

**PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC 2306)
FALL 2023**

Instructor: Dr. Hannah Volpert-Esmond
Office: 103 Psychology Building
Email: hivolpertes@utep.edu

Classroom: UGLC 128
Class time: Tuesday/Thursday, 1:30-2:50 pm
Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday, 3:00-3:30 pm

TA INFORMATION

TA: TBD
Email: TBD
Office hours: TBD

OVERVIEW AND GOALS OF THE CLASS

Everyone is different and such differences are often attributed to our personalities. But what is ‘personality’ exactly? How does it develop and change? This course will introduce you to the field of personality psychology and answer these and other questions. We will talk about theories of personality development, personality assessment, and genetic and cultural influences on personality. We will discuss the basic findings and concepts of the field and apply them to the lives of real people including ourselves.

The student will:

1. Discuss different theories of conceptualizing and defining personality
2. Recognize what variables influence personality and how personality influences behavior
3. Distinguish methods used in personality research and assessment
4. Apply acquired insight of personality to examining case studies and one’s own life

COURSE MATERIALS

Required texts:

Larsen, R., & Buss, D. (2017). *Personality psychology: Domains of knowledge about human nature* (6th ed.). McGraw-Hill.

ISBN-10: 1259870499

ISBN-13: 9781259870491

Gosling, S. (2009). *Snoop: What your stuff says about you*. Profile Books.

ISBN-10: 0465013821

ISBN-13: 978-0465013821

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your grade for the course will be based on reading quizzes, exams, and a final project. All graded work will add up to **350** total points throughout the course. Your final grade will be the percentage of points you earn out of the total number of points possible.

Discussion Board (10 points each, 70 points total):

- Each week, we will use Blackboard to engage in discussion.
- Discussion post topic will be released on Tuesday after class.
- You must respond by 1:30 pm (before class) on Thursday (100-150 words; 8 points).
- Then you must respond to another student's post by 5 pm on Friday (50-100 words; 2 points).
- There will be 8 Discussion Board opportunities, but you are only required to complete 7.

Reading Quizzes (10 points each, 80 points total):

- You will have 10 reading quizzes that you will complete through Blackboard. They will be open book/open note quizzes, which means you can refer to your textbook, the slides from class, and your notes when completing the quizzes. You MAY NOT use the internet to look up answers.
- Reading quiz will be released on Thursday after class.
- You must complete the quiz by 1:30 pm (before class) on the following Tuesday.
- There will be 10 Reading Quiz opportunities, but you are only required to complete 8.

Exams (50 points each, 150 points total):

- You will have 3 exams that will occur in-person.
- You will be allowed to bring one note sheet to each exam (8.5" x 11" sheet of paper, hand-written, front and back allowed).
- Each exam will be worth 50 points.

Snoop Project (50 points total):

- At the end of the semester, you will complete a group assignment that applies what you learned from the *Snoop* book. In groups, you will evaluate several people's personality based on pictures of their room or personal space. You will have class time to complete the project.
- Your grade on the project will come from:
 - o Group write up of evaluation (30 points)
 - o Peer evaluation (20 points)
- More details about the project will come later in the semester.

To calculate your grade, simply divide how many points you have earned with how many points are available to be earned to get your grade percentage. The following scale will be used to translate a grade percentage into a letter grade:

- A = 90% and above
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% and below

Late Assignments: Reading quizzes will be accepted up to 24 hours after the deadline but will be penalized 10% of the total score (1 point will be taken off your score). Discussion boards will not be accepted late. For this reason, you are not required to complete all Discussion Boards (7 out of 8 required) and Reading Quizzes (8 out of 10 required).

Make-up Exams: Since we will not have a cumulative final exam, if you miss an exam or are unhappy with one of your exam scores, then you can re-take (a version of) that exam during the time scheduled for the final exam. You can only take ONE make-up exam and the make-up must occur during our scheduled exam during finals' week (Thursday, December 14 from 1:00-2:20 pm). The make-up policy means that you cannot schedule your own exams (it must happen during finals week) and you may only make-up/retake ONE exam.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance: This class will be a synchronous in-person class. You are expected to attend class and participate, including asking questions. I will not be grading your attendance, although typically students who attend class regularly do better than those who do not. For those who are not able to attend class in person because of health or Covid related concerns, I will attempt to record lectures but lecture recordings are not guaranteed.

Contact: I will primarily use Blackboard announcements and email to contact you. Please check your utep.edu email accounts regularly. If you have questions about the course or need to contact me for any reason, please either 1) see me before or after class, 2) visit my office hours, or 3) email me.

Teaching Associate: We will have a TA for the course. The TA will be responsible for grading assignments, and will be available for advice with regularly scheduled office hours. Contact information will be provided when available.

Diversity and Inclusion: I recognize that within the class we each bring forth our own experiences and perspectives from our lived experiences. I aim to create a learning community in which those diverse thoughts and experiences are valued. I aim to value and respect your unique identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.). If you feel comfortable sharing, please let me know what pronouns you use and/or if you have a name that differs from the official course record. I realize we are living in tumultuous times and there may be times when your life outside the class affects your performance within the class. I encourage you to be open with me about these situations so I can be a resource for you. I want each student to be successful in this class and will do my best to support you.

UTEP POLICIES

Academic Integrity & Scholastic Dishonesty

It is the official policy of the university that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Cheating or plagiarism in this class will result in penalties that may include a letter in the student's file as well as failing the course. The academic honesty code is available online at: <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>

Incompletes & Add/Drop

Incompletes will not be given in this course except under extremely rare circumstances. The FINAL drop date without the Deans' approval is **November 3, 2023**. Students will not be able to drop the course after this date without the Dean's approval.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE	
<u>Classroom Support</u>	If you have a documented disability or need that requires assistance, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) by phone at 747-5148 or by email at <u>cass@utep.edu</u> . Students can request accommodations virtually by logging into the Accessible Information Management system (AIM) using their UTEP credentials at <u>cassportal.utep.edu</u> .
<u>Student Support Services</u>	Provides assistance with academic advising.
<u>University Writing Center</u>	Provides writing assistance and editing services. Students get writing coaching on specific course papers or projects.
<u>Financial Assistance</u>	Provides financial assistance (for example, emergency loans to purchase textbooks)
<u>Technology Support</u>	Provides technological support for students. This should be your first contact if you are experiencing problems with Blackboard or other university software.
<u>Counseling Services</u>	We all can feel overwhelmed at times; this is especially true during a global pandemic. I encourage all students to care for their mental health and visit the counseling services as needed. Services are being offered remotely.

Day	Topic	Reading	Assignment
Aug 29	Introduction to Personality		
Aug 31	Personality Research Methods	L&B (Ch. 2)	Discussion Board 1 due
Sept 5	Personality Research Methods	L&B (Ch. 2)	Reading Quiz 1 due
Sept 7	Snoop Discussion 1	Snoop (Prologue + Ch. 1: pp. 1-32)	Discussion Board 2 due
Sept 12	Personality Traits	L&B (Ch. 3) + Snoop (Ch. 2: pp. 33-54)	
Sept 14	Personality Traits	L&B (Ch. 3) + Snoop (Ch. 2: pp. 33-54)	
Sept 19	Exam review		Reading Quiz 2 due
Sept 21	EXAM #1		
Sept 26	Personality Stability, Development and Change	L&B (Ch. 5)	Reading Quiz 3 due
Sept 28	Personality Stability, Development and Change	L&B (Ch. 5)	Discussion Board 3 due
Oct 3	<i>Snoop</i> Discussion 2	Snoop (Ch. 3: pp. 55-74)	Reading Quiz 4 due
Oct 5	The Inheritance of Personality	L&B (Ch. 6)	Discussion Board 4 due
Oct 10	Physiological Approaches to Personality	L&B (Ch. 7)	Reading Quiz 5 due
Oct 12	Physiological Approaches to Personality	L&B (Ch. 7)	
Oct 17	<i>Snoop</i> Discussion 3/Exam review	Snoop (Ch. 4: pp. 75-85)	
Oct 19	EXAM #2		
Oct 24	Psychoanalytic Approach to Personality	L&B (Ch. 9)	Reading Quiz 6 due
Oct 26	Psychoanalysis After Freud	L&B (Ch. 10)	Discussion Board 5 due
Oct 31	<i>Snoop</i> Discussion 4	Snoop (Ch. 6: pp. 113-136)	Reading Quiz 7 due
Nov 2	Humanistic and Positive Psychology	L&B (Ch. 13)	Discussion Board 6 due
Nov 7	Sex, Gender, and Personality	L&B (Ch. 16)	Reading Quiz 8 due
Nov 9	Sex, Gender, and Personality	L&B (Ch. 16)	Discussion Board 7 due
Nov 14	<i>Snoop</i> Discussion 5	Snoop (Ch. 8 + 9: pp. 167-202)	Reading Quiz 9 due
Nov 16	In-class Snoop Project group work		
Nov 21	In-class Snoop Project group work		Snoop Project due
Nov 23	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS		
Nov 28	Culture and Personality	L&B (Ch. 17)	
Nov 30	Culture and Personality	L&B (Ch. 17)	Discussion Board 8 due
Dec 5	Exam review		Reading Quiz 10 due
Dec 7	EXAM #3		
Dec 14	Optional Exam Retake		

