

Course Information

Course title: Psychology of Personality
Course number: PSY321
Course discipline: Psychology
Course description: Catalog Course Description
This course reviews multiple perspectives of personality, including psychodynamics, trait behavioral, cognitive, and phenomenological approaches.

Program Linking Statement

This course develops and assesses the skills and competencies for the program student learning outcomes of Life Span Development and Applied Psychology. In addition, this course also addresses the program student learning outcomes of: 1) Scientific Method and its Application in the Field of Psychology; and 2) Cross-Cultural Psychology.

Course Overview

This course will provide an overview of the major theoretical perspectives related to personality. Through the use of online activities, reading, and writing, students will have an opportunity to explore different approaches to the scientific study of personality from a multidisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective with a focus on understanding human behavior.

General approaches to the study of personality that we will study include the following:

The Trait Approach

The Biological Approach

The Psychoanalytic Approach

The Humanistic Approach

The Behavioral/Social Learning Approach

The Cognitive Approach

Course date: Monday, July 2, 2012 through Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Location: Online

Meeting day(s): N/A

Meeting time(s): N/A

Prerequisite(s): PSY101

Instructor Information

Name: Dale Fryxell

Email: dfryxell@chaminade.edu

Office location: BS 115

Office hours: By appointment

Phone: 808 739-4678(o), 808 342-8549(c)

Biography: Dr. Fryxell is a full-time Professor in the Psychology Department at Chaminade University. His area of specialization is community psychology. Dr. Fryxell's current research interests include: anger/aggression/violence,

developmental disabilities, drug and alcohol prevention, and child and adolescent behavioral problems.

Textbooks

Required reading: *The Personality Puzzle (5th ed.)*, Funder, D. C. , W.W. Norton & Co., 2010, ISBN:978-0-393-93348-2

Student Learning Objectives

Course goals: Student performance, relative to the following specific Student Learning Objectives, will be assessed. You will be asked, at various points throughout the course to demonstrate through quizzes, papers, and activities, what you have learned in this course. Student will demonstrate an understanding of:

1. The historical development of the study of personality.
2. The scientific method and its use in the assessment and study of personality.
3. The theoretical development of the several major perspectives for understanding and assessing personality.
4. The conditions necessary for optimal development of personality during the development process.
5. Current issues and research in the assessment and study of personality.
6. The role of culture in the development and assessment of personality.
7. The ethical issues related to the study of personality.
8. How the Five Marianist Educational Values are integrated into the course.

Marianist Educational Values

Chaminade University is a Catholic, Marianist University. The five characteristics of a Marianist education are:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith Catholic Universities affirm an intricate relationship between reason and faith. As important as discursive and logical formulations and critical thinking are, they are not able to capture all that can be and ought to be learned. Intellectual rigor coupled with respectful humility provide a more profound preparation for both career and life. Intellectual rigor characterizes the pursuit of all that can be learned. Respectful humility reminds people of faith that they need to learn from those who are of other faiths and cultures, as well as from those who may have no religious faith at all.
2. Provide an Excellent Education In the Marianist approach to education, "excellence" includes the whole person, not just the technician or rhetorician. Marianist universities educate whole persons, developing their physical, psychological, intellectual, moral, spiritual and social qualities. Faculty and students attend to fundamental moral attitudes, develop their personal talents and acquire skills that will help them learn all their lives. The Marianist approach to education links theory and practice, liberal and professional education. Our age has been deeply shaped by science and technology. Most recently, information and educational technologies have changed the way faculty and students research and teach. At Marianist Universities, two goals are pursued simultaneously: an appropriate use of information technology for learning, and the enhancement of interaction between students and teachers. As Catholic, Marianist Universities seek to embrace diverse peoples and understand diverse cultures, convinced that ultimately, when such people come together, one of the highest purposes

of education is realized: a human community that respects every individual within it.

3. Educate in Family Spirit Known for their strong sense of community, Marianists have traditionally spoken of this sense as "family spirit." Marianist educational experience fosters the development of a community characterized by a sense of family spirit that accepts each person with loving respect, and draws everyone in the university into the challenge of community building. Family spirit also enables Marianist universities to challenge their students, faculty and staff to excellence and maturity, because the acceptance and love of a community gives its members the courage to risk failure and the joy of sharing success.

4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace The Marianist approach to higher education is deeply committed to the common good. The intellectual life itself is undertaken as a form of service in the interest of justice and peace, and the university curriculum is designed to connect the classroom with the wider world. In addition, Marianist universities extend a special concern for the poor and marginalized and promote the dignity, rights and responsibilities of all people.

5. Educate for Adaptation to Change In the midst of rapid social and technological change, Marianist universities readily adapt and change their methods and structures so that the wisdom of their educational philosophy and spirituality may be transmitted even more fully. "New times call for new methods," Father Chaminade often repeated. The Marianist university faces the future confidently, on the one hand knowing that it draws on a rich educational philosophy, and on the other fully aware for that philosophy to remain vibrant in changing times, adaptations need to be made.

Selected from Characteristics of Marianist Universities: A Resource Paper, Published in 1999 by Chaminade University of Honolulu, St. Mary's University and University of Dayton

Each of these characteristics is integrated, to varying degrees, in this course.

Course Requirements

Introduction: Grades will be based on the quality of work and will be assigned based on a straight percentage using the following chart:

90% - 100% A
80% - 89% B
70% - 79% C
60% - 69% D
59% or below F

Requirements: Course Requirements
Grades for the course will be assigned based on the quality of student work as demonstrated by successful completion of the following requirements:

- A. Activities (3 @ 50 pts each) = 150 points
- B. Quizzes (19 @ 20 pts each) = 380 points
- C. Integrative Paper (1 @ 70 pts) = 70 points
- D. Final Exam (1 @ 100 pts) = 100 points

Total Points = 700

A. Activities (3 @ 50 points each = 150 points)

Three online activities will be completed during the semester. Each of the activities will be worth a maximum of 50 points. **No activities will be accepted after the due date.** All of the activities and papers should be submitted by depositing them in the ecollege dropbox (it is best to both copy and paste your paper into the dropbox textbox and also attach it as a document).

ACTIVITY 1: EXPLORING YOUR "BIG FIVE" PERSONALITY TRAITS

Take the "Big Five" Inventory and explore how the Big Five affect your relationships (<http://www.outofservice.com/bigfive/>). Read about your own Big Five personality traits and consider the validity and reliability of the Big Five theory. Introduce yourself in 3 pages including the "Big Five" and how they affect how you think, act, feel and behave.

ACTIVITY 2: EXPLORING YOUR SOMATOTYPE: Are there biological links to Personality? Do some research on Sheldon and his somatotype theory, then rate your own body type (i.e., 5-2-7) and the personality traits that are associated with it.

Discuss your results and your personal views on this theory of personality in a 3 page paper. You can find information on Sheldon's theory regarding somatotypes at sites such as these:

<http://www.kheper.net/topics/typology/somatotypes.html>

<http://www.bodybuilding.com/fun/becker3.htm>

<http://mysomatotype.com/page9.html>

<http://wilderdom.com/personality/L6-1PersonalityTypes.html>

ACTIVITY 3: PERSONALITY TESTS ONLINE Explore the types of personality tests on the web and select two tests. Take the tests and assess their validity and reliability. In your 3 page paper review the instruments and their reliability/validity. A variety of personality tests can be found at the following two sites: www.queendom.com/tests/personality/index.html or <http://inst.santafe.cc.fl.us/~mwehr/PersonalityTestsOnline.html>

B. Quizzes (19 @ 20 = 380) A quiz for each of the chapters should be completed on the ecollege site. Make sure that you are well prepared before starting each of the quizzes as you will have one hour to complete each quiz. Quizzes should be taken following the course calendar outline.

C. Final Integrative Paper (70 points) Each student will write a 5 page paper incorporating what they have learned in this class and how it has impacted their own personal theory on what makes people think, feel, and behave the way they do.

D. Final Exam (1 @ 100 points) - A multiple choice final exam will be held on Saturday, March 17.

Students with Disabilities Chaminade will provide assistance for any student with documented disabilities. Any student who believes he/she may need accommodations in this class must contact 735-4845 or Dr. June Yasuhara, 739-4603, at the Counseling Center (office next to Security) in order to determine if the student meets the requirements for documented disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is important to contact them as soon as possible so that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Course Calendar

Course
Calendar:

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Week #1 July 2

Read Chapter 1 - The Study of the Person

Read Chapter 2 - Clues to Personality

Take Chapter 1 & 2 Quizzes

Week #2 July 9

Read Chapter 3 - Personality Psychology as a Science

Read Chapter 4 - Personality Traits, Situation and Behavior

Take Chapter 3 & 4 Quizzes

Week #3 July 16

Read Chapter 5 - Personality Assessment I

Read Chapter 6 - Personality Assessment II

Take Chapter 5 & 6 Quizzes

Activity #1 due - July 22nd

Week #4 July 23

Read Chapter 7 - Using Personality Traits to Understand Behavior

Read Chapter 8 - The Anatomy and Physiology of Personality

Take Chapter 7 & 8 Quizzes

Week #5 July 30

Read Chapter 9 - The Inheritance of Personality

Read Chapter 10 - Basics of Psychoanalysis

Take Chapter 9 & 10 Quizzes

Activity #2 due - August 5th

Week #6 August 6

Read Chapter 11 - The Workings of the Unconscious Mind

Read Chapter 12 - Psychoanalysis after Freud

Take Chapter 11 & 12 Quizzes

Week #7 August 13

Read Chapter 13 - Experience, Existence, and the Meaning of Life

Read Chapter 14 - Cultural Variation

Take Chapter 13 & 14 Quizzes

Activity #3 due - August 19th

Week #8 August 20

Read Chapter 15 - Learning to be a Person

Read Chapter 16 - Personality Processes

Take Chapter 15 & 16 Quizzes

Week #9 August 27

Read Chapter 17 - What you know about you

Read Chapter 18 - Disorders of Personality

Take Chapter 17 & 18 Quizzes

Week #10 September 3

Read Chapter 19 - Conclusions

Take Chapter 19 Quiz

Final Exam - Saturday, September 8

Integrative Paper due – Saturday, September 8
