

University of Toledo
College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences
Department of Psychology
PSY 3200-911
Personality and Individual Differences
(3 Credit Hours)
Syllabus*

“The human mind is like an umbrella – it functions best when open ” ~ Walter Gropius, German-American Architect

“Your identity issues come to the forefront. You’re a manifestation of your beliefs, your personal history, past choices and ancestry” ~ Holiday Mathis

“Discussion is an exchange of knowledge, an argument an exchange of ignorance ” ~ Robert Quillen

“Rules are not necessarily sacred, principles are ” ~ President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Instructor: Dr. M. Tiamiyu

Office Hours: W, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm & by appointment

Office Location: UH 1063

Course Website: <https://blackboard.utdl.edu>

Instructor’s Personal Website: <http://homepages.utoledo.edu/mtiamiy/>

Term: Summer Session 1 2014

Class Location/Times: DL Online

Office Phone: 419-530-2853

Email: Blackboard Course Web site (*Messages*)

Teaching Assistant: Joanna Piedmont

Office Location: UH 5280

Office Hours: TBA

Email: Blackboard Course Web site (*Messages Tool*)

COURSE/CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Overview of major theoretical ideas and empirical research in personality and individual differences.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This online course is an overview of major theoretical ideas and empirical research on human personality and individual differences (UT General Catalog). We will get to review the philosophical orientations of personality theorists, analyze the major contributions of these theorists, critique their works from a variety of perspectives, and examine some empirical personality and individual differences research. This course would provide an opportunity for students to apply personality theories and research findings not only to careers in psychology, but also to many others such as teaching, nursing, medicine, social work, education, law enforcement, and parenthood.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the major theoretical ideas of some classical human personality and individual differences theorists;
2. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the applications of human personality and individual differences theories and empirical research based on these theories;
3. Relate course materials to personal perspectives on human personality and individual differences;
4. Demonstrate skills in communicating using written materials to discuss topics related to human personality and individual differences;
5. Utilize critical thinking skills in the application of human personality and individual differences theories and empirical research based on these theories.
6. Demonstrate ability to follow directions, including those regarding group discussions, exams and the special project.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Ryckman, R. (2013). *Theories of Personality* (10th Ed). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning [ISBN-978-1-111-83066-3]

TEACHING STRATEGIES

This fully online course is designed to stimulate student learning through the web-based delivery of readings, as well as collaborative activities involving asynchronous discussion and group projects.

Readings: Readings will be organized according to the course calendar provided towards the end of this syllabus, and any necessary changes will be announced ahead of time. Each student is responsible for completing the assigned reading.

Class Discussion Board: The class discussion board on our Blackboard (Bb) course Website will be the forum for students to introduce themselves to the class during the first two weeks of classes. No on-campus meetings will be required.

Group Discussion Board. Each student will be assigned to a group by the beginning of week two. The group discussion board on our Blackboard course Website will be the forum for students to discuss among their GROUP members, the posted discussion issues / questions which will be graded. If a student considers any issue / question to be "sensitive," please share only what you feel comfortable sharing; you can also generalize your response rather than particularizing it to you. In addition, when you are addressing a particular course mate's response / comment, refer to that individual by his or her first name, and if there are two students in your group with the same first name (e.g., Mary), distinguish them by also using the first letter of their last name (e.g., Mary M. or Mary F.) You will lose points if it is not clear that you have responded to the minimum number of course mates. No on-campus meetings will be required.

Format of Postings:

Each student should first click on "reply" to respond to the initial FFT posting any time from 12:00 AM on Monday up till 5:00 PM on Wednesday of the applicable week on the group discussion board. Thereafter, starting from 5:01 PM on Wednesday up till 5:00 PM on Friday of that week, students should click on "reply" to respond to the postings of at least two of their course mates (click on the Grading Rubric: Group Discussion link on Bb for additional information). This format will NOT allow students to create a thread in your group discussion board/forum.

WORK WEEK

In this fully online course, check the course schedule regularly for weeks run from Mondays through Fridays: specifically, they begin at 12:00 AM Monday morning and end at 5:00 PM on Friday evening. All assigned work for any week is to be completed by 5:00 PM of Friday in that week. The materials for any week will be posted by Monday morning of that week, under the appropriate folder. Begin each week on Monday by checking the Schedule and then viewing the content for the week in the appropriate Module.

**** For the last week of classes, assigned work must be completed by 12 noon on Friday (see end of course schedule for additional information).**

P. S. After the first week, students are strongly advised to begin reading ahead the relevant chapters in their textbook for the upcoming week (e.g., begin readings on the Saturday before the applicable Module is posted on Monday).

PREREQUISITES

Completion of PSY 1010 or equivalent is not required, but recommended.

TECHNICALSKILLS

To succeed in this course, it will be important for learners to possess the following technical skills:

1. Rename, delete, organize, and save files.
2. Create, edit, and format word processing and presentation documents.
3. Copy, paste, and use a URL or web address.
4. Download and install programs and plug-ins.
5. Send and receive email with attachments.
6. Locate and access information using a web search engine.
7. Use a learning management system.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser Check Page

Students need to have access to a properly functioning computer throughout the semester. The Browser Check Page will enable you to perform a systems check on your browser, and to ensure that your browser settings are compatible with Blackboard, the course management system that hosts this course.

<http://www.utd.edu/utlv/Bb9BrowserCheck/innovation/blackboard/browsercheck.html>

Software

Student computers need to be capable of running the latest versions of plug-ins, recent software and have the necessary tools to be kept free of viruses and spyware. The computer needs to run the following software, available in the Online Learning Download Center at <http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/main/downloads.html>:

- Word Processing Software (e.g., Microsoft Word)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Internet Browser (e.g., Firefox, Chrome, IE, Safari)

Internet Service

High-speed Internet access is recommended as dial-up may be slow and limited in downloading information and completing online tests.

Use of Public Computers

If using a public library or other public access computer, please check to ensure that you will have access for the length of time required to complete tasks and tests. A list and schedule for on-campus computer labs is available at http://www.utoledo.edu/it/CS/Lab_hours.html.

UT Virtual Labs

Traditionally, on-campus labs have offered students the use of computer hardware and software they might not otherwise have access to. With UT's Virtual Lab, students can now access virtual machines loaded with all of the software they need to be successful using nothing more than a broadband Internet connection and a web browser. The virtual lab is open 24/7 and 365 days a year at <http://www.utoledo.edu/it/VLab/Index.html>.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class Participation:

Course participation is expected and graded. Please refer to the Discussion sub-section of the Communication Guidelines section later in this syllabus.

Tests:

Students will be taking six tests via the *Exam Room* on our Blackboard course web site (see course schedule for chapters or topics to be covered in each test). The link to a test will be available two days before its due date. For all tests, you will have just one attempt. Each test must be *individually completed* (not started) by the due date and time (see course schedule for test due dates – the due date and time are also listed with the exam). Please plan to do a test before the due date so that if you have technical issues that must be resolved by our Learning Ventures staff, these can be addressed and you can complete a test by the due date. You can see how your test was scored right after you submit it. When all students have taken a test, you can also see the most applicable responses for a limited number of days (I will send an email regarding this).

To ensure a smooth test-taking experience, it is recommended that you use Firefox 3.5 or higher when taking tests, to clear your cache and browsing history prior to beginning the test, and to review the following Learning Ventures test taking tips via this link.

<http://wordpress.utoledo.edu/learningventures/2014/01/27/blackboard-test-taking-tips-updated-232012/>

Also, note that the Blackboard servers are unavailable from 4:00 to 4:15 a.m. daily for maintenance operations.

Please make sure to plan your Blackboard activities accordingly.

If a student has ANY technological issue, please contact Learning Ventures, and if after resolving the issue, the student is unable to complete the exam, please email me immediately via Blackboard so that I can leave a hardcopy of the exam and a Scranton answer sheet for you at the main campus Testing Center (Memorial Field House Room 1080; 419.530.2011) ... *no books, notes and other aids will be allowed by the staff of the Testing Center*. My ability to prepare and drop off the exam will depend on the time of the day the student contacts me, so s/he would need to **call the Testing Center first to make sure the exam is there before going**. The exam must be done in a timely manner in order for me not to deduct the applicable points per day for completing it after the due date, as indicated in our syllabus (read paragraph below).

Taking a Test after the due date

Occasionally students become ill during the period a test has been made available on Blackboard. Taking a test after the due date will be allowed for legitimate health **or** personal reasons (with proper documentation). Students who fall into either of these two categories must scan and email me as an attachment documentation that covers the exam availability period up to the day before they complete the exam on Blackboard. With no proper documentation received by me, a student will **lose 4 points for each day** that s/he does not take a test by the due date.

Special Project Film / Book Review Paper

A film / book review paper must be submitted via our Blackboard course Website (*Assignments tool*) by each student. This is a **relatively formal** paper.

Directions for the Film / Book Review Paper

- 1) Paper should be one Microsoft word typed document, double-spaced, font style Times New Roman, font size 12, 1" margins, pages numbered and use black ink on 8" X 11" white paper/background.
- 2) Begin with a separate Title page that includes your name; course code and course title; semester/session and year; a creative and relevant title; a statement indicating the character, film/novel, and applicable theory you'll focus on, a picture/image from the Internet (do NOT use Clip Art); and course professor's name (Dr Tiamiyu). Do not include any page number on this page; your page numbering (i.e., page 1) should begin on the page following your title page
- 3) Describe a character from a film/movie/TV show or novel from the perspective of one of the major theories discussed in this course and then conclude with your own impression. Use information from **no fewer than three sources**.
- 4) In this paper you should a) describe the character from a book or a movie, b) describe this person from a theoretical perspective we've covered in this course, c) summarize and present your opinion about how well this theory describes the person in question. **Be creative** (i.e., produce original, appropriate, and valuable ideas).
- 5) Have one separate page of References to list your sources of information (exclude that for your picture/image from the Internet on your title page). Refer to the reference section of our textbook and/or you can use a relevant link that I posted on our course Web site to gain access to a site that illustrates how to write up your references (i.e., your chosen film/book and other sources) Note that if you obtain a book, journal article, etc. from the Internet, copying and pasting the link to your reference page will not be adequate, you need to give the complete reference information.
- 6) **Your final submission will be minimum four pages and maximum five pages (i.e., a title page, maximum three-page main body of submission, and a reference page).**
- 7) Criteria for grading your paper will include how accurately and creatively the psychological principles from the theory is applied, organization, logic, clarity, spelling and mechanics

P.S. You lose points for not following the above directions. You also **lose 4 points for each day** you submit your paper after the due date with no acceptable reason Your paper's due date **Friday, June 13, 2014, 5:00 PM**. You can submit your paper as from **Monday, June 2, 2014, 5:00 PM**. Documentation for not making a submission by June 13 must cover the period of June 2 up till the day before paper is submitted

COURSE POLICIES

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please read The University's Policy Statement on Academic Dishonesty available at <http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/students/dishonesty.html>.

GRADING

The final course grade will be based on the following point values (monitor your scores via Bb – *Grade Book*):

Course Requirement	Point Values
Complete & upload your Student Profile form as an attachment via Assignments Tool on our Blackboard course Web site ; information is for me ONLY, as the course professor/instructor (earn full points first week of classes; half points thereafter up till the end of the second week of classes; no points as from the end of the second week of classes .)	4
Introduce yourself on the Class Discussion Board – reply to my post (earn full points first week of classes; half points thereafter up till the end of the second week of classes; no points as from the end of the second week of classes .)	2
Online Participation in Mandatory Weekly Group Discussions (i.e., Weeks 2 - 5; 20 Points/Week)]	80
Test 1: 30 multiple-choice questions/statements drawn from textbook (50 minutes)	60
Test 2: 30 multiple-choice questions/statements drawn from textbook (50 minutes)	60
Test 3: 30 multiple-choice questions/statements drawn from textbook (50 minutes)	60
Test 4: 30 multiple-choice questions/statements drawn from textbook (50 minutes)	60

Test 5: 30 multiple-choice questions/statements drawn from textbook (50 minutes)	60
Test 6: 30 multiple-choice questions/statements drawn from textbook (50 minutes)	60
Special Project: Film / Book Review Paper	60
Total	506

P.S.: There is no cumulative final exam; however, all of the above course requirements should be met, otherwise a student may earn an IN (incomplete) as a final grade.

Final Grades: The grading system below will serve as a guide, and it lists category floors (grade, percentage, and actual points) note that final grades are determined by actual points earned, and there will be no rounding off of points:

A 95% = 478	A- 90% = 453	
B+ 85% = 428	B 80% = 402	B- 75% = 377
C+ 70% = 352	C 65% = 327	C- 60% = 301
D+ 55% = 276	D 50% = 251	D- 45% = 225
F 0% = 0		

I reserve the right to discretionary grade adjustments.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. In accordance with the ADA and university policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course; please contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to discuss any necessary accommodations. Please contact the Office of Accessibility for verification of eligibility at 419-530-4981 (voice) or 419-530-2612 (TDD).

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

Email:

Students are expected to check our Blackboard Course Website (*Messages*) frequently for important course information. When I post *course news* / announcements on Blackboard, students will also receive these via their UT email account, so also check this account frequently. This class is being taught for you, so if you are having trouble understanding any aspect of it, please let me know. I am here to help, and will do my best to respond to email within 24 hours. **Please, if responding to any course news / announcement OR emailing me about ANY course-related matter, always do so via our Blackboard Course Website (*Messages*), because I would like to catalog our correspondence and would not like your email to get lost among the hundreds I receive via my UT email account.**

Group Discussion:

In this fully online course, participation is vital to your success, and your active engagement during weekly group discussion is mandatory and crucial to learning. By the beginning of week two, you will be assigned to a discussion group designed to help you understand assigned readings, learning activities, and course assignments. On Monday morning of each week starting from week two, a series of discussion questions will be posted in the discussion folder for that week. To earn full credit, you must respond to all the initial weekly questions, for each of the four weeks indicated in the schedule, **by Wednesday at 5:00 PM** of that week, and respond to the postings of at least two of your peers **STARTING from Wednesday AFTER 5:00 PM and by Friday at 5:00 PM** of that week. Please see the Grading Rubric for Group Discussions for complete grading criteria.

Netiquette

It is important to be courteous and civil when communicating with others. Students taking online courses are subject to the communication regulations outlined in the Student Handbook. To ensure your success when communicating online, take time to familiarize yourself with the "dos" and "don'ts" of Internet etiquette:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you encounter technical difficulties with Blackboard, please contact the UT Online Help Desk at (419) 530-8835 or utdl@utoledo.edu. The Help Desk offers extended hours in the evenings and on weekends to assist students with technical problems. When calling after hours, leave a detailed message, including your Rocket Number and phone number, and an Online Learning staff member will respond on the next business day. The UT Online Help Desk / Learning Ventures website is available at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/helpdesk/index.html>

Technical questions related to on-campus Internet access, virtual labs, hardware, software, personal website hosting, and UTAD account management can be directed to UT's IT Help Desk at (419) 530-2400. The IT Help Desk / Learning Ventures website is available at <http://www.utoledo.edu/it/CS/HelpDesk.html>.

LEARNER SUPPORT

The University of Toledo offers a wide range of academic and student support services that can help you succeed:

eTutoring Services

The Ohio eTutoring Collaborative, in partnership with The University of Toledo, now provides online tutoring support for all UT students. eTutoring Services are offered in a wide array of subjects, including Writing, Math, Calculus, Statistics, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, and Anatomy and Physiology.

Learn more at: <https://www.etutoring.org/login.cfm?institutionid=232&returnPage>

eLibrary Services Portal

The eLibrary is a customized gateway to UT Libraries for online students. It was designed to help you locate the best online library resources without leaving Blackboard.

Learn more at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/students/eLibrary.html>

Office of Accessibility

The Office of Accessibility provides accommodations and support services to students with disabilities.

Learn more at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/utlc/accessibility/index.html>

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center is the university's primary facility for personal counseling, psychotherapy, and psychological outreach and consultation services. The Counseling Center staff provide counseling (individual and group), mental health and wellness programming, and crisis intervention services to help students cope with the demands of college and to facilitate the development of life adjustment strategies.

Learn more at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/counseling/>

Services for Online Students

Knowing what to do, when to do it, and who to contact can often be overwhelming for students on campus - even more so for distance learners. Visit the link below to learn more about the wide range of services for online students.

Learn more at: http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/students/student_serv.html

* For additional and more specific information related to some of the above, please refer to our Course Schedule