



PSY 3320 - Personality Psychology

2022 Spring Session	
Total Class Sessions: 25 Class Sessions Per Week: 5 Total Weeks: 5 Class Session Length (Minutes): 145 Credit Hours: 4	Instructor: Staff Classroom: TBA Office Hours: TBA Language: English

Course Description:

Personality psychology looks at the overall psychological dynamics of people's behavior, the psychological differences among individuals and the similarities found within human nature. This course is designed to provide a general overview of the psychology of human personality, including theories about personality development, personality assessment, gender and personality, sexual orientation and cultural contributions to personality. These topics are essential to understanding each other and ourselves.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the several ways in which personality has been defined and conceptualized
- Identify methods used in personality research and assessment
- Describe personality traits and the concept of the self
- Understand how genetics and neuroscience underlie personality as well as the intrapsychic and cognitive foundations of personality
- Consider gender similarities and differences in personality
- Apply personality psychology in discussions of sexual orientation and resilience

Course Materials:

1. Larsen, R. J., & Buss, D. M. (2013). **Personality psychology: Domains of knowledge about human nature (7th edition).**
2. **The Personality Puzzle**, Eighth Edition, by David C. Funder (Author) Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; Seventh (October 1st, 2015) Language: English, ISBN-10: 9780393600421

Course Assignments:

Quizzes:

There will be 5 quizzes administered through the whole semester. Quizzes will always be completed in the first 20 minutes of class. The quiz problems will be similar to textbook topics and examples on slides. There will be no make-up quizzes.

**Exams:****Midterm Exam**

There will be one midterm exam in this course. The midterm exam will be based on concepts covered in class. They will be in-class, close-book and non-cumulative.

Final Exam

The final will be cumulative and close-book. Note that the final will not be taken during the normal class times. Exact time and location for final will be announced later.

Presentation:

In groups of 3-4 (exact group size to be determined at the first class), students will be responsible for leading the class through a lively and engaging discussion of the week's topic, identifying a published article involving one of the assigned topics. Although an overview of major points or issues may be useful in starting such discussion, the goal is not to summarize or lecture about the articles, but to facilitate class discussion, engagement and a critical analysis of relevant issues. As such, the facilitators will be challenged to come up with innovative and thought-provoking techniques for getting the rest of the class to digest the information as deeply as the facilitators have, and to ensure that everyone is involved in the meaning-making process.

The format in which you facilitate discussion is up to the facilitators. However, all facilitations will be marked in terms of their:

- (a) ability to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of a particular area, regarding **Personality Psychology**;
- (b) ability to help others to critically evaluate current research, theory, and/or relevant issues in a particular area;
- (c) ability to help the group to translate research, theory, and/or relevant issues into psychological practice;
- (d) ability to communicate effectively and efficiently and address questions that arise.

Attendance:

More than three unexcused absences will result in an automatic reduction in your participation grade, for instance from A- to B+. Your active participation in the class is expected and constitutes part of your grade.

Course Assessment:

Quizzes 5	30%
Midterm Exams	20%
Presentation	15%
Attendance	5%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

**Grading Scale (percentage):**

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
98-	93-	90-	88-	83-	80-	78-	73-	70-	68-	63-	60-	<60
100	97	92	89	87	82	79	77	72	69	67	62	

Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Chengdu University of Technology's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

Special Needs or Assistance:

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topics	Activities
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • Who am I? Understanding the Building Blocks of Personality • Personality Research Methods and Assessment • Personality Traits: A Good Theory and Practical Matters • Personality Assessment • Personality Judgement in Daily Life • The Inheritance of Personality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quiz 1 ▪ Textbook reading
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personality and Behavior • Self and Identity • Unconscious mind: Defenses and Slip • The Psychoanalytic Approach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Psychoanalysis Basics ➤ Psychoanalysis: Siggie Freud ➤ Psychoanalysis After Freud ➤ Current Psychoanalysis Research: Attachment Theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quiz 2 ▪ Textbook reading



3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The neuroscience of Personality• Biological Approaches to Personality:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Anatomy➤ Physiology➤ Genetics• Intrapsychic Foundations of Personality• Behaviorism and Social Learning theory• Personality and Behavior• Big Five• Dark Triad of personality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Quiz 3▪ Midterm▪ Textbook reading
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personality Stability, Development, and Change• Perception• Thought• Regulation and Motivation: Self-Determination Theory• Emotion• Gender and Personality• Sexual Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Quiz 4▪ Presentation▪ Textbook reading
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resilience• The Meaning of Life: Humanistic and Positive Psychology• Cultural Variations on Personality• Personality Disorders and Mental Health• Applications in AI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Quiz 5▪ Presentation▪ Textbook reading▪ Final