PSY 307: Personality (Summer 2017) Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 2:00 to 3:50 PM in 162 LIL

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behavior. Psychologists rely on empirical methods – experimentation and systematic observation – to learn about the human condition. In PSY 307, you will learn about the major theories of personality and the research methods used to test these theories. From each of these different perspectives, we will address questions such as: What is personality? How is personality studied? How do individuals differ and in what ways are they the same? What influences personality development?

Important note: This is the first draft of the syllabus. As the class goes on, the syllabus will be updated regularly. Check Canvas for the most recent version of the syllabus.

INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Pooya Razavi

Email: pooyar@uoregon.edu

My office hours are Tuesdays after class (4 - 5 pm) in my office (339 Straub), or by appointment. Appointments should be made *at least 24 hours* earlier.

Please contact me via the email above. When you contact me, please use your official @uoregon.edu email address and put "PSY 307" at the start of the subject line.

TEXT AND MATERIALS

The required textbook for this class is available at the UO bookstore:

Funder, D. C. (2015). The personality puzzle (7th ed.). New York: Norton

GRADING

Your grade will be a weighted average of the following criteria:

35% Daily personality homework (12 assignments)30% Midterm exam35% Final exam

I calculate exact grades with no rounding. Cut-offs for a "plus" are at x7 and for a "minus" are at x3. For example, an 87.00 is a B+ but 86.99 is a B.

PROTIP: Students sometimes think they can blow off the small-looking parts of the course (the daily personality homework assignments). That is pretty much always a mistake. Those are places where some effort can get you full points, and they add up fast. By comparison, many students find the exams challenging, so it's worth it to get whatever points you can.

ACTIVITIES, ASSIGNMENTS, AND ASSESSMENTS

Lectures and readings

Lectures will go in depth about topics that I think are especially important, interesting, or both. You should come to every lecture and take good notes in your own words. Although I will post my lecture slides after class, the slides will not contain all of the important information from class.

The textbook will give you breadth and foundational concepts. Some of the material covered in lecture will overlap with the textbook, and some of it will not. As with the lectures, I recommend that you take good notes on the readings in your own words.

This is a survey course, which means that the depth in which each theory is covered will be moderate; you are encouraged to find out more about the theories that particularly interest you.

Exams (30% + 35%)

There will be 2 exams: one midterm and one final (see the schedule at the end of the syllabus). Exams will be in multiple-choice format and based on lectures and readings (i.e., the textbook). The content of the lectures and readings will overlap a little, but you are responsible for everything from the book and everything from lectures – not just the overlaps.

I WILL NOT GIVE MAKE-UP EXAMS. You must be present in class for every exam at the scheduled starting time. There are two possible reasons for exceptions: (a) You are traveling for a university activity that provides an official academic proctor (typically this only applies to away games for varsity athletes) and you have arranged with me *in advance* to take your exam remotely, or (b) You have ironclad documentation of a serious emergency (see "Absences" later in this syllabus for details). Otherwise, if you miss an exam, you will get a zero.

Plan any travel accordingly, because you cannot take any of the exams early or late.

Daily personality homework assignments (35%)

Background. A major aim in this course is that you will become comfortable enough with the theories to begin to apply them in the 'real world', and to find interesting new ways to think about your everyday experiences. It is also important that you become familiar with different personality measurements, and think critically about them. The daily personality homework assignments can help you with these goals. You are required to complete 12 assignments, which are graded from 0 to 10. The weighted average of your grades for all the 12 assignments will constitute 35% of your total grade for this course.

Completion. These assignments are to be completed online. For each assignment, there will be a link on Canvas, which usually becomes available 24 to 48 hours before the due date. By clicking on the link on Canvas, you will be forwarded to another page where you will receive detailed instructions about the assignment. READ AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS VERY CAREFULLY. Afterwards, move on to the next page to start the homework. It takes most people around 1 to 2 hours to complete each assignment.

Format. While the structure of each assignment might vary, they generally follow this pattern: First, you are required to complete one or more psychological measurements related to the topics that are being discussed in class during the week. After completion of the first part, you will be asked questions about the measurement, the results, or the underlying psychological constructs. These questions might ask you to think critically about the measurement or construct (i.e., "What do you think was the weaknesses of the two tests that you just took?"), or they may ask you to do a brief search and answer a question (i.e., "The test you just took measures extraversion. Define extraversion in your own words, and offer examples of behavior that is commonly associated with this construct.") Your responses should be in short essay formats (often limited to 100 or 150 words).

Grading. Each assignment will be graded from 0 to 10. If all the instructions given are followed accurately, the person will receive a grade of 10. For the critical thinking questions, as long as your response is logical and addresses the question clearly, it will receive the full grade. For the questions that ask directly about the psychological variables (i.e., "define extraversion and give examples"), your answer will be graded based on accuracy and comprehensiveness. For these questions, you are encouraged to use your textbook, or any other scientific resources; however, all responses are supposed to be in your own words. Plagiarism will lead to a grade of zero.

Due dates. See the SCHEDULE section of this syllabus for the due dates of each homework assignment. On a day that an assignment is due, *it must be submitted online before 1:30 pm*. Because the homework portion of the grade is very generous, and due to the high volume of homework I will be reading each week, I will not accept any late homework.

INCLUSION AND VALUES

One of my core scientific values is that scientific knowledge is a public good that belongs to everyone. That means that as an educator, I strive for my classes to be accessible to all, and respectful of diversity, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, socioeconomic status, religion, and culture. It is important to me that everyone has the opportunity to learn in this class. It is my goal to create a respectful classroom environment where people feel safe to explore difficult topics. Your suggestions, concerns, and other feedback are always welcome, and I will listen to you with respect and an open mind.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Please turn off your phone before each class.

2. I recommend taking notes by hand. However, laptops or tablets are allowed in the classroom if you use them ONLY for taking notes. Please do not create a distraction to yourself or others sitting near or behind you.

3. Please give me feedback on any aspect of the course that you think could be improved or on anything you particularly like. I am genuinely interested in making this course interesting and educational for you. I take feedback seriously, and I am always interested in finding ways to improve the course and my teaching.

ABSENCES

Lectures: I do not take attendance so there is no need to notify me. I recommend that you get good notes from someone who came to class.

Exams: If a serious emergency prevents you from taking an exam you must do the following:

1. Notify me as soon as possible (and before the exam unless your emergency prevents you from contacting me). Send me an email from your official @uoregon.edu account. A significant delay will mean that your excuse will not be accepted.

2. Provide written and verifiable documentation of your emergency. "Verifiable" means that documentation should be on the official stationery of a medical professional (or other professional relevant to your emergency absence), and it must include contact information for someone I can call to confirm your documentation.

3. Make-ups or other remedial action will be determined solely at my discretion.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You may refer to your textbook or notes while completing the "daily personality homework assignments". All in-class exams are closed-book and must represent your own independent work. Every assignment must be done individually unless you are explicitly told that it is a group assignment. If you are unsure about what is appropriate or allowed, please ask.

Students who commit any form of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, etc.) on any assignment will receive an "F" for the course. The university may impose additional sanctions, including expulsion. Further information about standards of academic conduct is available here: *http://conduct.uoregon.edu*

ACCESSIBILITY

As I stated earlier, my goal is to create an accessible and inclusive learning environment. Please talk to me if there are aspects of this course that will create barriers for you. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center for support (*http://aec.uoregon.edu*). If you will need accommodations for any exams or assignments, please notify me during the first week of classes.

CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS

I reserve the right to change or waive any part of this syllabus at any time.

SCHEDULE

Week	Weekday	Date	Торіс	Reading	Assignment due*
1	Monday	7/24/2017	Introduction to Personality	Chapter 1	_
1	Tuesday	7/25/2017	Research Methods	Chapter 2	-
1	Wednesday	7/26/2017	Personality Testing	Chapter 3	A1
1	Thursday	7/27/2017	Traits, Situations, and Behavior	Chapter 4	A2
2	Monday	7/31/2017	Personality Judgement	Chapter 5	A3
2	Tuesday	8/1/2017	Trait Approach	Chapter 6	A4
2	Wednesday	8/2/2017	Personality Development	Chapter 7	A5
2	Thursday	8/3/2017	Anatomy, Genetics, and Evolution	Chapters 8 & 9	A6
3	Monday	8/7/2017	MIDTERM EXAM	Chapters 1 to 7	-
3	Tuesday	8/8/2017	Psychoanalysis	Chapters 10 & 11	A7
3	Wednesday	8/9/2017	Humanistic and Positive Psychology	Chapter 12	A8
3	Thursday	8/10/2017	Cultural Variations	Chapter 13	A9
4	Monday	8/14/2017	Behaviorism and Learning Theories	Chapter 14	A10
4	Tuesday	8/15/2017	Personality Processes; The Self	Chapter 15 & 16	A11
4	Wednesday	8/16/2017	Personality and Health	Chapter 17	A12
4	Thursday	8/17/2017	FINAL EXAM	Chapters 10 to 17	-

* On a day that an assignment is due, *it must be submitted online before 1:30 pm*.