Professor: Shannon Akin, PhD  
Class Location: SS124  
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COURSE INFORMATION

ISBN: 9780205254781

Course Description: Three semester hours. The various approaches to the study of personality and a consideration of its determinants, development, and assessment for the framework of the course. The primary objective is to assist students in the conceptual learning development that involves differentiating between main schools of thought in personality theory. Furthermore, recognizing the relevance of psychological research as it relates to psychology of personality research specifically with considerations to culture and diversity.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading:  
1. Reaction Papers: Over the course of the semester all students are required to write, turn in, and present brief reaction papers for each personality theory presented. These are reaction papers not research papers. Students will be required to give a brief synopsis of their papers orally chosen randomly throughout the semester. Depending on the number of students, each student will present at least one time during the semester. ALL students will be required to turn in these ½ page single spaced or 1 full page double spaced reaction papers for each chapter covered in the semester. For example, when we discuss person-centered perspectives of personality development you will address the main points of the theory and your “take” or “perspective” of the theory as well as how it relates to you. The purpose of the reaction paper is to apply the concepts in a given chapter
to your own life (e.g., past experience, expectations, ideas of how the concepts can be applied in other areas of life, research ideas). There is no specific requirement for these papers except to show that you have thought about the concepts presented in chapter. Each paper is worth 10 points for a total of 100 points toward your final grade.

2. A final presentation due (presented) by December 17, 2015
In this presentation (solo or in a small group) you will (1) compare and contrast two personality theories from your text book, (2) describe the concept(s), (3) describe how the concept(s) you learned in this class apply to your understanding of personality development. This research project is worth 100 points toward your final grade.

3. Exams: There will be two exams and a comprehensive final exam. Each exam will consist of 50-100 multiple choice questions, and are worth 100 points each.
Exam 1 Monday October 12th
Exam 2 Monday November 30th
Comprehensive Final Exam: Monday December 14th

4. Attendance and Participation: Learning is an activity not a passive experience. Your attendance is integral to your success in this course. Points will be given for active participation that supplements the lectures and understanding of all students as well as your attendance.

Assessment:
Reaction Papers: 100 points
10 papers throughout the semester
Final Project: 100 points
Exams: 200 points
Attendance/Participation: 50 points

A = 450-405
B = 404-360
C = 359-315
D = 314-252
F = 251 and below

EXTRA CREDIT

There is a small amount of extra credit available for this course that will be added to your attendance and participation grade based on your participation in ongoing research studies offered at TAMU-C.
COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor:
Please feel welcome to contact me by email or phone. All email should receive a response within 48 hours. If you have not received a response then assume your email did not go through and please try again to make contact. All email should include student’s last name, first name, course name, and brief description of the reason for contact. Also, I will have office hours immediately after class Monday evening.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Student Behavior:
My expectations in this area should be very simple to fulfill. (1) Immaturity will NOT be tolerated! If a student’s behavior is disrupting the class, he/she will be asked to stop. (2) Respect: Given the nature of this course, we may discuss issues that some of you may find embarrassing, uncomfortable, and/or even “inappropriate.” To remain in this class, you must be respectful of others and maintain a mature and professional manner at all times. Failure to do so will result in your expulsion from the course. (3) The Student’s Guidebook addresses the issues of academic cheating and plagiarism. These are a breach of conduct, and students are subject to disciplinary actions. It’s simple. Do NOT cheat (to cheat is to act dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain an advantage) or plagiarize (to plagiarize is to take the work or idea of someone else and pass it off as one’s own)!

Changes to Class:
Minor changes may be made to this schedule; modifications will be announced on eCollege.

Procedure 34.05.99.R1 now prohibits the use of vapor/electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco inside and adjacent to any building owned, leased, or operated by A&M – Commerce.

Students with Disabilities:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:
Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library-Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
**WEEK 1:** August 31<sup>st</sup>
**Lecture 1:** Introductions, Syllabus, Text Introduction
[NOTE: NO REACTION PAPERS FOR THIS WEEK]

**WEEK 2:** September 7<sup>th</sup>
**Lecture 2:** Chapter 1 Freud and Psychoanalysis
1<sup>st</sup> Reaction Paper Due

**WEEK 3:** September 14<sup>th</sup>
**Lecture 3:** Chapter 2 Jung and Analytic Psychology
2<sup>nd</sup> Reaction Paper Due

**WEEK 4:** September 21<sup>st</sup>
**Lecture 4:** Chapter 3 Adler and Individual Psychology
3<sup>rd</sup> Reaction Paper Due
Sign up for Final Project Subjects/Groups

**WEEK 5:** September 28<sup>th</sup>
**Lecture 5:** Horney and Humanistic Psychoanalysis
4<sup>th</sup> Reaction Paper Due

**WEEK 6:** October 5<sup>th</sup>
**Lecture 6:** Erikson and the Life Cycle/William James Psychology of Consciousness
5<sup>th</sup> Reaction Paper Due

**WEEK 7:** 12<sup>th</sup>
Review
1<sup>st</sup> Exam

**WEEK 8:** October 19<sup>th</sup>
**Lecture 7:** Skinner and Radical Behaviorism
6<sup>th</sup> Reaction Paper Due

**WEEK 9:** October 26<sup>th</sup>
**Lecture 8:** Bandura and Social Cognitive Psychology/Beck and Cognitive Therapy
7<sup>th</sup> Reaction Paper Due
WEEK 10: November 2\textsuperscript{nd}  
Lecture 9: Kelly and Personal Construction Psychology  
8\textsuperscript{th} Reaction Paper Due

WEEK 11: November 9\textsuperscript{th}  
Lecture 9: Rogers and Person-centered perspective/Maslow and Transpersonal psychology  
9\textsuperscript{th} Reaction Paper Due

WEEK 12: November 16\textsuperscript{th}  
Lecture 10: Yoga and the Hindu Tradition/Zen and the Buddhist Tradition  
10\textsuperscript{th} Reaction Paper Due

WEEK 13: November 23\textsuperscript{rd}  
Library/Research/Group Day  
NO REACTION PAPER DUE

WEEK 14: November 30\textsuperscript{th}  
Review  
2\textsuperscript{nd} Exam

WEEK 15: December 7\textsuperscript{th}  
Individual/Group Presentations

WEEK 16: December 14\textsuperscript{th}  
Comprehensive Final Exam

If you are doing online research for extra credit for the class, documentation of these are due by Monday Thursday December 7\textsuperscript{th} 7:00 pm.

NO CLASS WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER Monday December 7\textsuperscript{th}.

Students’ Guide to Research Participation for Extra Credit  
Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education  
Texas A&M University-Commerce

- **What is Research Participation?**  
Exposure to research is essential to your gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of psychology. It is how we add new knowledge in psychology. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise. We believe there are two key ways to experience research activity at this level: 1) read about related scientific investigations; 2) experience research as a volunteer participant;
or some combination of both. The class in which you received this handout offers extra credit through one or both of these activities.

- **What if I am not yet 18 years old?**
  In order to participate in research you must be at least 18 years old. If you are not yet 18 years old, please see your instructor, and ask him/her about alternative ways of earning extra credit.

- **In what type of research studies will I participate?**
  All studies you will participate in have been reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Institutional Review Board (IRB) and by the Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education. Studies vary widely. Many involve completing questionnaires or carrying out tasks on the computer. Some are even fun, and you’ll learn something from all of them.

- **What are my rights as a research participant?**
  Your participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from any study at any time. Your data will be kept confidential. If you have any further questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB head, Carmen Salazar (Carmen.Salazar@tamuc.edu). More information about your rights will be provided to you prior to each study for which you sign up.

- **How will my research participation credit be calculated?**
  You will receive 1 credit for each hour of research participation. Studies lasting 15 minutes or less are worth 0.25 credit. For example, a 15 min. study = 0.25 research credits; 30 min. = 0.5 credits; 45 min. = 0.75 credits; 60min = 1 credit; 1½ hours = 1.5 credits... etc.

- **How many research credits may I complete?**
  You are encouraged to participate in as much research as you wish, but your instructor will inform you of how many credits are offered for extra credit.

- **What if I do not wish to participate in research studies?**
  Participation in research is voluntary. Your instructor is offering you the opportunity to earn extra credit by participating in research (and helping psychology).

- **How do I find and sign up for research participation opportunities?**
  Throughout the semester, researchers in the Psychology Department will post their research studies in the Experiment Management System (EMS) online. It is up to you to check the EMS regularly to find and sign up for research studies that fit into your schedule. Detailed instructions for how to use the EMS are listed in the following pages of this handout.
What if I cannot go to a study I signed up for?
If for whatever reason you cannot attend a study that you have signed up for you need to cancel your appointment before the start of the study. There are 2 ways to cancel an appointment. First, if you cancel 24 hours before a study you can do this online through the Experiment Management System (EMS) website. Second, if it is the same day of the study you can call or email the experimenter – their contact information will be available in the EMS.
How do I use the Experiment Management System (EMS)?

(Create a new participant account unless you already have one and your login information works. If you do not remember your login information click on the “lost your password?” on the front page of the EMS website and follow the directions on the site, and if that does not work email curt.carlson@tamu.edu. A list of courses will be presented, from which you must select the courses you are taking this semester for which you will receive credit for participation. If your course is not listed, see the instructor for that course.)

A. How to create a participant account on the EMS

1. Go to http://tamu-commerce.sona-systems.com/
   a. Click on New Participant “request an account here” link on the left of the screen.
   b. This takes you to a screen on which you must enter your name, a unique User ID, your University ID number, and primary email address (reminders of studies you sign up for will be sent to that email address). You will also need to highlight the course(s) in which you are enrolled, and for which you will be earning credits. If more than one, highlight all that will be involving you in research participation. However, each study in which you participate will only provide you credit for ONE course. In other words, there is no “double-dipping” allowed. BE CAREFUL TO SELECT THE CORRECT COURSE AND SECTION # – IF YOU CHOOSE THE WRONG ONE, YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT BE INFORMED OF YOUR CREDITS! After you submit your information, you will be emailed your login information. (After you have received your login information, I recommend that you login into EMS and go to your “Profile” and change your password to something that you can remember.)

If you encounter any problems with creating your account (e.g., login information not sent to you), contact the EMS administrator, curt.carlson@tamu.edu with your full name and a detailed description of the problem.

2. When you first log into the EMS at the beginning of the semester you will be asked to take a prescreen survey. This is a short survey that researchers will use to decide if you meet the specified requirements for some studies (e.g., as a researcher I may only allow participants who are female. If you do not complete the prescreen you will not be eligible to participate in this study). In other words, if you do not complete the prescreen you will have fewer studies that you are eligible to participate in. IF YOU COMPLETE THE PRESCREEN IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER YOU WILL GET 0.5 CREDIT. Take it even if you have done it before – it has probably changed, and you will still earn the 0.5 credit.
3. You are now ready to use the EMS to sign-up for research studies.

B. Sign-up for studies—login to the EMS with your User ID and password that was emailed to you after creating your account

1. Click Study Sign-Up. A list of all available studies for which you qualify will appear. You can sign-up by clicking on either the study name or Timeslots Available, and you will go to a new screen showing more information about the study, with a link to View Time Slots for This Study.

2. Click the Sign-Up button to schedule your time. You should then write down or print out the study information (name of study, place, time, name and contact information of experimenter, etc.) that appears in the final window. You will also receive an email reminder the day before the study time you have selected.

C. Canceling a Sign-Up (MUST be done if you know you will not show up)

1. If you need to cancel a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the My Schedule and Credits page. Choose the My Schedule and Credits option from top toolbar.

2. You will see listed all of the studies for which you have signed up, as well as those you have completed (see the Tracking Your Progress section below for more information).

3. Studies for which you have signed up that you are allowed to cancel will have a Cancel button next to them. If you cannot attend the study session you signed up for, you need to cancel it, either within the EMS system or by contacting the researcher directly prior to the start of the study. Keep in mind that there is a time limit before the study is to occur, when it is too late to cancel online. This restriction is listed at the bottom of the page (it can be 24 hours before your timeslot, or much less, such as just 2-4 hours). If you cannot cancel online please email or call the experimenter to cancel. IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL ONLINE, BY EMAIL, OR OVER THE PHONE BEFORE THE START OF THE STUDY YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS A “NO SHOW.”

4. If you cancel the first part of a two-part study, the second part will also be cancelled. If you cancel the second part of a two-part study, the first part will not be cancelled, but you will need to ask the researcher to sign you up for the second part again, if you would like to participate in it at a later date. However, this is up to the researcher.

D. Tracking Your Progress

1. You may track your progress at any time by choosing the My Schedule and Credits option from the top toolbar.
3. When you view this page, you will see at the top a list of the number of credits you are required to earn, and how many you have earned so far. Below that, if you have signed up for any studies, those are listed as well. In the list of studies, you will see information about your credit status. If you have a no show for a study you will see that the status for that study is “failure to appear.”

Note: Your login session will expire after a certain period of inactivity, usually 20-60 minutes. This is done for security purposes. If this happens, you can always log in again. When you are finished using the system, it is better to explicitly log out, to prevent any problems that may arise if someone uses your computer before the session expires. This is especially important if you are using a public computer lab.

E. Frequently Asked Questions

1. Immediately after I login, as soon as I click on any menu option, I am taken back to the login page and I see a message that my authentication has expired. What does this mean?

Your web browser is not properly configured to accept cookies. You should turn on cookies in your web browser, use a different web browser (for example, try Firefox if you are currently using Internet Explorer), or try a different computer. Detailed instructions can be found if you go to the site and enter the URL “cookie_help.asp” in place of “default.asp” in the address bar of the browser, when you are on the front page of the site.

2. I participated in a study, but I have yet to receive credit. How do I receive credit?

The researcher must grant you credit. This is usually done within a few days after your participation. If it has been some time and you have still not received credit, contact the researcher (his or her contact information should be listed when you click on the study name within the system).

3. How do I change the email address where email notifications from the system are sent?

You can change the email address where notifications are sent by going to My Profile and editing the email address you see there.

4. I forgot where and when a study is that I signed up for. What do I do?

If you forget when or where your study is, check your e-mail for the EMS reminder, or logon to EMS and check your appointments.

5. Should I keep some sort of record of my participation and credits earned?

The system will keep track of the credits you earn and your instructor will have access at the end of the semester to a report of credits earned by students enrolled in the class.
It is a good idea, however, to occasionally print a personal copy of your credits earned and hold on to that printout as a back up to the system.

6. I showed up for a study on time, and no one was there! What do I do?

First refer to your information about that study session, to make sure you are in the right place at the right time. If you are, then wait at least 10 minutes for the researcher. If they are still not there at that point, you can leave and must send them an email within 24 hours, stating that you were present at the correct place and time for the study (refer to the study name). It is up to the researcher to try to reschedule with you.