

**Psychology 210
Theories of Personality**

Instructor: Julie J. Chen, Ph.D	Email: jchen10@uic.edu
Office: BSB 1056B	Phone: (312) 996 -2231
Office Hrs: Monday 1-3 pm; or by appointment	
Lecture: Section 14642, TR 11am - 12:15pm, Lecture Center D5 Section 14643, TR 2pm - 3:15pm, Lecture Center D1	
<u>Teaching Assistants & TA office hours:</u>	
Amber Kraft akraft3@uic.edu	MW 1pm - 2pm; BSB 1080
Alexis Munoz amunoz24@uic.edu	T 10am - 12pm; BSB 143
Olivia Lollino ololli2@uic.edu	W 11:45am to 1:45pm; BSB 143
Dominika Bielinska dbielinska@gmail.com	R 1pm to 3pm; BSB 143
Chyei Vinluan aeroelay.chyei@gmail.com	W 12:30pm to 2:30pm; BSB 1049

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:

Carver, C. S., & Scheier, M. F. (2011). *Perspectives on Personality* (7th edition). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

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 (265 total possible points):

Weekly Homework (2points X12 = 24 points)

Every Thursday starting from the second week of class there is a SHORT paper assignment. For each paper you will write about your thoughts and reflections on a question I ask on the lecture materials of that week. The purpose of the homework is to make sure that you are keeping up with the lectures and the readings. Usually the paper is not limited to a single correct answer. The important thing is to show me that you are learning and thinking.

A total of 12 homework assignments will be given throughout the semester.

Format of the Homework: List your name, UIC netid, and date of completion on the top line of your assignment; Double-spaced; half a page minimum; Times New Roman font 12;

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

Pop Quizzes & participation (6 points)

At various points during the semester I'll administer "pop" quizzes and participation points in class.

Three exams (45points X3 = 135 points)

The format of the two mid-terms and the final examination is multiple choices. Each exam has 40 questions. Final examination is non-cumulative.

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 (your textbook per se excluded), and should be in APA style. See a separate document for more detailed instructions.

Grades

Your grade will be assigned according to the following scale. This scale is calculated on a 250-point system. However, you may have noticed that there are 265 points possible to earn in this course. That means you have a 15 points' leeway. No other extra credits will be offered.

A 225 - 250	C 175 - 199	F 149 and below
B 200 - 224	D 150 - 174	

Final Grade rounding

Your final grade will be the simple addition of all the grade categories. In principle I do not round off your grade. Students whose grades are very close to the next cut-off point usually find themselves compelled to contest for a higher letter grade. Please refrain from doing so. My policy is: if you have perfect participation shown by my record (HW assignments and quizzes), and you are only 1 point away from the next cut-off point, I'll consider bump up your grade. Otherwise it's useless to try.

Makeup exam policy

Makeup exams can be considered when there is a conflict exam, documented medical or family emergency. In case of these situations, you must contact me IN ADVANCE.

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 try to make appointment with me in advance via email.

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 ASAP. 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.psych.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.

Date	Topic	Reading
01/14	Introduction to course; What is personality	--
01/16	Research methods	Chapter 1 & 2
01/21	Issues in Personality assessments	Chapter 3
01/23		
01/28	Psychodynamic Theory	Chapter 8 (HW1 due) - Olivia
01/30		
02/04	Trait Theory	Chapter 4 (HW2 due) - Olivia
02/06		
02/11	Motive Theory	Chapter 5 (HW3 due) - Amber
02/13		
02/18	First Exam	Chapter 1 - 4 & 8 (HW4 due) - Donimika
02/20	The Biological Perspective	Chapter 6&7
02/25	The Biological Perspective (cont.)	(HW5 due) - Dominika
02/27		
03/04	NeoAnalytical Perspectives	Chapter 9 (HW6 due) - Amber
03/06		

03/11	NeoAnalytical Perspective (cont.)	(HW7 due) - Amber
03/13	Behaviorism I	Chapter 10
03/18	Behaviorism II	(HW8 due) - Chyei
03/20	Second Exam	Chapter 5, 6, 7, 9
03/25	Spring Vacation. No Class.	
03/27		
04/01	Humanism	Chapter 11
04/03		(Paper due on 04/01, by 11:59pm on SafeAssign)
04/08	Cognitive Perspective	Chapter 12 (HW9 due) - Chyei
04/10		
04/15	Cognitive Perspective (cont.)	(HW10 due) - Alexis
04/17		
04/22	Self- Regulation	Chapter 13 (HW11 due)
04/24		- Alexis
04/29	Culture & Personality	(HW12 due) - Alexis
05/1		
Final exam	Section 14642 (TR 11am): 10:30am - 12:30pm, May 5 Section 14643 (TR 2pm): 3:30pm - 5:30pm, May 7	Chapter 10 – 13, & Culture lecture