



## COURSE SYLLABUS

### PSYC 301: Personality Psychology

**Course Term:** Summer 2019 (July 8 – August 16) – Online via Canvas

**Instructor:** Craig A. Wendorf, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Psychology

*If you have questions that are confidential or personal in nature, please contact me via email or via message in Canvas. I will generally respond to student messages within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours, please resend your message.*

- **Contact Information:** [cwendorf@uwsp.edu](mailto:cwendorf@uwsp.edu), 715-346-2304 (with voicemail)
- **Office Location:** D240 Science Center, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point (Main Campus)
- **Office Hours:** By appointment only for Summer 2019

*If you have a general course question (not confidential or personal in nature), please post it to the Course Q&A Discussion Forum found on the course homepage. I will post answers to all general questions there so that all students can view them. Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions too.*

## Course Overview

### Prerequisites

Prior to taking this course, it is expected that you have already acquired a basic overview of psychology. As such, it requires that you have completed PSYC 110 (Introduction to Psychology) or its equivalent. It is strongly recommended that you have also completed PSYC 200 (Research Methods in Psychology).

### Course Description and Objectives

This course examines contemporary approaches to the study of personality. It emphasizes clinical and experimental contributions to the understanding of personality and its structure. You will be introduced to a broad range of personality theories and, just as importantly, research that supports or challenges these viewpoints. Thus, it is my intention that while completing this course, you will:

- **Course Learning Outcome 1:** Explain the key characteristics of various theories and approaches to understanding human personality, including their respective advantages and disadvantages. (Aligns with APA Objective 1.1)
- **Course Learning Outcome 2:** Apply concepts from the psychology of personality to an understanding of one's own personality functioning. (Aligns with APA Objective 1.3)
- **Course Learning Outcome 3:** Examine psychological research as it pertains to the understanding, critique, and development of theories and concepts in personality psychology. (Aligns with APA Objective 2.1)
- **Course Learning Outcome 4:** Demonstrate effective writing that communicates the understanding, application, and interpretation of personality psychology principles and research. (Aligns with APA Objective 4.1)

## Course Materials and Technology

### Using Canvas

*This course will be delivered entirely online through the course management system Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the Canvas Login Page (<https://www.uwsp.edu/canvas/>). If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Canvas, you can:*

- Click the “**Help**” button near bottom left of Canvas navigation screen to ask a question of your instructor, email or chat with Canvas personnel, or look up Canvas guides for documentation on issues.
- Visit with a Student Technology Tutor (Albertson Hall 018, 715-346-3568, [tlctutor@uwsp.edu](mailto:tlctutor@uwsp.edu))
- Seek assistance from the IT Service Desk (Albertson Hall 027, 715-346-HELP or 1-877-832-8977, [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu))

### Online Learning Expectations

Throughout this online course, you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks: communicate via email, download and upload documents, read documents online, view online videos, participate in online discussions, and complete quizzes/tests online. *Most importantly, this will require you to be comfortable using the following software to learn:*

- A web browser such as Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox
- Microsoft Office 365 (which includes Word and PowerPoint)
- A PDF reader (such as Adobe Acrobat or a web browser)

Microsoft Office 365 is available to all UWSP students for free (see <https://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/SoftwareSupport/Office-365-OneDrive.aspx>). *Failure to report a problem in obtaining the course materials will be treated as a failure to complete the requirement.*

### Textbook and Other Readings

*There one required textbook for this class and it is available at text rental. Canvas includes a link to a document describing how to obtain the textbook if you cannot pick up the book directly on campus. If you decide to purchase or borrow the book through another source, please be sure to get the correct edition.*

Burger, J. M. (2015). *Personality* (9<sup>th</sup> ed.). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning. ISBN-13: 978-1285740225.

At various points throughout the course, I will supplement the text with chapters and articles from other sources. They will be posted on Canvas.

### Protecting your Data and Privacy

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website: <https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests/>

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy:

- Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use
- Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services
- Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP)
- Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices

## **Course Grading Policies**

### **Evaluation of Performance**

*Evaluation of student performance will be based on online activities, discussions, and quizzes. An overview of the point values for each of the course assessments is given below.*

<b>ASSESSMENTS OF OBJECTIVES:</b>	<b>POINTS EARNED:</b>
Activities for Topics 1 – 9 (2 Activities per Topic @ 4 points each)	_____ / 72 points
Discussions for Topics 1 – 9 (1 Discussion per Topic @ 4 points each)	_____ / 36 points
Quizzes for Topics 1 – 9 (1 Quiz per Topic @ 8 points each)	_____ / 72 points
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>_____ / 180 points</b>

The course activities are designed to provide you with opportunities to explore the main concepts, to apply the material, and to describe the research underlying the concepts. *You may confer with other students and the instructor if you have questions, but you must submit work that is your own.* These materials must be submitted via the Canvas dropbox and will be automatically checked by Turnitin.com for their originality. Feedback will be given online as well.

The online discussions are designed to have you address more in-depth aspects of personality theory and research. These take the place of essay questions for quizzes or exams in conventional courses. *They are expected to be collaborative and you will therefore be graded on the content of your original posts and your responses to others.*

The online quizzes are short multiple-choice assessments of your basic knowledge of the broad topic that is covered by the quiz. They consist of eight multiple choice questions, randomly chosen from a larger pool of questions. *You will be able to take each quiz twice, with only the highest score counting in the gradebook.*

*Each online assignment will be clearly marked with a due date.* If you know ahead of time that you will miss a due date for an assignment, you should submit the assignment before the due date. Late submissions will be accepted within 48 hours of the due date with no penalty. After 48 hours, no late submissions are accepted.

### **Determination of Final Course Grades**

*Final course grades are determined by the percentage of possible points that you earn.* The grades will be determined as follows (with no extra credit available in the course).

COURSE GRADE:	PERCENT OF TOTAL:	POINTS EARNED:
A	93% - 100%	166 – 180
A-	90% - 92%	161 – 165
B+	87% - 89%	155 – 160
B	83% - 86%	148 – 154
B-	80% - 82%	143 – 147
C+	77% - 79%	137 – 142
C	73% - 76%	130 – 136
C-	70% - 72%	125 – 129
D+	67% - 69%	119 – 124
D	60% - 66%	107 – 118
F	0% - 59%	000 - 106

*Final grades of “Incomplete” will be given only under extreme circumstances.* An Incomplete is not an option for students who feel overwhelmed by academics, work schedules, or extracurricular activities. Typically, an Incomplete must be completed within one semester otherwise an “F” will result.

## Tentative Course Schedule

This section offers a tentative schedule for the semester. *This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change.* It is the student’s responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement or through email.

DUE DATE	TASK AND TOPIC	MATERIALS	POINTS
<b>Topic 1: Overview and Methods</b>			
7-08-19	T1A: Overview of Personality – Activity	Chapter 1 + Videos	4
7-08-19	T1B: Personality Assessment – Discussion	PowerPoint + Videos	4
7-10-19	T1C: Research Design – Activity	Chapter 2 + Videos	4
7-10-19	T1D: Overview and Methods – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 2: Trait Approaches</b>			
7-12-19	T2A: Trait Taxonomies – Activity	Chapter 7 + Videos	4
7-12-19	T2B: Change Over Time – Discussion	PowerPoint + Videos	4
7-15-19	T2C: Challenges for Trait Theories – Activity	Chapter 8	4
7-15-19	T2D: Trait Approaches – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 3: Biological Approaches</b>			
7-17-19	T3A: Physiological Theories – Activity	Chapter 9 + Videos	4
7-17-19	T3B: Evolutionary Theory – Discussion	Chapter 10 + PowerPoint	4
7-19-19	T3C: Research Integration – Activity	Article	4
7-19-19	T3D: Biological Approaches – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 4: Psychodynamic Approaches</b>			
7-22-19	T4A: Psychodynamic Theory – Activity	Chapters 3 & 4 + Videos	4
7-22-19	T4B: Contemporary Views – Discussion	Chapter 5 + PowerPoint	4
7-24-19	T4C: Psychosocial Theory – Activity	Chapter 6 + Videos	4
7-24-19	T4D: Psychodynamic Approaches – Quiz		8

DUE DATE	TASK AND TOPIC	MATERIALS	POINTS
<b>Topic 5: Humanistic Approaches</b>			
7-26-19	T5A: Psychological Needs – Activity	pp. 184-192 + Videos	4
7-26-19	T5B: Self-Esteem and Self-Worth – Discussion	Chapter 12 + PowerPoint	4
7-29-19	T5C: Self-Actualization – Activity	Chapter 11 + Videos	4
7-29-19	T5D: Humanistic Approaches – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 6: Behavioral Approaches</b>			
7-31-19	T6A: Principles of Conditioning – Activity	Chapter 13 + Videos	4
7-31-19	T6B: Social Learning Theory – Discussion	Chapter 14 + PowerPoint	4
8-2-19	T6C: Research Integration – Activity	Article	4
8-2-19	T6D: Behavioral Approaches – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 7: Cognitive Approaches</b>			
8-5-19	T7A: Cognitive Distortions – Activity	Chapter 15 + Videos	4
8-5-19	T7B: Cognitive-Affective Units – Discussion	pp. 206-215 + PowerPoint	4
8-7-19	T7C: Self-Concept – Activity	Chapter 16 + Videos	4
8-7-19	T7D: Cognitive Approaches – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 8: Sociocultural Approaches</b>			
8-9-19	T8A: Culture and Personality – Activity	Church (2008) + Videos	4
8-9-19	T8B: Sex, Gender, and Personality – Discussion	PowerPoint + Videos	4
8-12-19	T8C: Interpersonal Aspects – Activity	Buss (1987) + PowerPoint	4
8-12-19	T8D: Sociocultural Approaches – Quiz		8
<b>Topic 9: Systems Approaches</b>			
8-14-19	T9A: Integrating Personality – Activity	McAdams & Pals (2006)	4
8-14-19	T9B: Systems Theories – Discussion	PowerPoint + Videos	4
8-16-19	T9C: Research Integration – Activity	Article	4
8-16-19	T9D: Systems Approaches – Quiz		8

## Conduct and Accommodations

### Personal Conduct

UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment and has developed guidelines to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed. *All students are expected to be familiar with and to abide by the university's Community Rights and Responsibilities document* (see <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>).

*Under federal and state laws, and university guidelines, I am required to report acts of a criminal or offensive nature that occur both within and outside of class.* This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents – both current and in the past – may be reported to the Dean of Students office (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>) or the local authorities.

## Academic Misconduct

*Academic misconduct (i.e., cheating) will result in an automatic zero on that exam or assignment for all people involved. I will follow up on all cases in the manner described in Community Rights and Responsibilities document.*

*Representation of another person's work as your own (i.e., plagiarism) will result in an immediate rejection of the work. Any student who engages in plagiarism will be given the opportunity to repeat the work and have it graded appropriately. Consistent with university policy, a written reprimand will be placed in the student's disciplinary file. "Accidental plagiarism" – naiveté about what constitutes plagiarism – will not be accepted as a legitimate excuse.*

## Accommodations and Disabilities

If there are factors creating difficulties for you in this course that are recognized disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please provide me with appropriate notification from the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (103 Student Services Center, 715-346-3365, or at <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/>). *I will follow all recommendations made by the Disability and Assistive Technology Center.*

If you are having difficulties of a personal (not academic) nature, I will refer you to the UWSP Counseling Center (Third Floor Delzell Hall, 715-346-3553, or at [counsel@uwsp.edu](mailto:counsel@uwsp.edu)). *Appropriate accommodations may be made for due dates, testing procedures, etc. at the instructor's discretion.*

## Extra Assistance and Tutoring

*If you would like extra assistance related to course materials or have any questions related to your performance in the course, please contact me as soon as possible. This should always be your first step in getting assistance, as most questions and concerns can be best addressed this way.*

However, if you would prefer help from a student beyond your instructor or colleagues in this class, you should contact the UWSP Tutoring-Learning Center (<http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/>, 018 LRC, 715-346-3568).