

**PSY U400 Personality
Spring 2008
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:30 – 11:45am
130 HT**

Instructor: Jackie Mascher, PhD
Office Hours: NI 138, x3799
Phone: Mondays & Wednesdays 3 – 5pm and by appointment
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Course Description and Objectives:

This course is a brief survey of a few general theories in the field of personality psychology. It is intended to introduce students to five historically major theories of human thought, emotion, and behavior. We will discuss trait models, anatomy and physiology, psychoanalytic approaches, humanistic and existential theory, and behaviorism. Using these approaches, students will begin to form integrated understandings of the reasons why humans think, feel, and behave as we do. The prerequisite for this course is PSYU 101.

Course Sessions:

Classes will be one hour and five minutes in length. Students should attend all classes, and students may be asked to sign attendance sheets to confirm their presence during lectures.

In order to minimize disruptions to the learning process, the instructor asks that students not engage in conversations on cellular telephones in the classroom. Please either turn off your phones and beepers, or use silent/vibrate functions. If it becomes necessary for you to use your communication devices during class time, please temporarily excuse yourself from class to use them.

Course Textbook:

Funder, D.C. (2007). *The personality puzzle (4/e)*. New York: Norton.

Course Requirements:

Attendance / Participation	10%	
Exam #1	20%	(ch. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9)
Problem Set 1	15%	(ch. 10 - 12)
Problem Set 2	15%	(ch. 13, 14)
Problem Set 3	15%	(ch. 15)
Exam #2	30%	(ch. 10 – 15, 18, 19)

Exam #1 will be administered as noted on the Class Schedule below.

Problem Sets will be discussed in class and posted on the NEU Blackboard electronic media system.

Exam #2 will be given in accordance with the NEU Final Exam Schedule.

Grading: The grading scale will be as follows:

100 – 94 (A)	89 – 87 (B+)	79 – 77 (C+)	69 – 67 (D+)	59 and
93 – 90 (A-)	86 – 83 (B)	76 – 73 (C)	66 – 63 (D)	below (F)
	82 – 80 (B-)	72 – 70 (C-)	62 – 60 (D-)	

Other Course Policies:

1. Make-up exams

A student will be given a make-up exam **only** if s/he has an illness or emergency situation that results in him/her not being able to make the exam as scheduled. *The student must present documentation as proof of the illness or emergency.* There will be no make-up opportunities for attendance and participation points.

2. Assessment material

Exam material will consist of information from textbook chapters as they are listed in this syllabus, even if such material is not covered during lectures. Exam material will also consist of lecture material, even when such material is not covered in the textbook.

3. Attendance / Participation

Student attendance will be recorded for class sessions. Occasionally students will be asked to complete in-class exercises for participation credit. If a student misses a class session, attendance and participation points cannot be made up; however, attendance and participation will be “excused” with proper documentation of an emergency (e.g., doctor’s appointment, death in the family).

4. Lecture notes and handouts

If a student is unable to attend a class session, it is the student’s responsibility to obtain session lecture notes, handouts, and/or assignments from someone other than Professor Mascher. Most lecture notes and handouts for this course will be available electronically at Northeastern University’s Blackboard Academic Suite™ (<http://blackboard.neu.edu>), but it is the student’s responsibility to ensure that s/he recovers all information from the missed class session.

5. Electronic devices during exams

Use of computer or electronic devices is not permitted during exams. If you are observed using such devices, you will receive a grade of “F” on the exam.

6. Cheating on assessments

Cheating, forgery, and plagiarism will earn you a grade of “F” on assessment material, as well as a recommendation to the Academic Judicial Committee that you be expelled from the University.

7. Tape recording lectures

You may not audio- or videotape lectures without the instructor’s consent.

Class Schedule: Spring 2008

Date	Funder Chapter	Topic	Due
January 7, Mon.	1, 2	Overview	
January 9, Wed.	2	Sources of Data	
January 10, Thu.	2	Sources of Data	
January 14, Mon.	4	Traits and Behavior	
January 16, Wed.	4, 5	Trait Assessment	
January 17, Thu.	5	Trait Assessment	
January 21, Mon.	MLK JR BIRTHDAY – NO CLASSES		
January 23, Wed.	7	Traits and Behavior	
January 24, Thu.	7	Traits and Behavior	
January 28, Mon.	8	Anatomy and Physiology	
January 30, Wed.	8	Anatomy and Physiology	
February 31, Thu.	9	Genetics and Evolution	
February 4, Mon.	9	Genetics and Evolution	
February 6, Wed.	9	Genetics and Evolution	
February 7, Thu.	Exam #1 (Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 – 9)		
February 11, Mon.	10	Introduction to Psychoanalysis	
February 13, Wed.	10	Introduction to Psychoanalysis	
February 14, Thu.	10	Introduction to Psychoanalysis	
February 18, Mon.	PRESIDENTS' DAY – NO CLASSES		
February 20, Wed.	11	Defenses, Slips, and Humor	
February 21, Thu.	11	Defenses, Slips, and Humor	
February 25, Mon.	11	After Freud, Object Relations	
February 27, Wed.	12	After Freud, Object Relations	
February 28, Thu.	12	After Freud, Object Relations	Problem Set #1
March 3, Mon.	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES		
March 10, Mon.	13	Humanistic Approaches	
March 12, Wed.	13	Humanistic Approaches	
March 13, Thu.	13	Humanistic Approaches	
March 17, Mon.	13	Humanistic Approaches	
March 19, Wed.	13	Humanistic Approaches	
March 20, Thu.	13	Humanistic Approaches	

March 24, Mon.	15	Behaviorism	Problem Set #2
March 26, Wed.	15	Behaviorism	
March 27, Thu.	15	Behaviorism	
March 31, Mon.	15	Behaviorism	
April 2, Wed.	15	Behaviorism	
April 3, Thu.	18	Personality Disorders	
April 7, Mon.	18	Personality Disorders	Problem Set #3
April 9, Wed.	18	Personality Disorders	
April 10, Thu.	18	Personality Disorders	
April 14, Mon.		Conclusions & Review	
April 16, Wed.		Conclusions & Review	
April 17 – 25		Exam #2, TBD by University Final Exam Schedule	