



Syllabus for Course PSYC 340
Theories of Personality – Online
Department of Psychology
Winter Session 2019 (12/16/19 – 1/5/20)

About the Instructor

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Dr. Jason Murphy earned his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Neuropsychology from Saint Louis University in 2013. He also holds an M.S. in Computer Management and Information Systems from SIUE. He is an alumnus of SIUE's Clinical Adult Psychology graduate program. Before coming to SIUE, he completed a post-doctoral clinical and teaching fellowship at the University of Missouri – St. Louis. His current research focuses on the intersection of technology and psychological service delivery, including e-therapy consumer privacy, telepsychology training for graduate students, and informed consent for online psychotherapy. Dr. Murphy is a licensed clinical psychologist in Missouri and Illinois. His therapeutic orientation is integrative, drawing from cognitive-behavioral, humanistic, and positive psychology schools. He has extensive assessment experience with adults and adolescents in outpatient, medical, and forensic settings.

Communicating with the instructor: The preferred method of communication is via email. I will respond to emails within one business day with the exception of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve, and New Years Day.

About the Course

Course description: Welcome to Theories of Personality! This course is designed to review and evaluate major theories of personality and their supporting evidence. We will examine the constructs, assumptions, and validity of major personality theories. We will also explore how the lives and backgrounds of the theorists may have influenced the theories they developed. Some theories will also be applied to organizational behavior and interpersonal dynamics in the workplace. (3 credit hours).

Prerequisite: PSYC 111.

Course goals and objectives:

- Describe the concepts and features of major personality theories and theorists
- Discuss the theoretical constructs associated with a number of personality theories
- Identify and describe the major tools used by psychologists to assess personality
- Apply personality theories discussed in class to real life, including the workplace
- Utilize appropriate and professional written communication to critique personality theories and/or constructs

- Apply personality theories in the analysis of organizational development and/or interpersonal dynamics

Course textbooks:

- Schultz, D. P., & Schultz, S. E. (2017). *Theories of personality* (11th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning. [Rental option is available through Textbook services <http://www.siue.edu/textbook/>.]
- Other readings as assigned (posted on Blackboard)

Other course materials: This course will use Blackboard (<https://bb.siue.edu>) as the primary means of communicating and disseminating lectures, assignments, announcements, updates, grades, and other important course information. Lectures (e.g., PowerPoint slides with narration) will also be posted. It is your responsibility to regularly check Blackboard throughout the semester (i.e., at least once per day).

Course Requirements

Exams:

You will be administered three exams consisting of multiple choice, true/false, and/or short answer questions on scheduled date ranges during the semester (see Course Schedule). Each exam will cover all new material presented since the previous exam (or, for the first exam, since the beginning of the semester). In other words, exams will not be cumulative.

Each exam will be open for a three-day window listed on the course schedule. During each three-day window, you may choose when to begin the exam. However, once you begin the exam, you must complete it in one session (i.e., you will not be able to close and then resume the exam). In addition, you will have 60 minutes to complete each exam. Although you are allowed to use your textbook and notes while completing the exam, plan to need a solid knowledge of the material in order to complete all questions within the allotted 60 minutes. In other words, you will not have enough time to look up the answer for each question. At the end of 60 minutes, your exam will automatically submit if you have not yet submitted it yourself.

Exams not taken within their respective three day windows cannot be made up; such exams will automatically receive a grade of zero (0) points. Ensure that you have a reliable computer and Internet access when you choose to begin an exam. **If an exam “reset” is required for any reason, please email me and contact ITS (618-650-5500) to request an exam reset; the exam will be reset, and the grade for that exam will be reduced by 10 percent** (e.g., a 6 point deduction from the total score for an exam worth 60 points). Such requests (i.e., exam “resets” due to user or technical error, or any other reason) must be made within the three-day window that the exam is open; please take into account that I may not respond until the next business day and I will not respond to emails on University holidays, and plan accordingly. (ITS is available 24/7 and can quickly reset an exam within the three day window it is open.)

Online discussion posts:

All group discussion posts must be completed by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the course (see Course Schedule). Posts will not be accepted after 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the course. Zero (0) points will be assigned for any missing posts. There are no exceptions for this policy. You are encouraged to post your thoughts, ideas, questions, etc., in substantive paragraph format as soon as possible after discussion boards are made available on Blackboard.

A discussion board with a question or questions to spark conversation will be created for each major chapter/topic. **Discussion boards can be accessed by clicking the "Discussions" link in the left menu. Select a discussion board (e.g., Chapter 2: Freud Discussion Board) and click "Create Thread" to compose a post.** Students will contribute their thoughts, questions, opinions, insights, etc., to **five** of these boards. Each post is worth 10 points. To receive full credit, a student's contribution should comprise at least one substantive paragraph. (Three or four sentences is not an acceptable length.) Each post should include at least one outside source (e.g., reputable website, journal article, etc.) that contributes additional information than what is presented in lecture and the textbook. Information from the source should be incorporated into the post. **Use in-text APA style citations (i.e., parenthetical citations) in the post where appropriate. Cite your source at the end of your post using an APA style references entry (i.e., formatted the way the entry would appear on an APA style References page).** **Copying and pasting content from a source into a discussion post will automatically result in a grade of 0 points for the post unless the pasted content is in quotation marks and properly cited in APA style.** **Use direct quotes sparingly or not at all; present information in your own words.** Student posts will be graded based on a demonstration of sound reasoning/logic, introduction of new or novel ideas (including integration of at least one outside source per post), thoughtfully responding to issues raised in others' posts, etc.

It is the student's responsibility to regularly (i.e., daily) check the Discussions link for opportunities to post. Specific announcements for new posting opportunities will not be made by the professor. Please do not email the professor to ask when new discussion boards will be available.

As noted above, students must submit five discussion posts across the semester. If more than five posts are submitted, the first five posts will be graded. Students cannot submit additional posts for extra credit.

Technology requirements:

At a minimum, you will need the following software/hardware to participate in this course:

- Computer with an updated operating system (e.g. Windows, Mac, Linux)
- Updated Internet browsers (Apple Safari, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox)
- DSL or Cable Internet connection or a connection speed no less than 6 Mbps.
- Media player such as QuickTime or Windows Media Player.
- Adobe Reader or alternative PDF reader (free): <http://get.adobe.com/reader/?promoid=HRZAC>
- Java plugin (free): <http://java.com/en/download/index.jsp>
- Any other specialized software or basic software (e.g., MS Office, etc.). Students can download MS Office at no charge here: <http://office365.siue.edu>

Technical support:

Since this is an online course, you are expected to have reliable Internet access on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to address any computer problems that might occur. Such problems are not an excuse for delays in meeting expectations or for missing course deadlines. Contact ITS with any technical concerns at 618-650-5500, by emailing help@siue.edu, or on the web at <http://www.siue.edu/its/>. Please do not contact the instructor for technical assistance (e.g., playing lecture videos, using Blackboard features). All technical assistance questions should be directed to ITS. Emails to the instructor requesting technical assistance will not receive a response.

Course and University Policies

The Psychology Department's Policy on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism includes presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source), presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source, or presenting one's own previous work as though it were new. When paraphrasing from another source or your own work, at the very least, the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Additionally, you should not submit a paper, or parts of a paper, written to fulfill the requirements of one class for the requirements in another class without prior approval of the current instructor and appropriate citation. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. Plagiarism is one type of academic misconduct described in SIUE's Student Academic Code (<http://www.siu.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>). University policy states that "Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of F in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost." (<http://www.siu.edu/policies/1i6.shtml>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University. To insure that you understand how to avoid plagiarism, we encourage you to review the information on plagiarism provided on the Department of Psychology web page at <http://www.siu.edu/education/psychology/plagiarism.shtml>.

The Psychology Department's Policy on Incomplete Grades and Withdrawal:

All withdrawals must be completed by the end of the 13th week of classes during fall and spring, and by a similarly late date (i.e., before 82% of class meetings have occurred) in any summer term. Grades that apply to students who initiate a withdrawal and grades that apply when a student fails to officially withdraw within established deadlines are determined by university policy (see <http://www.siu.edu/policies/1j1.shtml>). The granting of a grade of I (Incomplete) is not automatic. It is available only in cases when a student has completed most of the work required for a class but is prevented by a medical or similar emergency from completing a small portion of the coursework before the deadline for grade submission. An I must be approved by the instructor with appropriate documentation provided by the student. If an instructor agrees to give a student an I, the instructor will fill out a Memorandum of Incomplete Grade to be kept with the student's records. If the work is not completed by the time specified on the Memorandum, the student's grade will be changed from I to F.

Accessibility and Disability Support Services:

Students with documented disabilities should notify the instructor to request accommodations at the beginning of the course. To request accommodations please contact the Access office, Student Success Center, Room 1270 (phone: 618-650-3726, website: <http://www.siu.edu/access/>).

The Psychology Department's Writing Policy:

As a student in this course, you will be expected to display university-level writing, which includes completing course assignments that meet the following basic writing criteria. Specifically, all written assignments completed for this course (i.e., online discussion posts) should include:

- Clear transitions from sentence to sentence and idea to idea (e.g., discussion board posts flow well);
- Verb tense consistency;
- Clear and unambiguous sentence ideas;
- Writing that is free of typos, spelling errors, and major grammatical errors;

- Properly formatted citations and references (if relevant).

This is by no means an exhaustive list of basic writing skills, but will give you an idea of what we are looking for in our papers. If you feel you need help with your writing, you are encouraged to seek assistance from the Writing Center on campus (<http://www.siue.edu/is/writing>) or utilize one of the many online resources they have identified to help students (<http://www.siue.edu/lss/writing/resources.shtml>). If your graded written assignments fail to meet basic writing requirements listed above (and any others found to be appropriate by your instructor), the instructor will stop the grading process and return the paper to you (see below for specific policy for this class).

The penalty for unacceptable writing in this class is as follows: If more than three writing errors are found in an online discussion post, grading will cease and the post will receive a grade equal to 50% of the total point value for the assignment (i.e., 5 points).

Grading

Your grade is based on the total number of points you earn during the semester while completing the following course requirements:

- **Syllabus Quiz (0 points):** In order to access course material, students must first complete a quiz on the course syllabus. This quiz will be available on Blackboard on the first day of the course. **Please complete the quiz by the end of the first week (by Sunday, December 22).** Students must earn a passing score (i.e., 70% or greater) on the syllabus quiz in order to gain access to course material. Students have up to three chances to pass the syllabus quiz. Students who do not earn a passing score on the syllabus quiz or do not complete the quiz during the first week may be dropped from the course by the instructor.
- **Exams (60 points each):** Three exams will be administered. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and/or short answer questions. Each exam will cover all new material presented since the previous exam (or, for the first exam, since the beginning of the course); in other words, exams will not be cumulative.
- **Web Quizzes (10 points each):** Eight web quizzes, each comprised of ten multiple choice or true/false questions drawn from the text, assigned readings, and lecture presentations, will be administered via Blackboard. Quiz openings will be announced on Blackboard, and they will cover material currently under review in posted lectures and assigned readings.
- **Online Discussion Posts (10 points each):** A discussion board with a question or questions to spark conversation will be created for each major chapter/topic. Students will contribute their thoughts, questions, opinions, insights, etc., to five of these boards. Each post is worth 10 points. To receive full credit, **a student's contribution should comprise at least two substantive paragraphs.** (Three or four sentences is not an acceptable length.) Each post should include at least one outside source (e.g., reputable website, journal article, etc.) that contributes additional information to what is presented in lecture and the textbook. Student posts will be graded based on a demonstration of sound reasoning/logic, introduction of new or novel ideas (including integration of at least one outside source per post), thoughtfully responding to issues raised in others' posts, etc.

Grading Scale:

Grades will be determined by the following point allocations; percentages are listed only for reference. Grades will not be rounded up or curved.

		<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Points</u>
Exam 1	60 points	A 90-100	278-310
Exam 2	60 points	B 80-89	247-277
Exam 3	60 points	C 70-79	216-246
Online Discussion Posts (5)	50 points	D 60-69	185-215
Web Quizzes (8)	80 points	F 0-59	000-184
Total Points	310 points		

Feedback and Grading Timeline:

Discussion board grades with feedback will be posted within three business days of the discussion due date. You can find your grade by clicking the My Grades link on the left menu of the Blackboard course. You can click on the assignment name (or the message bubble for discussion posts) to see my feedback.

Participation and Expectations:

To maximize your learning – and your performance on exams – you are strongly encouraged to carefully review all lectures posted to Blackboard. Exams are written to emphasize material presented during lecture. I do not post lecture slides/notes, but I encourage you to take notes while watching the recorded lectures.

Even though this class is delivered in an online format, I want you to actively participate and engage in the learning process, just like you would in person. A student who actively participates and engages in the learning process reads the relevant sections of the textbook and/or readings as they are assigned; completes all online activities and quizzes by the dates they are due; and asks any relevant questions via email.

Please demonstrate respect and professionalism toward me and your fellow students. In turn, you should expect that I will treat you with respect and act professionally in our interactions.

Course Schedule:

Subject to Change Notice:

All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if assignments or due dates change.

Note: S&S = Schultz & Schultz (2017)

Week	Topics/Readings	Assignments
Week 1 (December 16-22)	<i>Read:</i> Course Syllabus S & S – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 <i>Topics:</i> Course Overview/Syllabus What is Personality? Sigmund Freud Carl Jung Alfred Adler	Syllabus Quiz (opens 12/16) Web Quiz 1 – Chapters 1 and 2 (opens 12/16) Web Quiz 2 – Chapter 3 (opens 12/16) Web Quiz 3 – Chapter 4 (opens 12/16) Exam 1 – Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 (available 12/20, 12/21, and 12/22) – CLOSES 12/22 at 11:59pm
Week 2 (December 23-29)	<i>Read:</i> S & S – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 <i>Topics:</i> Erik Erikson Gordon Allport Cattell, Eysenck, & Other Trait Theorists Abraham Maslow Carl Rogers	Web Quiz 4 – Chapters 6 and 7 (opens 12/23) Web Quiz 5 – Chapter 8 (opens 12/23) Web Quiz 6 – Chapters 9 and 10 (opens 12/23) Exam 2 – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 (available 12/27, 12/28, and 12/29) – CLOSES 12/29 at 11:59pm
Week 3 (December 30 - January 5)	<i>Read:</i> S & S Chapters 12, 13, 14 <i>Topics:</i> B. F. Skinner Albert Bandura Mini-theories Personality in Organizations (not in textbook)	Web Quiz 7 – Chapters 12 and 13 (opens 12/30) Web Quiz 8 – Chapter 14 (opens 12/30) Exam 3 – Chapters 12, 13, 14 and Personality in Organizations (available 1/3, 1/4, and 1/5) – CLOSES 1/5 at 11:59pm

Group discussion boards will open at the beginning of each week for the topics covered that week. All Web Quizzes and discussion board posts are due by 11:59pm on the last day of the course (Sunday, January 5).

Academic and Other Student Services:

As an enrolled SIUE student, you have a variety of services and support available to you, including:

- Library Resources - <http://www.siu.edu/lovejoylibrary/>
- Academic Success Sessions - <http://www.siu.edu/retention/sass/index.shtml>
- The Writing Center - <http://www.siu.edu/lss/writing/index.shtml>
- Advising - <http://www.siu.edu/advising/>
- Financial Aid - <https://www.siu.edu/financialaid/>
- Campus Events - <http://www.siu.edu/events/>
- Counseling - <https://www.siu.edu/counseling/>