

**Psychology 210**  
**Theories of Personality**  
**Fall 2021**  
**CRN 12074**

Instructor: Julie J. Chen, Ph.D	Email: jchen10@uic.edu
Student Drop-in Hours: Wednesday 9am – 10am @ online via Zoom <a href="https://uic.zoom.us/j/9886337102?pwd=Z1pyaU9uWS91TWJ5U29ka2VQWm5Ldz09">https://uic.zoom.us/j/9886337102?pwd=Z1pyaU9uWS91TWJ5U29ka2VQWm5Ldz09</a> (When there are more than one student visiting my online office hour, I will see you one at a time according to your log-in order. You will be put in the waiting room while waiting for your turn. Thank you for being patient!)	
<u>Lecture time:</u> Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30 – 10:45am, <b>online</b> @ Blackboard Collaborate Ultra Note: Lecture center D1 is reserved for students who prefer to take the class in a classroom setting as opposed to at home or dorm. You may bring your streaming device to the room during lecture time. Please observe all UIC campus Covid health requirements: <a href="https://policies.uic.edu/uic-policy-library/facilities-and-safety/campus-covid-19-public-health-requirements/">https://policies.uic.edu/uic-policy-library/facilities-and-safety/campus-covid-19-public-health-requirements/</a>	
<u>Format of the course:</u> In Fall 2021, Psyc 210 will be conducted online synchronously. We will meet online twice per week for the lectures. Although attendance is not mandatory, pop quizzes will be given in class based on the lecture materials (starting from week 3). Pop quizzes will be administered on Blackboard. On days when there is a quiz, it will be made available right after the lecture until the end of the day. Exams will be conducted on Blackboard. There are also written assignments (short ones and a long term paper) that require your time and effort. There are four short written assignments based on the lecture chapters. Afterwards you will concentrate on working on the term paper. Written assignments and the Term paper are due on Tuesday and Thursdays.	

Teaching Assistants & TA office hours:

TA	Office Hour
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Mackenzie Jaekel <a href="mailto:mjaekel2@uic.edu">mjaekel2@uic.edu</a>	By appointment
Carlos Rosas <a href="mailto:crosas6@uic.edu">crosas6@uic.edu</a>	By appointment

**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.

**Optional Textbook (quiz and exam questions will come exclusively out of my lectures. Textbooks are optional):**

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

Burger J. (2008). Personality (7<sup>th</sup> Edition). Thomson & Wadsworth. (Previous edition OK)

**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.

### **Grades breakdown**

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 (15 points X 4 = 60 points)**

Starting from Lecture 3 for four consecutive lectures, 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 reflect upon your own personality using the theory you learn from the lectures. 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: 250 words minimum; Include your name on the assignment.

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

#### **Four exams – (60 points X3 = 180 points. Three required. Drop one low score if you take all four)**

The format of the exams is multiple choices. Each exam has 30 questions and covers approximately three chapters of materials. You can miss one exam with no questions asked (final included). If you take all four, I will drop the lowest score when I calculate the final grade.

All exams will be conducted online on Blackboard. The exams will be open for a window of time on Blackboard (noon – 11:59pm) on the exam day. The exams are not timed, which means you do have the flexibility to schedule your own exam time within the time frame. You should reserve yourself plenty of time (45 minutes ~ 75 minutes) to work on the exam though.

All exams are closed-notes.

#### **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.

To accomplish this goal, you will complete a paper to discuss your personality and how it can be explained by two different theories you learn from class. You will pick three aspects of your personality and

use two or three theories to discuss each aspect (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 5 - 7 pages long (double spaced, excluding the title page and the reference page), have at least three references, and should be in APA style. See the term paper guideline document for more detailed instructions.

**Weekly Quizzes (Approximately 60 points)**

Starting from week 3, pop quizzes will be given in class. They will be in the form of multiple choices question, true or false question, or fill-in-the-blanks questions. Pop quizzes will be administered on Blackboard. Each one is worth 4 – 6 points.

**Total possible points = 60 + 180 + 100 + 60 = 400**

**Grades**

Your grade will be assigned according to the following scale.

A 360 - 400	C 280 - 319	F 239 or below
B 320 - 359	D 240 - 279	

**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 to share course materials, collect assignments, and post grades.

**Student drop-in hours**

You don't need an appointment for my online student drop-in hours. Simply log in to the link I share on Blackboard. When there are multiple people coming to my office hour, we'll follow the first come first serve rule.

**Email Policy**

Please ALWAYS include the course information in your email (Psch 210) to avoid confusion on my part. 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 our 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/>

**Academic Integrity**

It is every student's responsibility to observe academic integrity. Cheating on exams or plagiarism on the term paper is prohibited. I will elaborate on what constitutes plagiarism in the term paper guideline, and also at the live session when I give the introduction on the term paper. 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>
- 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 change the content of the chapters as we move along.

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Reading</b>
WEEK 1 (08/23 – 08/27)	08/24	General introduction of course		Course syllabus
	08/26	Research methods		Cronbach (1957)
WEEK 2 (08/30 – 09/03)	08/31	Issues in Personality assessments		Cronbach, & Meehl (1955)
	09/02			
WEEK 3 (09/07 – 09/10)	09/07	Psychoanalytic theory		Freud (1914)
	09/09	Psychoanalytic theory		
WEEK 4 (09/13 – 09/17)	09/14	Review session	(HW1 due)	Jung (1921)
	09/16	<b>Exam 1</b> <b>(online, available from 9am</b> <b>until 11:59pm)</b>		
WEEK 5 (09/20 – 09/24)	09/21	Neo-analytic theories		Harlow (1958)
	09/23	Neo-analytic theories		Maslow (1943)
WEEK 6 (09/27 –	09/28	Neo-analytic theories	(HW2 due)	

10/01)	09/30	Humanism		
WEEK 7 (10/04 – 10/08)	10/05	Trait theory	(HW3 due)	McCrae & Costa (1987)
	10/07	Trait theory		
WEEK 8 (10/11 – 10/15)	10/12	<b>Exam 2 (online, available from 9am until 11:59pm)</b>		
	10/14	<b>Information on the term paper</b>	(HW4 due)	
WEEK 9 (10/18 – 10/22)	10/19	Motive theory		
	10/21	Behaviorism		Skinner (1948)
WEEK 10 (10/25 – 10/29)	10/26	Behaviorism		
	10/28	Biological approach		White (1959)
WEEK 11 (11/01 – 11/05)	11/02	Term paper Q & A session		
	11/04	<b>Exam 3 (online, available from 9am until 11:59pm)</b>		
WEEK 12 (11/08 –	11/09	Evolutionary approach	<b>(Paper due by 11:59pm on SafeAssign)</b>	

11/12)	11/11	Cognitive approach		
WEEK 13 (11/15 – 11/19)	11/16	Cognitive approach		
	11/18	Self-regulation		
WEEK 14 (11/22 – 11/24)	11/23	Personality and culture		
		<b>Thanksgiving Holiday No Class</b>		
WEEK 15 (11/29 – 12/03)	11/30	<b>Final review and wrap up</b>	Final paper grade revealed	
		<b>Exam 4 (online, available from 9am until 11:59pm)</b>		
Finals' Week	No exam scheduled during the Finals' week			

Reading list:

Cronbach, Lee J. (1957). The two disciplines of scientific psychology. *American Psychologist*, 12, 671-684.  
<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Cronbach/Disciplines/>

Cronbach, Lee J. & Meehl, Paul E. (1955). Construct validity in psychological tests. *Psychological Bulletin*, 52, 281-302.  
<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Cronbach/construct.htm>

Freud, Sigmund. (1914). *The history of the psychoanalytic movement*.  
<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Freud/History/index.htm>

Jung, Carl G. (1921). General description of the types. Chapter 10 of *Psychological types*.

<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Jung/types.htm>

Harlow, Harry F. (1958). The nature of love. *American Psychologist*, 13, 573-685.

<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Harlow/love.htm>

Maslow, Abraham H. (1943). A theory of human motivation. *Psychological Review*, 50, 370-396.

<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Maslow/motivation.htm>

McCrae, R. R., & Costa, P. T. (1987). Validation of the five-factor model of personality across instruments and observers. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 52(1), 81-90.

Skinner, B. F. (1948). 'Superstition' in the pigeon. *Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 38, 168-172.

<https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Skinner/Pigeon/>

White, R. W. (1959). Motivation Reconsidered: The concept of competence. *Psychological Review*, 66, 297 – 333.