**Psychology 210**

**Theories of Personality**

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| Instructor: Julie J. Chen, Ph.D | | Email: jchen10@uic.edu |
| Office: BSB 1056B | | Phone: (312) 996 -2231 |
| Office Hrs: W 11 – 12 pm @ BSB1056B  or | | |
| Lecture:  CRN 14642 TR 12:30 – 1:45pm; Lecture center D1.  CRN 14643 TR 2 – 3:15pm; Lecture center D4. | | |
| Teaching Assistants & TA office hours: (TBA) | | |
| TA | Office Hour | |
| Avelle Bailey [abaile33@uic.edu](mailto:abaile33@uic.edu) | R 4-5 pm, by appointment | |
| Fatimah Abioye [aabioy1@uic.edu](mailto:aabioy1@uic.edu) | T: 3:15 – 4:15pm, by appointment | |
| Sarah Brew [sbrew3@uic.edu](mailto:sbrew3@uic.edu) | W: 4 – 5 pm, by appointment | |
| Eliza Knipscher [eknips2@uic.edu](mailto:eknips2@uic.edu) | W: 2 – 3 pm, by appointment | |
| Ron Pavone [rpavone@uic.edu](mailto:rpavone@uic.edu) | W 3 – 4 pm, BSB 1022A | |

**Overview:**

This course is designed to provide a survey of the field of personality, focusing on approaches that are

relevant to psychotherapy and well-being. Classical and contemporary theoretical conceptualizations of the

person will be the primary focus of the course materials, although some time will also be spent considering

the research has been conducted to test these theories.

**Required Text:**

Friedman H.S. & Schustack, M. W. (2015). Personality - Classic Theories and Modern Research. (6th Edition). Pearson. (Previous edition OK)

NOTE: Online access (Revel site) to the ebook and online resources is OPTIONAL.

**Course Goals:**

1. To appreciate the sub-disciplines of research that defines personality psychology.
2. To better understand the scientific method, in general, and the empirical research methods employed by personality psychology, in particular.
3. To improve your critical thinking and analytical reasoning abilities within the context of personality psychology.
4. To improve your ability to communicate personality psychological concepts and theories using the conventions of the field.
5. Finally, to promote insight into both the people around you and yourself.

**Course Objectives:**

To accomplish these goals, you will:

1. Survey seven distinct areas of research within personality psychology, ranging from the psychoanalytic perspective, to contemporary theories of self-regulation.
2. Analyze and reflect on how the different methodologies that are commonly used in each area of research help to converge on a more complete understanding of the mechanisms involved in a given aspect of personality.
3. Complete a variety of personality inventories and consider your personal results in relation to different population distributions.
4. Reflect on and apply a theory of personality to your own life.

**Assessments:**

Your final grade will be determined by means of the required examinations, paper and assignments (see below). Your final grade will be derived from your performance as follows:

***Four Homework Assignments (3points X 4 = 12 points)***

Starting from Week 3, on Thursdays a SHORT paper will be assigned in lecture. You will write about your thoughts and reflections on a question I ask based on the lecture materials of that week. The purpose of the homework is to help you keep up with the lectures and the readings. Usually there is no single correct answer to the question. I expect you to show me that you are learning and thinking.

A total of 4 homework assignments will be given throughout the semester.

Format of the Homework: Double-spaced; half a page minimum (roughly 150 words); Times New Roman font 12; Include your name on the assignment.

Submit all HW Assignments on Blackboard via Assignment. The submission deadline is always by 11:59pm the following Tuesday. NO HARDCOPY is accepted. NO LATE assignment is accepted.

***Four exams – drop the lowest one (30points X3 = 90 points)***

The format of the four exams is multiple choices. Each exam has 30 questions. You can miss one exam. If you take all four, I will drop the lowest score for you when I calculate final grade. Exam questions cover **BOTH** lecture and textbook materials.

***Paper (100 points)***

One of the goals of psychology is to help people learn more about themselves. In addition to gaining insight into yourself, applying the topics covered in class to your life helps make the course come to life. The best way to do this in a personality class is to use the theories we learn to discuss your own personality and how it has developed. Therefore, you will complete a discussion of your personality and how it can be explained by one or more theories from class. You will pick three aspects of your personality and use a theory that you learn in this class to discuss each aspect. A total of two different theories should be used (that is, you can use one theory to discuss two aspects and a second theory to discuss the third aspect; or you can use a different theory for each aspect; it's not acceptable to use one theory to discuss all three aspects). The paper should be five to seven pages long (double spaced, excluding the title page and the reference page), have at least three references, and should be in APA style. See a separate document for more detailed instructions.

**Total possible points = 12 + 90 + 100 = 202**

**Grades**

Your grade will be assigned according to the following scale.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 180 – 202 | C | 140 – 159 | F 119 or below |
| B | 160 - 179 | D | 120 - 139 |

**Final Grade rounding**

If your final percentage is only 1 pt away from the cutoff AND you have perfect HW record, I will round you up.

**Late Paper Policy**

If you have difficulty to finish the paper on time, please discuss with me about your situation IN ADVANCE. An extension may be granted. Otherwise late paper submission will receive point deduction (10% points per day, till zero).

**Blackboard**

We will use Blackboard for course materials/announcements distribution, assignment submission, and grade posting, etc..

**Office hour and Appointments**

During my office hours, you are welcome to walk in (BSB 1056B) without an appointment. If you need to meet me outside of the scheduled office hours, please make an appointment with me in advance.

**Email Policy**

Please ALWAYS start the subject of your email with “Psyc. 210”. This way I’ll know it is a course-related issue, not a spam. And please sign your full name in your email if it's not already obvious in your email body.

**Religious Holidays:**

Religious holidays are respected. If you need accommodations for religious reasons please contact me **in advance.** Arrangements can be made on individual basis.

**Student Athletes:**

Student athletes are required to provide the list of days that they will miss throughout the semester. Other accommodations such as exams on the road or paper extension may be arranged with the assistance of the Athletic Office.

**Special Accommodations:**

For students with documented physical or learning disabilities, I’m happy to provide any special accommodation that is needed. Please inform me of your situation within the first two weeks of the semester.

**Additional Assistance:**

It is my job to help you succeed in this class. It is your job to try. Please take full advantage of me and the TAs' office hours. Never hesitate to bring forward a question. If you feel that you need additional sources of help, you may also consult the:

* + Writing center <http://www.uic.edu/depts/engl/writing/>
  + Psi Chi Tutoring: Psi Chi (the psychology honor society) students with expertise in various psychology courses hold office hours throughout the week. You can contact the President of UIC's Psi Chi chapter Jennifer Friedman (jfried23@uic.edu) for details.

**Academic Integrity**

No electronic devices is allowed during exams or quizzes. Usage of them during a test will be considered cheating. It is every student's responsibility to observe academic integrity. Cheating and plagiarism will result in failure of assignments/exams to failure of the course.

**Counseling services:**

UIC and the Department of Psychology provide a variety of services for students who experience mental or psychological difficulties, if such need occurs, please refer to the following:

* + Counseling center: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/counseling/>
  + Office of Applied Psychological Services: <http://portal.psch.uic.edu/Clinical/centers.aspx>
  + In-touch Crisis Hotline: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/counseling/hotline.shtml/>
  + Campus Advocacy Network: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/owa/advocacy.html>

**Course Schedule**

Note: This is a **tentative schedule** for the lecture materials in this semester. I may need to change the order of the chapters as we move along.

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|  | **Date** | **Topic** | **Reading** |
| WEEK 1 | Jan. 10 | Introduction to course; What is personality | Chapter 1 |
| Jan. 12 | Research methods | Chapter 1 & 2 |
| WEEK 2 | Jan. 17 | Issues in Personality assessments | Chapter 2 |
| Jan. 19 |
| WEEK 3 | Jan. 24 | Psychoanalytic theory | Chapter 3 |
| Jan. 26 |
| WEEK 4 | Jan. 31 | **Exam 1** | Chapter 1, 2, 3 |
| Feb. 2 | Neo-analytic theories | Chapter 4 (HW1 due) |
| WEEK 5 | Feb. 7 | Neo-analytic theories | Chapter 4 |
| Feb. 9 | Humanism, Existential theories | Chapter 9 (HW2 due) |
| WEEK 6 | Feb. 14 | Humanism, Existential theories | Chapter 9 |
| Feb. 16 | Trait theory | Chapter 8 (HW3 due) |
| WEEK 7 | Feb. 21 | Trait theory | Chapter 8 |
| Feb. 23 | Trait theory - Motives | Chapter 8 (HW4 due) |
| WEEK 8 | Feb. 28 | **Exam 2** | Chapters 4, 8, 9 |
| Mar. 2 | Behaviorism | Chapter 6 |
| WEEK 9 | Mar. 7 | Behaviorism | Chapter 6 |
| Mar. 9 | Biological approach | Chapter 5 |
| WEEK 10 | Mar. 14 | Biological approach | Chapter 5 |
| Mar. 16 | Biological approach | Chapter 5 |
| WEEK 11 | Mar. 21 | **Spring vacation, no classes** |  |
| Mar. 23 |  |
| WEEK 12 | Mar. 28 | Cognitive approach | Chapter 7 |
| Mar. 30 | Cognitive approach | Chapter 7 |
| WEEK 13 | Apr. 4 | **Exam 3** | Chapters 5, 6, 7 |
| Apr. 6 | Self-regulation | **(Paper due by 11:59pm on SafeAssign)** |
| WEEK 14 | Apr. 11 | Self-regulation |  |
| Apr. 13 | Sex difference | Chapter 11 |
| WEEK 15 | Apr. 18 | Personality and culture | Chapter 13 |
| Apr. 20 | Personality and culture | Chapter 13 |
| WEEK 16 | Apr. 25 | Careers in Personality Psychology; Final thoughts |  |
| Apr. 27 | **Exam 4** | Chapters 11, 13 & Self regulation |

Exam responsibilities:

Exam 1 (01/31): Ron in charge; A’velle helps with proctoring

Exam 2 (2/28): Liza in charge; Abidemi helps with proctoring the 2 pm section

Exam 3 (4/04): A’velle in charge; Ron helps with proctoring

Exam 4 (4/27): Sarah in charge; Abidemi helps with proctoring the 2 pm section

HW 1: Ron

HW 2: Abideme

HW 3: Liza and Sarah

HW 4: