'My Courses' and choose an access option: redeem using the access code that you got from your school's bookstore or purchase access online. There is a free trial if you are waiting for financial aid.
4. Other tips:
 - a. Bookmark <https://console.pearson.com> to easily access your materials.
 - b. Use the latest version of Chrome, Firefox, or Safari with this digital product.
 - c. You do not need to complete the writing assignments, quizzes, etc. that are provided as part of the digital resources for this text. They may help you to study, consolidate learning. However, quizzes and exams that fulfill the course requirements will be completed via Blackboard, as described below. Note: For this course, it is recommended that you navigate through the table of contents in the digital textbook and/or the hardcopy version of the text that comes as part of the bundle. Use the course schedule below as your guide re: which chapter to read in preparation for class.

Teaching Method

Under the 'Course Materials' tab on Blackboard, there is a folder for each chapter. In each folder, you can find materials such as lecture notes, interesting websites, etc. These will guide you in your studies and help prepare you to complete discussion posts, tests and the term paper. A list of assignments to be completed for the chapter appears within each chapter folder. *Note: Because this class does not meet in-person, when I have posted to Blackboard, I consider you advised. It is your responsibility to ensure that the email address listed on Blackboard is correct and that you regularly check this email address and Blackboard 'Announcements' for information that I may send.

Course Policies

Netiquette: When corresponding with your instructor and classmates through email or on the discussion boards, please use proper grammar and a positive tone. Please avoid "netspeak," like "u," "r," "omg," and "lol." Please also refrain from using all CAPITAL LETTERS, as this is often interpreted as shouting. Treat your instructor and fellow students with respect at all times, and in all communications. You can learn more about the rules of Netiquette here: [Core Rules of Netiquette](#).

Academic honesty: I expect students to be honest in completing their own work during tests, papers, etc. If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing, he or she will receive a zero for that assignment and may be referred to the Psychology Chairperson or the University President for more severe sanctions (which may include receiving a failing grade in this course and possible expulsion from the University). Lying (e.g., falsely claiming a family member died to receive more time for an assignment) is also considered a form of violating academic integrity and will not be tolerated. For more information on academic integrity, please see the WPU Academic Integrity Policy at <https://www.wpunj.edu/human-resources/faculty-and-professional-staff-handbook/academic-integrity-policy-for-students.html>.

Tech Support: For help using Blackboard, see the “help desk” or “student support” links on the left and top toolbars in Blackboard or consult the IT WIKI pages on Blackboard for students (https://itwiki.wpunj.edu/index.php/Main_Page).

Americans with Disabilities Act Notification: In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), accommodations may be made for any student who has a documented disability and notifies me of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to work with the Accessibility Resource Center (Speert Hall, Room 134) to bring such needs to my attention, as I am not legally permitted to inquire about the particular needs of students. Please submit requests for accommodations within the first week of the semester so I may know how to assist you.

Late Work: In general, late work is not accepted in this course barring a documented emergency (e.g., illness with a medical doctor’s letter, loss with a copy of death certificate) and will receive a zero. If you need accommodation, please email me directly ASAP. Please see further details regarding late policies for each course assignment, which are listed below in the Course Assessment.

Course Assessment

1. Term Paper: 30% of your final grade

You will present a personality analysis of a politician from three of the eight perspectives on personality covered in this course. That is, you will analyze the personality of the politician from three of the eight major perspectives covered in your textbook (in Chapters 3 through 10). You may choose any politician you like, and you may choose any three perspectives you like. The only requirement is that there must be sufficient information available about this person’s life for you to adequately complete the assignment. A document describing how the paper should be structured and what the content should be is available on Blackboard under the “Info on Paper” link. A detailed grading rubric is also available in the same link. Please note that late papers are not accepted barring a documented emergency (e.g., illness with a medical doctor’s letter, loss with a copy of death certificate). It is your responsibility to contact me within 24 hours of the due date to organize an extension. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the paper.

2. Tests: 40% of your final grade (10% each)

There will be four tests in multiple-choice format. Each of these will be worth 10% of your final grade and will cover readings and materials posted in ‘Course Materials.’ You must access and take the test via Blackboard (wpunj.edu/bb) under the “Tests” link on the site for this course. The tests will consist of 30-40 multiple choice questions and must be completed online within 1 hour and 15 minutes. Tests will NOT be cumulative and thus will only cover the material pertaining to the chapters indicated on the course schedule for that test. You are welcome to use your book to help you on the tests. However, given the time limitations on the tests, it is necessary that you READ and STUDY the CHAPTERS BEFORE you take the test.

In general, make-up tests will not be permitted and you will receive a zero for any test that you miss. If you miss taking the test online due to a documented emergency (e.g., illness with a

medical doctor's letter, loss with a copy of death certificate), it is your responsibility to contact me within 24 hours and organize a make-up test. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the test.

3. Discussion Board Postings: 30% of your final grade (10% each)

Three times during the semester, for chapters 4, 5, and 8, a question will be posted to the 'Discussion Board' on Blackboard for group discussion. You are expected to post a detailed response (approximately 2-3 paragraphs or 1 page double spaced) to the question using the text and any additional resources you see fit. In addition, you are expected to respond to at least 2 other students' postings (approximately 1 paragraph or one half page double spaced). Your reply to a classmate should provide an original thought. Do not just summarize or repeat what your classmate stated. Instead, critically evaluate the statement made in a respectful tone and/or add new information that you think could enhance our discussion. Simply agreeing or disagreeing with a post will not suffice. Therefore, you are expected to post a minimum of 3 quality postings on each discussion board. I will grade these discussion postings and responses using the rubric appended to this syllabus as my guide, and I will provide feedback. I expect that my feedback to you about a prior post will be incorporated into your subsequent posts. Failure to incorporate my feedback to you in a subsequent post that I grade will adversely affect your grade on the subsequent post. E.g., if I note on your first graded discussion post that your response was not in APA style or lacked adequate citation in-text, in the next post that I grade, I expect you will use APA style or make adequate in-text citations. If these improvements are not made in subsequent posts, I will take off more points than I did in the graded post where I first pointed them out.

In general, late posts will not be graded, and you will receive a zero on any graded discussion post that is not provided by the due date. If you miss posting your discussion on-time due to a documented emergency (e.g., illness with a medical doctor's letter, loss with a copy of death certificate), it is your responsibility to contact me within 24 hours to explain. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the post.

Grading System

Grades will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Number Grade
A	93.51 – 100
A-	89.51 - 93.5
B+	86.51 - 89.5
B	83.51 - 86.5
B-	79.51 - 83.5
C+	76.51 - 79.5
C	73.51 - 76.5
C-	69.51 – 73.5
D+	66.51 - 69.5

D	63.51 - 66.5
F	Below 63.5

Important Dates

Dec. 26 (Thursday) classes start, also LAST day for 100% refund withdrawal

Dec. 27 (Friday) second day of classes (last day for 50% refund withdrawal)

Jan. 3 (Friday) last day for withdrawal (no refund)

Jan 14. (Tuesday) last day of winter session

For more information, see the WPUNJ academic calendar.

Note: If you want/need to change your schedule or withdraw, email:

winter@wpunj.edu and include your name, 855 number, the course name and number.

Course Schedule

Date Materials Posted By	Date Assignment(s) or Test Due (by 11:59PM)*	Topic (Chapter) OR Activity
12/26/2019	12/29/2019	Course introduction (Review syllabus , Navigate through all links on Blackboard); Complete 'Getting to know each other' and 'Academic Integrity Policy' discussion posts Chapter 1 (What is Personality?) Chapter 3 (Psychoanalytic Aspects of Personality)
12/30/2019	1/2/2020	Chapter 4 (Neo-Analytic and Ego Aspects of Personality); Discussion Post Due Test (Chapter 3 & 4)
1/3/2020	1/6/2020	Chapter 5 (Biological Aspects of Personality); Discussion Post Due Chapter 6 (Behaviorist and Learning Aspects of Personality) Test (Chapter 5 & 6)
1/7/2020	1/10/2020	Chapter 7 (Cognitive and Social-Cognitive Aspects of Personality) Chapter 8 (Trait Aspects of Personality); Discussion Post Due Test (Chapter 7 & 8)
1/11/2020	1/14/2020	Chapter 9 (Humanistic, Existential, and Positive Aspects of Personality) Chapter 10 (Person-Situation Interactionist Aspects of Personality) Test (Chapter 9 & 10)
	1/14/2020	Term Paper Due

***Please see assignments under 'Course Materials' on Blackboard for a list of readings, etc. due for each topic (chapter) on specified date.**

**** This syllabus is provided for your information and *may change as deemed necessary*. You are responsible for learning all the material contained in this syllabus as well as any modifications that are made to the syllabus during the semester. If you have any questions about the syllabus or course requirements, I encourage you to email me.****

Discussion Post Rubric				
Criteria		Unsatisfactory or Not Done	Satisfactory	Target
Content		Content is inaccurate and/or questions aren't answered in full. Content is minimal and provides little thought or reflection. Length is less than the required amount.	Content is accurate and questions are answered in full. There is little synthesis of information and answers lack depth.	Content is accurate and questions are answered in full. There is synthesis of information and answers are reflective.
Writing		Not APA style in writing or citations. Poor grammar and sentence structure. Poor transitions of thought. Multiple typographical errors, misspelled words, and incorrect use of punctuation. Excessive quotes.	Written communication is effective. There are minimal errors in grammar, spelling, and typos. Poor use of citations or lack of transition between cited work and original ideas.	APA style is on target. Effective written communication skills. No errors in grammar, spelling, or typos. Smooth transitions between cited work and original ideas.