

Introduction to Personality Psychology
UN2610
Fall 2019

Course:
Tuesdays & Thursdays
10:10-11:25am
Location: TBA

Instructor: Prof. Shige Oishi
419F Schemerhorn
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Office Hours: TBA

Course Description:

This course will provide an introduction to what we (psychologists) know about personality, ranging from the definitions of personality (what is personality?) to the measurement of personality (how to measure it?), to various approaches to personality (e.g., is personality primarily determined by genetics, socialization, life experiences and events?), to the role of personality in everyday lives (e.g., does personality predict job satisfaction?), to the role of culture in personality (e.g., are extraverts happier than introverts in Japan?).

Teaching Assistants:

TBA

Contacting your instructor and teaching assistants:

We are looking forward to getting to know you. We each hold weekly office hours. This is a great opportunity for you to ask not only specific course-related questions, but also other psychology-related questions such as research opportunity and career options.

Textbook: The primary text for this course will be **Personality Puzzle (7th Edition)** by David Funder (2016, W.W. Norton).

Schedule: The schedule below is still tentative (will be finalized by the beginning of the semester). Please read the chapter assigned before coming to class.

Sep 3: Introduction (No reading)

Sep 5: Ch. 1. What is personality?

Sep 10: Ch. 2. Research Methods (Part 1)

Sep 12: Ch. 2. Research Methods (Part 2)

Sep 17: Ch. 3. Assessment, Effect Size, & Ethics

Sep 19: Ch. 4. Personality traits, situations, and behavior (Part 1)

Sep 24: Ch. 4. Personality traits, situations, and behavior (Part 2)

Sep 26: Ch. 5. Personality judgment

Oct 1st: Midterm 1 (In-class)

Oct 3: In-Class Personality Assessment

Oct 8: Feedback on Personality: In-Class Essay

Oct 10: Ch. 6. Using personality traits to understand behavior (Part 1)

Oct 15: Ch. 6. Using personality traits to understand behavior (Part 2)

Oct 17: Ch. 7. Personality stability, development, and change (Part 1)

Oct 22: Ch. 7. Personality stability, development, and change (Part 2)

Oct 24: Ch. 8. The anatomy and physiology of personality

Oct 29: Ch. 9. The inheritance of personality (Part 1)
Oct 31: Ch. 9. The inheritance of personality (Part 2)
Nov 5th (Election Day; No Class)
Nov 7th:Midterm 2 (In-class)
Nov 12: Ch. 10-11. Psychoanalytic approach
Nov 14: Ch. 12. Humanistic/Positive Psychology approach
Nov 19: Ch. 13. Cultural approach
Nov 21: Ch. 14: Behaviorism and Social Learning Theories
Nov 26/28 (Thanksgiving Break)
Dec 3: Ch. 15: Personality Processes
Dec 5: Ch. 16: The Self; Ch. 17: Mental and Physical Health

TBD: FINAL EXAM

Grading:

Your grade will be determined based on the following system.

In-Class Essay: 50 (10%) Reflection on the personality feedback (more guidelines provided later)

Midterm 1: 100 (20%) Ch 1 to Ch 5

Midterm 2: 100 (20%) Ch 6 to Ch 9

Take-home Essay: 50 (10%) Analyze the personality of a person of your choice (more details later)

Final Exam: 200 (40%) Cumulative (Ch 1 to Ch 17 with a more emphasis on Ch 10-17)

>=97.5-100: A+

>=94-97.49: A

>=90-93.99: A-

>=87-89.99: B+

>=84-86.99: B

>=80-83.99: B-

>=77-79.99: C+

>=74-76.99: C

>=70-73.99: C-

>=60-69.99: D

<60: F

In-class audience response system (or iClicker): You will be asked to respond to polls and questions in class. It is important that you come to class with a mobile device so that you can participate actively in class. If this will be problematic for you, please see me during the first week of class and we can brainstorm a solution. Your active participation in class this way will enhance your learning. Your responses will also help you to gauge your own understanding of the material and will help me to identify times when concepts require more explanation or discussion. And your participation can improve your final course grade: if your final grade in % was less than 1% point off (or of the next highest grade).

Class policies: Academic Integrity: As members of this academic community, we are responsible for maintaining the highest level of personal and academic integrity, which includes presenting only our own work on assignments and exams. You can find detailed definitions and examples in Columbia University's Guide to Academic Integrity (<http://www.college.columbia.edu/academics/academicintegrity>). Any questions of academic integrity

will be automatically referred to Columbia's office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. The semester progresses very quickly, and there is a lot of material to learn. If you find yourself in a situation – e.g., starting an assignment too late or not having enough time to study for an exam – in which it seems like the best option may be to violate your academic integrity, please see me. Together, we can work out a solution. It is far better to have a few points deducted from an assignment than to compromise your academic integrity and potentially put your academic standing at the university in jeopardy.

Attendance: The in-class lectures and activities will cover a great deal of material, some of which is not included in the readings. I will do my very best to make lectures as engaging and interactive as possible, so please do your very best to attend every lecture. I will NOT provide my lecture slides. If you miss a class, please try to borrow notes from a classmate and/or come to office hours to review any questions you might have about the lecture.

Class Etiquette: Research shows that many of us think we're good multi-taskers. Research also shows that most of us are not. In addition, research shows taking notes using laptop is not as effective as hand writing. Also, laptops can be very disruptive to others. Thus, the use of laptop during class is strictly prohibited.

Students with Disabilities: Students with special needs who may require classroom/test accommodations should make an appointment with me before or during the first week of class. You should also 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. Syllabus is subject to revision. Updates will be posted on CourseWorks within the relevant Modules section.