

Syllabus

# PSYC UN2610: Introduction to Personality

# Spring 2023

## Course Information

Instructor: Usha Barahmand

Class Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 am to 11:25 am

Class Location: TBD

Semester Start: Tuesday 01/17/2023

Semester End: Monday 05/01/2023

Credit Hours: 3

Office Hours: By appointment

E-mail: [ub2142@columbia.edu](mailto:ub2142@columbia.edu)

I will respond to any student email within 48 hours during the work week. Please do not wait until the evening before an assignment is due to contact me; I will likely not respond to questions or concerns until the next day.

## Pre-Requisite

PSYC 1001 Science of Psychology (or the equivalent).

## A picture containing text, different, several Description automatically generatedRequired Textbook

***Personality, 10th Edition*** by Jerry M. Burger

**ISBN-10** 1337559016 **ISBN-13**978-1337559010 published by Cengage

## Role in the Psychology Curriculum

For the Psychology major and concentration, and for the Psychology Post-Bac certificate program, this course counts toward the Group III Distribution Requirement. This course can *not* be used for the P4 lecture requirement of the Neuroscience & Behavior major.

## Course Description

## This course is an introduction to the study of personality. We will examine various theoretical perspectives on understanding of personality. We will also discuss current research on personality and individual differences. Furthermore, you will get the opportunity to examine various aspects of your own personality.

## Course Objectives

1. Compare and contrast various theories of personality development.
2. Apply theories of personality to case examples in work situations and everyday life.
3. Analyze how personality is assessed within various theories and models.
4. Discuss how behavior problems are understood and modified according to the major theories

## Course Evaluation

Course grades are based on the following five components, weighted as noted.

1. Mid-Term Exam #1 (20% of grade)
2. Mid-Term Exam #2 (25% of grade)
3. Final Exam (25% of grade)
4. Personality description (20%)
5. Article Presentation (10%)

## *Exams (70%):*

Exams will be based on multiple choice and essay questions. They will be held on the days listed in the class schedule, which is subject to modification by the professor. Check your email regularly for revisions in the class schedule. Absence on the day of a test will result in a grade of zero. There will be a total of two midterms (each 20% of your grade) and a final exam (20% of your grade). Content of exams will come from lecture and the required textbook. Please be sure that you are able to attend on exam dates listed below. In fairness to the other students, I will not give make-up exams, so that you will all have the same examination.

*Personality Description (20%)*

Describe your personality or the personality of someone you know very well. Administer the Ten Item Personality Inventory (Gosling, Rentfrow, & Swann, 2003), the positive and negative affect scale, an academic motivation scale and a self-esteem scale. Describe the person’s main traits, current emotional state, motivation and self-esteem. Choose two theories presented in your textbook and apply them to explain what factors may have contributed to the person’s personality. (10% of grade)

## *Article Presentation (10%):*

Each student will prepare and make a presentation of any one empirical article relevant to personality. The presentation serves two functions. First, they are a means of exposing the class to recent research on aspects of personality. Second, they are a means of learning an important skill -- how to present an empirical paper in a limited amount of time. *In15 minutes*, you will *summarize* the (a) theory and hypotheses, (b) method, (c) results, and (d)broader relevance of an article. Making appropriate use of visual media, covering only what absolutely needs to be covered, and presenting clearly what you have to say in no more than15 minutes (the typical time allotted at a conference) are essential components of an effective academic presentation. Details such as about what journals the articles must be taken from will be provided in class. Since our class is a large one, it is difficult to have all students present live in class. Therefore, students will have to make recordings of their presentation with accompanying PowerPoint slides and write a one-page summary of the make their submission via Canvas. Every week only a specific number of students will be able to submit presentations. A sign-up sheet will be made available for you to indicate your preferred week for the submission.

***Grading Scale***

97-100= A+

94-96= A

90-93= A-

87-89= B+

84-86= B

80-83= B-

77-79= C+

74-76= C

70-73= C-

60-69= D

**Class Policies**

Academic Integrity

As members of this academic community, we are expected to maintain the highest level of personal and academic integrity. Consider this excerpt from the Columbia University Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity: “[E]ach one of us bears the responsibility to participate in scholarly discourse and research in a manner characterized by intellectual honesty and scholarly integrity. The exchange of ideas relies upon a mutual trust that sources, opinions, facts, and insights will be properly noted and carefully credited. In practical terms, this means that, as students, you must be responsible for the full citations of others’ ideas in all of your research papers and projects… [and] you must always submit your own work and not that of another student, scholar, or internet agent.” More information about Columbia University

Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity can be found here:https://www.college.columbia.edu/faculty/resourcesforinstructors/academicintegrity/statement

Plagiarism

Plagiarism – whether intentional or inadvertent – is a serious violation of academic integrity, and will thus not be tolerated. You are required to submit exclusively original work that you wrote, composed, or ideated on your own. If you are uncertain or have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, I encourage you to read the information provided on Columbia’s website about the various forms of plagiarism and ways to avoid it. Here is the link to a relevant webpage on plagiarism: <https://www.college.columbia.edu/academics/dishonestyplagiarism>

I am obligated to report any incident of plagiarism to the appropriate channels at the university, which may result in significant penalties that may impact your academic career at Columbia. If you feel overwhelmed, confused, or that you are likely to resort to plagiarism, please talk to me. It is better to inform me beforehand so we can try and remediate the issue, whatever it might be, than to deal with such a serious offense after the fact.

Attendance

Attendance is necessary in order to maintain a good grade in this course. Students are responsible for all material presented in class, which includes material that is not found in the textbook. The professor cannot supply notes to students who miss class; you are responsible for asking another student to provide you with notes. Students will participate in a number of in-class exercises designed to help you apply the material learned in the course. These exercises cannot be replicated outside of class, so it is very important to be present in order to participate and fully learn the material.

Late Assignments

In general, late assignments will not be accepted and graded. Under very certain circumstances, you will be allowed to submit your assignment within 24 hours of the due date. Such circumstances may include a sudden or unplanned event that significantly impacts your ability to submit your assignment on time.

Class Etiquette

If you typically use your laptop for note taking, accessing the assigned readings or response papers, you are welcome to use your laptop for these purposes. In general, as a show of respect to your fellow classmates and instructor, please refrain from using electronic devices during class, including cell phones and laptops for unrelated reasons

Students with Disabilities/Exceptionalities

Students with any disability or exceptionality that may require any accommodations are requested to contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) in Lerner Hall before the start of the course to register for these accommodations. The procedures for registering with ODS can be found at http://health.columbia.edu/services/ods or by calling (212) 854-2388. I also ask that you speak with me on the first class to inform me of any required accommodations, and I would be more than happy to be of service and assistance to address them.

Class Schedule

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| **Class # / Date** | **Topic** | **Required Reading** |
| 1. 01/17/23 | **Syllabus** |  |
| 2. 01/19/23 | **What is Personality** | Chapter 1 |
| 3. 01/24/23 | **Personality Research Methods** | Chapter 2 |
| 4. 01/26/23 | **Class activity** |  |
| 5. 01/31/16 | **The Psychoanalytic approach** | Chapter 3 |
| 6. 02/02/16 | **Freudian Approach: Relevant Research** | Chapter 4 |
| 7. 02/07/16 | **Neo-Freudian Approach** | Chapter 5 |
| 8. 02/09/16 | **Neo-Freudian Theories: Relevant Research** | Chapter 6 |
| 9. 02/14/16 | **Class activity** |  |
| 10. 02/16/16 | **Mid-Term Exam #1** | Chapters 1-6 |
| 11. 02/21/16 | **The Trait Approach** | Chapters 1-6 |
| 12. 02/23/16 | **The Trait Approach: Relevant Research** | Chapter 7 |
| 13. 03/02/16 | **Class activity** | Chapter 8 |
| 14. 03/07/16 | **The Biological Approach** | Chapter 9 |
| 15. 03/21/16 | **The Biological Approach: Relevant Research** | Chapter 10 |
| 16. 03/23/16 | **Class activity** |  |
| 17. 03/30/16 | **The Humanistic Approach** | Chapter 11 |
| 18. 04/04/16 | **The Humanistic Approach: Relevant Research** | Chapter 12 |
| 19. 04/06/16 | **Class activity** |  |
| 20. 04/07/16 | **Mid-Term Exam #2** | Chapters 7-12 |
| 21. 04/11/16 | **Behavioral/Social Learning Approach** | Chapter 13 |
| 22. 04/13/16 | **Behavioral/Social Learning Approach: Relevant Research** | Chapter 14 |
| 21. 04/18/16 | **The Cognitive Approach** | Chapter 15 |
| 22. 04/20/16 | **The Cognitive Approach: Relevant Research** | Chapter 16 |
| 23. 04/25/16 | **Class activity** |  |
| 24. 04/27/16 | **Review for Final Exam** |  |
| 25. TBA | Final Exam |  |