



PSY 317, SECTION 01E, PSYCHOLOGY OF PERSONALITY

PSY 317 SYLLABUS: FALL 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Sinjin Roming, M.A.

Office Location: BIN Hall, 201

Office Hours: In BIN 210 Wednesdays from 3-4 & Fridays 3-4:30 PM or by appointment

Office Phone: TBD

Office Fax: N/A

University Email Address: Sinjin.Roming@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours (excluding weekends and holidays)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

Feist, J, Feist, G.J., and Roberts, T. (2021). Theories of Personality, 10th Edition. NY: McGraw-Hill.

Additional materials, such as research articles, case studies, and hand-outs, may be emailed, posted on D2L, or distributed in class.

Software Required:

D2L: Course materials, including an electronic version of the syllabus and supplementary information, will be posted on D2L.

Course Description

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

This course is designed to introduce students to the various approaches to the study of personality. A consideration of personality's determinant, development, and assessment form the framework of the course. The course's primary objective is to facilitate your conceptual skills and development regarding the main schools of thought in personality theory. This semester, we will explore the following: What is personality? Where does it come from? Are we born with a personality? Do some people have good personalities and others have bad ones? Can people change their personalities? The answer to these questions is...it depends. There are several theories of personality, and each provides a unique perspective about what personality is, how it develops, and whether it remains stable or changes.

Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to describe and differentiate among the major psychological approaches which explain personality.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to define and apply key personality concepts, terms, and theories.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify and read original essays from psychologists who have made major contributions to an understanding of personality.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to explain research methodology and the ability to evaluate the merit of personality studies.
5. Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize and identify research that these theories have generated and upon which they have been built.
6. Students will demonstrate the ability to practically apply acquired insight of personality to one's own life.
7. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify the clinical applications of the major groups of personality theories.
8. Students will demonstrate the ability to apply one personality theory to an analysis of a person's behavior, thinking patterns, or emotional reactions.
9. Students will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking to evaluate popular media, stereotypes, and scholarly literature in personality research.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Research Participation:

A goal of this class is to help you become familiar with psychological research. One way to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at A&M - Commerce, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments (see me for more information on alternative assignments).

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Students must complete a total of 6 experiment credits. However, if you complete your first 4 experiment credits without any “no-shows” you will receive 2 free *punctual participant credits*. In other words, if you show up to your experiments on time you will only need to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive ½ free experiment credit. This can be combined with later experiments that are worth ½ credit.

If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an ‘A’ in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final grade in the class will be a ‘B.’ More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is given at the end of this syllabus.

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You should be comfortable with the following:

- Using a word processor (changing font, spell check, formatting, etc.)
- Using email for communication; Sending an email attachment
- Navigating the internet; Using an internet search engine
- Using the learning management system (D2L)
- Using Microsoft Word and Power Point

ALL COURSEWORK MUST BE TYPED AND SUBMITTED AS A WORD DOCUMENT OR PDF (NOT NOTEPAD, ETC.) UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO TURN IN QUALITY WORK, I.E. MEETS COURSE REQUIREMENTS, GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT AND FREE OF SPELLING ERRORS.

Instructional Methods

Class time will consist primarily of lectures, writing assignments, group work, and homework with student discussion and participation encouraged. Film and small group discussion will be used when appropriate.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Time Commitment: This is a three-credit hour course. Studies indicate that, on

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average, for every one hour of course credit, students should expect to spend three hours on course work per week, in addition to the 3 hours a week for class time, for a 16-week course. That calculates to 9 hours a week for reading, homework, discussion, studying etc. You may spend more, depending on your level of expertise. I suggest you take the above information seriously. I do not offer end-of-semester extra credit assignments. This is not an online course. Attendance will be expected and monitored.

Personal Commitment: You are responsible for keeping up with the schedule, assignments, reading and exams. Situations like “Computer problems”, “no internet access”, “I lost my book”, or “my printer is out of ink” are all frustrating experiences but none will be accepted as an excuse to make up work. It is your responsibility to make sure you get your assignments turned in on time. If it looks stormy out, or your personal computer is acting sluggish, it is advisable to find an alternate working situation.

Basics: It is advised that should an unforeseeable problem (that could interfere with class performance) occur, notify me as soon as possible so that alternate arrangements may be discussed. The material accompanying the text and handouts should be treated as mandatory reading and will be included in class discussion and quizzes. Students are, therefore, responsible for all assigned text reading as well as articles, etc., assigned on weekly learning modules. Students are to be aware of all assignment, homework, and quiz dates that are listed in the course schedule without reminder from the instructor. It is expected that students approach each learning prepared (completed assigned readings) to discuss pertinent topics. Those who approach class assignments unprepared should expect their grades to be negatively affected as a result. All assignments are to be submitted on the date due unless otherwise instructed. Any assignment submitted beyond the due date may be subject to a grade of zero.

Students are expected to display tolerance for others’ views during class discussions and emails. Comments and language should always be respectful and appropriate for a college community.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 468- 520 Points

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B = 416- 467 Points

C = 364- 415 Points

D = 312- 363 Points

F = 311 & > Points

Point Breakdown

Quizzes (12 for 10 points each) =120 points

Psychobiography Progress= 50 points

Psychobiography Paper=100 points

Discussion Boards (2 for 50 points each) = 100 points

Class Assignments (Various)= 50 points

Final Exam= 100 points

TOTAL POINTS: 520 points

Assessments

Quizzes:

There will be a 10-question quiz following each chapter of text reading that we cover. We will cover 12 chapters; therefore, twelve quizzes will be posted. Students are expected to complete each of the 12 posted quizzes. The quizzes will be multiple choice in format, covering the material in the chapter and any videos that are assigned with that chapter. **QUIZZES MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE ASSIGNED DUE DATE UNLESS PERMISSION IS OBTAINED IN ADVANCE. THE DISCRETION FOR A MAKE-UP QUIZ LIES SOLELY WITH THE INSTRUCTOR. IF A STUDENT IS NOT ATTENDING CLASS, NO POINTS WILL BE EARNED BY COMPLETING THE QUIZ. THIS IS NOT AN ONLINE CLASS.**

Final Exam:

The final exam will be cumulative and will consist of comparisons of various theories of personality as well as questions regarding conditioning and reinforcement.

Assignments

Psychobiography:

Each student will apply the theories of personality that have been covered in the course to an understanding of one person. The person must be a real person, not a fictional or mythological figure, renowned in the culture, and cannot be someone covered in the textbook. (Students may not use family members or friends). Students will compose a paper on a published biographical or autobiographical source which will incorporate information on personality theories from the text. Your paper should follow the format of the illustrative biographies given in the text and be detailed in the discussion of how theoretical concepts apply. Students will thoroughly discuss, emphasizing/explaining\

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the theoretical concepts in the paper. Focus on how the theoretical concepts apply to the one person you are trying to understand. Cite specific details from the biography to support your interpretations.

Psychobiography Project will consist of the following:

1. **Progress Report:** List the biographical source (book/website) you will be using for the paper and be sure to cite it using APA format. In a one to two page outline (which must include some level of detail), summarize your thoughts about how the material covered from the text applies to this person. The purpose of this assignment is to ensure that you are thinking critically about the theories and applications prior to the end of the course. As a result, no credit will be given for progress reports that are more than a day late.
2. **Paper:** The paper should be 4 to 6 pages in length (Longer papers are acceptable. Shorter papers will not be penalized for length, but be sure that you are discussing theories adequately, which is difficult to do in a paper less than 4 pages.) The paper must follow APA format and be typed in 12 point Times New Roman font with 1 inch margins. The cover page and reference page do not count as part of your page limit. Papers must be completed using appropriate grammar and spelling and must adequately demonstrate knowledge of the person and theoretical concepts applied.

Cite references that you use for direct quotations and for factual material. Ordinarily, only two references will be necessary: the biography (or autobiography) and the text. If you wish to do more detailed reading about personality theory or about the biography, you may include more references, but that is not necessary or expected. The purpose of this paper and presentation is to demonstrate that you understand the theories well enough to apply them appropriately and with insight.

Class Activities:

Class assignments will be assigned at various times during the semester. These assignments are planned to enhance the current topic/chapter of discussion

Class Discussion:

Each class discussion (2) will consist of a question or questions to hopefully provoke student participation in class discussion. Once assigned, students will have a minimum of one week to consider their response and post their response on the discussion board site. To complete the assignment, each student will also be expected to respond to two postings from classmates.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are

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technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

As mentioned earlier, my office hours are by appointment only. If you need to meet with me, please let me know at least 24 hours in advance through email and we can

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schedule a time to do so in person on campus or over Zoom. The locations for these meetings will be given when the meetings are scheduled. If you wish to email me, please use your TAMUC email address. This will assure that I address your email more quickly. When creating your message, please be sure to use correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. Correspondence to me should not be treated in the same way as a text message to a friend.

Be brief, be clear, and be specific. Statements such as “I don’t understand the assignment” are too vague to receive a quick response. If there are specific instructions that you don’t understand, copy the instructions into your email and give me some idea of where you need help. I try to be as clear as possible, but sometimes there is a “slip” between what’s typed and what’s interpreted.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance:

Regular class attendance is a must to be successful in this course. Students are expected to attend class and to consistently log in to the course site. “It is the prerogative of the faculty to drop students from courses in which they have obtained excessive absences/inattention as defined in the course syllabus. In such cases, faculty recommend through the department head to the appropriate college dean that a student be dropped from a class. The faculty member will make a reasonable effort to communicate with the student prior to recommending a drop. If approved, the college dean will forward the recommendation to the Records Office (Systems Policy 13.2.

STUDENTS WILL NOT RECEIVE CREDIT FOR ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED IF THEY ARE NOT ATTENDING CLASS. THIS IS NOT AN ONLINE CLASS.

Students are responsible for following University procedures to drop a class. If you stop attending the class for any reason, you must initiate the process of dropping, or you will receive a failing grade. Plan to take care of this several days ahead of time, so that you will have the time required to get the forms signed, submitted, etc.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student

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Conduct can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy
[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

Artificial Intelligence

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the

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instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Services
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5930

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



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A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The course calendar will be posted on D2L course site.

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