

PSY 32180

WE '00

RM

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
PSYCHOLOGY OF PERSONALITY**

**Text: PERSONALITY and PERSONAL GROWTH**

**Instructor: Roger O'Guin  
234-5645**

**TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE**

- Week 1 Introduction**
- Week 2 Chapter 2**
- Week 3 Chapter 3**
- Week 4 Chapters 6 & 7**
- Week 5 Chapter 8**
- Week 6 Chapter 9**
- Week 7 Chapter 10**
- Week 8 Chapter 12**
- Week 9 Chapter 13**
- Week 10 Chapter 14**

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY:** Attendance is important because this course has been designed to be participatory. *Any* predetermined absences must be coordinated with the instructor on the first day of class. Attendance includes *being on time and participating*. Because this is an accelerated course and due to university policy, any more than *two (2)* missed classes will constitute an incomplete grade or a failure. It is the responsibility of the student to *check in with the instructor if late arriving for class. Turn off all pagers and cell phones when arriving to class. Please remove wrist watches when arriving to class as well.* This syllabus is your contract with the instructor! Should you lose it, it is your responsibility to obtain another one.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To develop an understanding of the theories of personality psychology.**
- 2. To develop an ability to critically evaluate personality theory using scientific methods to avoid drawing false conclusions about natural events.**
- 3. To develop personal constructs regarding personality theory.**
- 4. To learn to apply psychological theories to life in a practical manner.**

**OVERALL GRADES WILL BE FORMULATED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERION.**

***Term Paper...one third of grade.***

Term papers must be seven pages (7), in length, typed, and double spaced. Keep in mind that this is a university level curriculum. Poor grammar, poor syntax, poor punctuation and misspellings do not lend themselves to this level of academics. Term papers are due by week *eight* (8). The topic of individual papers will be chosen by the student, however, the content of the thesis *must* be consistent with a philosophy from the text and must include one or more characters from a film shown in class. Papers turned in late will drop one letter grade for each weeks delay!

***Weekly Summaries...one third of grade.***

Each weeks reading assignment will correlate with the text. For instance, week 2 will be spent critiquing chapter 2. Weekly summaries need to be complete *prior* to coming to class. Students should be prepared to verbally participate regarding the topics from the previous weeks reading and then hand in the appropriate summary. Papers turned in late will drop one letter grade for each week delayed!

***Participation...one third of grade.***

Students should be prepared to openly and objectively discuss each section of the text weekly. All classes will consist of open dialogue on the materials studied the previous week. This may include working in groups on assigned projects or reporting on appropriate films. Being able to discuss the material indicates comprehension. This is an important third of the grade because it replaces standard mid-term and final examination measurements.

The scientific method is a set of assumptions and rules about collecting and evaluating data. The explicitly stated assumptions and rules enable a standard, systematic method of investigation that is designed to reduce bias as much as possible. Central to the scientific method is the collection of data, which allows investigators to put their ideas to an empirical test, outside of or apart from their personal biases. In essence, stripped of all its glamour, scientific inquiry is nothing more than a way of limiting false conclusions about natural events.

Scientific research has four general goals: to describe behavior, to predict behavior, to determine the cause of behavior, and to understand or explain behavior.

All final papers therefore will embody these four methods in Behavioral Research.

## Student Contract

I have read and *thoroughly* understand the Course Syllabus.

I understand that it is my responsibility to arrive to class on time, and if *late*, to inform the instructor. I understand that continuing lateness **WILL** cause a letter grade reduction. I understand that I can miss **NO MORE** than (2) *two* classes, and, that missing two classes does not mean that my grade will not be affected regarding my overall attendance/participation. Each class missed constitutes a (10%), **ten** percent reduction in the overall third of grade for attendance.

I understand that should I fail to turn in assignments on time, that it will cause the score to drop one letter grade for each two week delinquency per summary, and each week for final papers. Chapter summaries **not** turned in will cause a (10%) **ten** percent reduction in the overall third of grade for each missing paper.

I understand that if I am counseled on using poor grammar, poor syntax, poor punctuation, misspellings, etc., and I do not take corrective action, that it will cause a letter grade reduction for each paper that contains *continuing errors*. Composition is important at this level of academics. Common language, *street talk*, is not to be used when writing papers or summaries. I also understand that brevity will cause a reduction in letter grade for each summary or paper.

I understand that if I **choose NOT** to participate verbally, that my overall participation, attendance will descend one letter grade. Verbally participating is the instructors method by which to gauge my comprehension of the materials discussed in classes. I likewise agree not to blame other students for monopolizing class time should I decide not to speak up.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_