

Personality Theory

Last Updated: Mon, 12/29/2025

Course prefix: PSYC

Course number: 2240

Section: A

CRN

33444

Instructor first name: Christopher

Instructor last name: Stanzione

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This is a course on the psychology of personality. It covers the major theoretical approaches to the study of human personality and encourages an evaluation of these approaches in the light of relevant empirical research. It is an upper-division course for which a course in introductory psychology is a prerequisite, and a course in psychological statistics is useful but not required. For maximum efficiency, you'll need to do two things 1) BE ACTIVE AND ENGAGED. Some of the information discussed in lectures will be reinforced by the outside readings, but the *majority* will not. You'll need to participate daily to grasp an understanding of this growing field of psychology. 2) ATTEND LECTURE. The material is dense and you will be expected to know it. You will need to develop a command of the topics, not just a general understanding. This course is going to challenge you to think critically; to integrate what you are learning about personality psychology and the rigor of experimental psychology. We will be talking about real human dilemmas.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion