Psychology of Personality (PSYC A220):
Online Orange Coast College
Fall 2025

Contact Information

Instructor: Lora Connor
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Office Hours Upon Request (via CCCD ZOOM in Canvas): **Mon 12:30 PM –1:30 PM**

Catalog Description

A survey of classical and contemporary personality theories, research, and applications.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to critically evaluate theoretical perspectives, research, and applications in personality psychology.

Course Objectives

1. Describe the history of personality theory.
2. Differentiate between western and eastern personality theories.
3. Use theoretical concepts to better understand one's own personality.
4. Identify the concepts associated with personality theories and be able to differentiate between them.
5. Synthesize theories and relate them to daily life.
6. Discuss the emergence of newer theories within the context of contemporary society and culture.
7. Explore both requirements and opportunities within a professional major of psychology.
8. Compare and contrast theories relating to one's own belief about the nature of the human being.

Syllabus Notes

Please become familiar with the information provided in the syllabus as this is considered course reading material. The syllabus contains essential information about the course (e.g., requirements, deadlines), your success in college, and your overall experience at OCC. I strongly recommend you keep a copy of this syllabus for future reference and documentation (e.g., verification of content covered for transfer credit, clinical licensure, employment).

I am here to facilitate your learning success in college, goal attainment, and overall educational experience at OCC. If you have any questions or if I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regular and Substantive Contact

Online courses require regular and substantive contact between students and the instructor. Students can expect this to be accomplished through student office hours, weekly announcements, timely feedback on assignments, discussion responses, email, or other forms of contact as required. Students can expect to receive a response to emails within 24 to 48 hours if sent Monday through Friday.

Course Materials

Required Text

MindTap Account: Login to Canvas for registration instructions. The MindTap Account will contain assignments and access to the book for this course:

Schultz, D. P., Schultz, S. E., Maranges, H. M. (2025). *Theories of personality* (12th ed.). Ohio: Cengage Learning, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-357-94644-2

Course Information

Examinations

An exam should not only assess student learning but be a "learning experience" in itself. Just like any skill (e.g., language, sports, music), you only improve with experience and practice. Achievement will be partially evaluated using performance on three exams. There will be three noncumulative (i.e., chapters covered before each exam) and one cumulative (i.e., all chapters covered in the course) examinations. One of these exams (i.e., your lowest score) will be dropped at the end of the semester. You may take all four exams but are not required to take the cumulative examination if you are happy with previous scores (i.e., a "0" on the cumulative examination will be dropped). As one of these four exams is dropped, *there are no make-up alternatives*.

Exams will require you to prepare for three general types of questions: definitions, factual, and application oriented. Each of these equally weighted exams (100 points each) will be based on the textbook, lectures, and other materials (e.g., other websites, videos). The general exam format will include multiple-choice and true-false. Exam Review/Sample questions are provided via Class website: https://loraconnor.com/psych220/lectures/lectures

Exams will show under "Quizzes" in Canvas and in corresponding weekly modules before the start time. Each exam is timed (e.g., 50 minutes for 50 questions).

Exams are to be completed closed book/notes, independently, and during one session (e.g., do not start/stop or switch screens). Lockdown Browser with Respondus Monitor is required for all exams. Please see Canvas (Introduction Module) for installation instructions and use. Exams one and two will be available at 12:00AM on Friday of that week and must be completed before 11:59PM on Sunday. Exams three and four will be available at 12:00AM on Friday of the final week of instruction and must be completed before 11:59PM on Saturday. If you are unable to complete the exams on these dates, you should drop the course and find an alternative to accommodate your schedule.

Note. Is it very important that you see the Course Schedule for the exam schedule and deadlines to make any necessary arrangements (e.g., work, computer availability). Please do not wait until the last minute to complete exams as Canvas will be busy with OCC online courses using this platform. Again, *there are no make-up alternatives*, so please be sure to schedule your time accordingly.

Study It (Assignments)
There will be 15 fifteen-point "Study It" assignments within MindTap, which are based on textbook readings. These exercises are designed to help you study the vocabulary terms within each chapter. Three of these Study It assignments with your lowest scores will be dropped for a total of 180 points. Each Study It assignment can be found in MindTap within each chapter's module and can be completed any time before their weekly deadlines (Sunday at 11:59PM) except for the last week of school, in which the deadline will be on Saturday. As three of these quizzes are dropped, *there are no make-up alternatives*.

Apply It (Quizzes)
There will be 15 twenty-point multiple-choice quizzes based on textbook readings. Three of these quizzes with your lowest scores will be dropped, for a total of 240 points. Each quiz assignment can be found in MindTap within each chapter's module. They are found in the Apply it sections. Quizzes can be completed any time before their weekly deadlines (Sunday at 11:59PM) except for the last week of school, in which the deadline will be on Saturday. As three of these quizzes are dropped, *there are no make-up alternatives*.

Written Assignments
This course incorporates multiple written critical thinking application assignments. There will be five 50-point class discussions in Canvas based on the material we are reviewing for a total of 250 points. Response discussions are due on Fridays. Students are required to respond to two other students. Replies are due on the following Sunday, except for the last week of school when replies will be due on Saturday. These require students to integrate information (e.g., textbook, lecture, and other sources provided on the class website) in an applied writing activity. Please read all instructions within the discussion modules carefully, as well as the rubric provided for discussions, to accurately complete assignments. In addition to our weekly Study It assignments, and Apply It quizzes, these will be helpful preparation for examinations. *Note*. There are no make-up alternatives for missed assignments.

Writing Response Grading. This is a college course, and you are being graded based on your writing. Responses and posts should be professional, use appropriate language, and be respectful. Discussions are not a forum for outlet outside of relevant course content. Instructions are provided for each discussion, as well as a rubric with additional writing guidelines. You should examine the instructions and guidelines before completing any discussion assignment. Grading criteria: content and focus, organization, writing style, sources and APA format, and writing conventions course content analysis. Please use appropriate, college-level writing (e.g., language, spelling, grammar, punctuation, no "textspeak"), so be sure to proofread.

Grading Policy
Grading of individual assignments will be completed on or before 10 business days. Final grades will be based on the total points earned. The following tentative scale (i.e., may be adjusted based on the instructor's judgement) will be used in assigning final grades:

ASSIGNMENT	FREQUENCY	POINTS	TOTAL	PERCENT
Attendance & Ice Breaker Discussion	1	30	30	3%
Writing Discussions	5	50	250	25%
Homework: Study It (there are 15 but 3 are dropped)	12	15	180	18%
Quizzes: Apply It (there are 15 but 3 are dropped)	12	20	240	24%
Exams (there are 4 but 1 is dropped)	3	100	300	30%
TOTAL			**1,000**	**100%**

A	B	C	D	F
90% - 100%	80% - 89%	70% - 79%	60% - 69%	<60%

Technology Requirements

You will need to use a computer in this course as some software may not function on mobile devices such as smartphones or iPads. You may be able to access some Canvas/Mindtap features using mobile devices and the app, but not others (e.g., quizzes, exams). You should be using Google Chrome to complete all required assignments as Canvas was built on this platform. Ethernet connections are recommended to avoid Wi-Fi problems. If you lose connection the Canvas system may consider this as if you clicked "Submit" assignment. Do not start/stop or switch screens during quizzes/exams, this may disconnect you from Canvas/MindTap and the assignment submitted as complete.

Technology is not an excuse for late assignments. Late assignments are not accepted and there are no make-up alternatives. Please do not wait until the last moment to complete assignments, you may miss a deadline, as Canvas will be very busy since most OCC courses will be using this platform. It is your responsibility to schedule access to appropriate technology. You may contact OCC Student Services if you have specific needs (e.g., computer and/or Wi-Fi access). If you are having technology difficulties, you can also click on Canvas Help (to the bottom left in your Canvas shell) for a variety of technical support options (e.g., guides, chat with IT, submit a help request ticket). Please check the OCC website for updates specific to our campus community.

Note. Students must turn on Canvas Announcement Notifications.

Reading, Lecture, General Preparation, and Study Guide

Reading the textbook (i.e., eBook), viewing lectures, and your efforts toward understanding material will be essential for successful performance in this class. Lectures are intended to emphasize an interactive learning-centered approach, complement text material, present additional information, and serve as part of your study-guide. "Learning" is more than simply perusing the reading material, reading/listening to a lecture, and taking notes. Learning is about studying, acquiring knowledge, application, and mastering course content. Understanding comprehensive material is like cooking using a recipe - missing one primary component can be problematic. Treat the information you are learning in classes like CPR: always be ready to use it versus waiting until you need it!

Course goals, lectures, activities, assignments, and academic standards are designed to help you succeed in the learning process. To prepare and accomplish objectives, I recommend reading the

entire chapter before it is covered in lecture. Students are responsible for all assigned readings, including material not directly covered in lecture.

Attendance and participation. Regular reading preparation, PowerPoint lectures, discussions, quizzes, and examinations will contribute to a better understanding of course material. Course interaction will expose you to new information not obtained otherwise (e.g., textbook). Each student is responsible for all course content and information (e.g., announcements). The OCC attendance policy reads "Please note that students who miss the first meeting of a class or who have too many absences MAY be dropped by the instructor at any time during the semester until the final deadline for withdrawal. However, it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw to meet all fee and withdrawal deadlines and to avoid grade penalties."
State Education Code requires that we drop inactive or "no-show" students. The state does not consider logging into a Canvas course and reviewing information having "attended" an online course. Students not logging into Canvas and participating in the "Ice Breaker Discussion" in Canvas during the first week without an instructor-approved excused absence may be considered as a "No Show" and dropped**.**

Consider approaching college as a job and each class as a major work responsibility. For example, you would probably show up for work on time and stay until your shift was complete. You would be prepared (I am assuming this is a job you respect and take seriously), apply yourself and work hard, respect fellow employees, avoid other activities (e.g., sleeping at work), and fulfill all responsibilities. If you behaved appropriately, you would probably expect a paycheck; however, you would not expect a full week's pay (*or* excellent grade in class) if you only worked half of your weekly hours (i.e., put in a less-than-average effort). I am hopeful each of you will be motivated and enthusiastic about being the best "academic-employee" possible! I will do everything possible to help you accomplish your academic, professional, and personal goals.

Student Code of Conduct and Confidentiality
This course is built on a foundation of integrity and respect. I am dedicated to creating the best possible learning environment for all students. Please respect others and avoid inappropriate discussions/actions. Persons engaging in such acts may be referred to the Dean of Students and removed from class/course.

Academic honesty and student code of conduct. The OCC community is expected to maintain Academic Honesty and the Student Code of Conduct. These include, but are not limited to the following: cheating, plagiarism, dishonest conduct, collusion, and behavioral violations (e.g., disruptive or unlawful behavior). Violations are subject to disciplinary procedures and registration with the Dean of Students. Students should refer to the Class Schedule and OCC Catalog for further details on Policies and Regulations (e.g., Academic Honesty, Student Code of Conduct, Personal Security, Sexual Harassment, and Non-Discrimination Policies).

Polity regarding contacting classmates. Orange Coast College respects your privacy as a student. *Contacting classmates (e.g., unsolicited messages without instructor oversight) is a violation of the Canvas course policies.* Students are instructed to contact the instructor

regarding course-related content. If you receive such a message, please forward it to me or you can submit it to the OCC Dean of Students office for appropriate student-conduct practice. Confidentiality will be maintained in this process (i.e., you will not be identified).

OCC statements prohibiting audio and/or videotaping. *It is a violation of Board Policy and Education Code to record audio/video in class without the permission of the instructor (District Student Code of Conduct (BP/AP 5500) & Education Code 78907). Taping (audio or video) without consent is prohibited. This is to ensure that the class is a safe space where all participants can discuss potentially controversial subjects freely. Students with documented disabilities must provide disable student office verification prior to recording class sessions. Students who violate this policy will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate follow up and possible discipline. If audio recordings of lectures are consented to by the instructor, please be aware that they are only for the student's personal use in class-related study and preparation. The student agrees to destroy any recordings that were made when they are no longer needed for course work.*

This policy extends to the following: Students are prohibited from downloading, copying, or recording course material from Canvas/MindTap/Class Website to place the material in emails, websites, any form of social media, or public domains. This includes lectures, quizzes, exams, discussions, assignments, communications, or similar information. This course is not open to the public and you do not have ownership of the material; therefore, you may not distribute it to other people via the internet or as a printed copy during or after the course is complete. If you did not create it, then you do not own it. If course material is found outside the Canvas course and the person who is responsible is identified, the responsible party will be reported to the Dean of Students for academic misconduct and disciplinary action.

Student Resources

Support services for students. OCC offers many support services for students. These include but are not limited to the following: Associated Students, California Work Opportunities and Responsibilities to Kids (CalWORKs), Children's Center, Computing Center, counseling (academic, career, personal), programs for students with disabilities, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS), financial aid, housing, international services, re-entry support, scholarships, Student Health Center, Student Success Center (tutoring, workshops), and the Transfer Center. Please refer to the Class Schedule and OCC Catalog for further information.

Disability accommodations (OCC Accessibility Statement). *Orange Coast College recommends that students with disabilities or specific learning needs contact their professors during the first two weeks of class to discuss academic accommodations. If you believe that you may have a disability and would like more information, you are encouraged to contact Accessibility Resource Center (formerly DSPS) at (714) 432-5807 (voice), (714) 432-5604 (TDD), or email at occarc@cccd.edu*

The College makes reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should notify the Disabled Student Programs & Services department, located in the Special Services building and their instructor of any accessibility related needs. For more

information, see https://orangecoastcollege.edu/services-support/arc/index.html or call (714) 432-5807. Students eligible for and needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a disability are requested to speak with the professor as soon as possible.

Tentative Course Schedule

Note. All dates and times are presented using Pacific Time Zone (PT).

Week	Week Starting Date (i.e., Monday)	Readings and Lecture	Topics and Assignments (See Canvas for due dates)
1	8/25	Chapter 1 eBook found in MindTap Lecture Found on Class Website	Welcome message/course overview (i.e.., Syllabus & Instructions) found on Canvas in the first Module or Home page Personality: What It Is and Why You Should Care **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Quiz/Canvas Discussions (Week 1-Ice Breaker, Week 1 module)**
2	9/1	Chapter 2	Sigmund Freud: Psychoanalysis **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**
3	9/8	Chapter 3	Carl Jung: Analytical Psychology **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz/Canvas Discussion #1**
4	9/15	Chapter 4	Alfred Adler: Individual Psychology **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**
5	9/22	Chapter 5	Karen Horney: Neurotic Needs and Trends **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz** **EXAM #1**
6	9/29	Chapter 6	Erik Erikson: Identity Theory **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz/Canvas Discussion #2**
7	10/6	Chapter 7	Gordon Allport: Motivation and Personality **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**

This syllabus is subject to change or revision due to the need to make course adjustments based on the instructor's judgment.

8	10/13	Chapter 8	Raymond Cattell, Hans Eysenck, the Five-Factor Theory, HEXACO, and the Dark Triad **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**
9	10/20	Chapter 9	Abraham Maslow: Needs-Hierarchy Theory **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz/Canvas Discussion #3**
10	10/27	Chapter 10	Carl Rogers: Self-Actualization Theory **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz** **EXAM #2**
11	11/3	Chapter 11	George Kelly: Personal Construct Theory **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**
12	11/10	Chapter 12	B. F. Skinner: Reinforcement Theory **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz/Canvas Discussion #4**
13	11/17	Chapter 13	Albert Bandura: Modeling Theory **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**
14	11/24		**Happy Thanksgiving** 
15	12/1	Chapter 14	Personality in Taking Control, Taking Chances, and Finding Happiness **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz**
16	12/8	Chapter 15	Personality: In Perspective **Assignments: Chapter-Lecture/MindTap Study It & Quiz/Canvas Discussion #5** **EXAM #3** **EXAM #4 (Optional)**

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