

Psychology 431.02 - Personality  
Credit Hours: 3  
Summer 2008  
Instructor: Lisa Kan, M.A.

Location: University Center  
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appointment (it will ***always*** be best to  
schedule an appointment to ensure that I will  
be free at that time)

**Course Description:**

Psychology 431 is designed to introduce the student to the study of personality. This course examines important personality theorists and their respective theories. The course delves into explanations of personality development, stability, and change across the lifespan.

**Course Objectives:**

- 1) Gain an understanding of influential personality theorists and their contributions.
- 2) Be able to differentiate between the major personality theories.
- 3) Be able to apply concepts from the major theories to explain behavior.
- 4) Develop an awareness of future directions of personality research in light of past developments in the field.

**Required Texts:**

Ryckman, R. M. (2008). *Theories of personality* (9th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Higher Education.

Any additional readings will be available online via SHSU Blackboard.

**Required Supplies:**

Each exam will require one small Blue Book, one Scantron form (882-E), and #2 pencils with good erasers.

**Evaluation of Course Performance:**

1. Three exams – 25% each. Exams will include both multiple-choice questions and short essay(s). Questions will be taken from materials covered in the text and during lecture. If you miss the exam for a legitimate emergency (e.g., hospitalization, family emergency) **AND** you notify me ***within 24 hours*** of the beginning of class on exam day, you may make-up the in-class portion of ***one*** exam. Failure to contact me or provide acceptable documentation for the absence will result in an automatic 0 for the exam. If you fail to

make up the exam at the scheduled time, it will also result in an automatic 0 for the exam. I reserve the right to change the format of make-up exams.

2. Paper – 25%. You will pick one of the theories we cover in class and evaluate your chosen theory based on the criteria listed in Chapter 1 (p. 17 – 18). Paper must be in APA style (see *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*). I will submit your papers to [www.Turnitin.com](http://www.Turnitin.com), a program that detects plagiarism. If you plagiarize, you will receive an automatic 0 for the paper and be reported for academic dishonesty to the Department Chair and/or the Dean's office.

### **Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is expected. Attendance will be taken in every class at random times, and ***you will not be allowed to sign in if you are not present when the sign-in sheet is distributed.*** You will not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when exams or other assigned class work have not been missed. However, if you miss 3 or more classes, your grade will drop by one letter grade, and you will not be able to earn any extra credit. If you miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from a classmate.

### **Grading Policy:**

The final semester grade will be based on the average of the three exams and paper. Your grade will drop by one letter grade if you miss 3 or more classes, and you will not be able to earn any extra credit. You can earn up to 5 points extra credit by participating in research activities or mock therapy. If you make an appointment for a research study and/or mock therapy and you fail to attend in a timely fashion, you will forfeit the opportunity to earn extra credit for the remainder of the semester.

A = 89.5-100 B = 79.5 to 89.49 C = 69.5 to 79.49 D = 59.5 to 69.49 F =  $\leq$  59.49

The .5 rounding rule will be strictly followed (i.e., 89.4999 is a "B").

### **Study Tips:**

You are advised to read chapters prior to class. High-lighting text or making notes in the margin will assist you when later studying for exams. If you are encountering academic difficulty, please schedule an appointment with me and/or visit the SAM Center.

**Instructor Evaluation:**

Toward the end of the semester, you will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation using IDEA, the faculty evaluation system for SHSU.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

- June 04 Introduction to class  
Chapter 1: Personality and the Scientific Outlook  
Chapter 2: Freud's Psychoanalytic Theory
- 11 Chapter 3: Jung's Analytical Psychology  
Chapter 4: Alder's Individual Psychology
- 18 Chapter 5: Horney's Social and Cultural Psychoanalysis  
Chapter 6: Erikson's Psychoanalytic Ego Psychology
- 25 **EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-6)**  
Chapter 8: Allport's Trait Theory
- July 02 **ROUGH DRAFT OF PAPER DUE**  
Chapter 9: Cattell's Structure-Based Systems Theory  
Chapter 10: Eysenck's Biological Typology  
Chapter 11: Kelly's Theory of Personal Constructs
- 09 Chapter 12: Maslow's Self-Actualization Position  
Chapter 13: Rogers's Person-Centered Theory
- 16 **EXAM 2 (Chapters 8-13)**  
Chapter 14: May's Existential-Analytic Position
- 23 Chapter 15: Skinner's Operant Analysis  
Chapter 16: Rotter's Expectancy-Reinforcement Value Model
- 30 **FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE**  
Chapter 17: Bandura's Social-Cognitive Theory  
Chapter 18: Theory and Research in Contemporary Personality Psychology
- Aug 06 **EXAM 3 (Chapters 14-18)**

Any changes to the proposed outline will be discussed in class. It is your responsibility to be aware of changes.

### **Academic Honesty:**

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

#### Cheating includes:

- Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs.
- Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
- Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.
- Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.
- Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test.
  - Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
  - Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

Plagiarism means the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.

Collusion means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.

### **Rules of Conduct:**

Conduct that interferes with a classroom environment conducive to learning will not be allowed. Examples include use of electronic devices that create undue distraction (e.g., cell phones, mp3 players, etc.), excessive talking, and note passing. *I reserve the right to answer any calls or read any text messages aloud during class.* You are expected to respect everyone's perspectives, even if you disagree with it. You may be asked to leave if you engage in disrespectful behaviors, which will result in an absence for that class.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

### **Religious Holidays:**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911(a)(2) defines religious holy days as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code . . ." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a will notify the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

### **Visitors in the Classroom:**

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at my discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.