

Introduction to Personality Psychology

UN2610

Spring 2019

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

Instructor: Prof. Shige Oishi
419F Schermerhorn
so2238@columbia.edu
Office Hours: 11:30am-1:30pm Tuesdays

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:

Nir Jacoby (nj2319@columbia.edu) 251-255 Schermerhorn Hall
Emily Nakkawita (emily.nakkawita@columbia.edu) 328-329 Schermerhorn Hall

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.

Jan 22: Introduction (No reading)

Jan 24: Ch. 1. What is personality?

Jan 29: Ch. 2. Research Methods (Part 1)

Jan 31: Ch. 2. Research Methods (Part 2)

Feb 5: Ch. 3. Assessment, Effect Size, & Ethics

Feb 7: In-Class Personality Assessment

Feb 12: Feedback on Personality: In-Class Essay

Feb 14: Ch. 4. Personality traits, situations, and behavior (Part 1)

Feb 19: Ch. 4. Personality traits, situations, and behavior (Part 2)

Feb 21: Ch. 5. Personality judgment

Feb 26: Midterm 1 (In-class)

Feb 31: Ch. 6. Using personality traits to understand behavior (Part 1)

Mar 5: Ch. 6. Using personality traits to understand behavior (Part 2)

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

Mar 12: Ch. 7. Personality stability, development, and change (Part 2)

Mar 14: Ch. 8. The anatomy and physiology of personality

Spring Break!

Mar 26: Ch. 9. The inheritance of personality (Part 1)

Mar 28: Ch. 9. The inheritance of personality (Part 2)

Apr 2: Midterm 2 (In-class)

Apr 4: Ch. 10-11. Psychoanalytic approach

Apr 9: Ch. 12. Humanistic/Positive Psychology approach (Part 1)

Apr 11: Ch. 12. Humanistic/Positive Psychology approach (Part 2)

Apr 16: Ch. 13. Cultural approach

Apr 18: Ch. 14: Behaviorism and Social Learning Theories

Apr 23: Ch. 15: Personality Processes

Apr 25: Ch. 16: The Self

Apr 30: Ch. 17: Mental and Physical Health

May 2: Epilogue

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: 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 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.