

**PSYCHOLOGY 205**  
**INTRODUCTION TO PERSONALITY**  
**ITEM 5451, SECTION OAS**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Maggie Seibel, M.A., LMHC

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This study of personality theory explains how human behavior can be understood through the scientific exploration of major theorists. It will examine influential theories of personality, research methods, techniques, and advances in personality theory. Psychology 100, General Psychology, is a recommended pre-requisite for this course.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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

1. Provide a detailed overview of major theories of personality.
2. Examine theories of etiology and development of personality characteristics, including healthy and deviant.
3. Discover insight into their own and other's behaviors through personality theory and perspectives.
4. Compare and contrast the individual theorists in the field of personality development.

**GENERAL EDUCATION OBJECTIVES:**

This course meets the following outcomes: Critical thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Funder, David. (2010). *The Personality Puzzle*, Fifth Edition. New York: W.W. Norton.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Your final grade will be based on a total of 1000 points. These points are calculated as follows:

500 possible points – Exams

200 possible points – Short Assignments (Personal Introduction + Personality Measurement Assignments)

200 possible points – Discussions

100 possible points – Assignments (Theoretical Analysis + Vision Quest)

In conformity with BC's grading policy, the grades will be assigned as follows (percentages).

A	100% – 94%	940-1000 Points	C+	79% – 77%	770-799 Points
A-	93% – 90%	900-939 Points	C	76% – 74%	760-769 Points
B+	89% – 87%	870-899 Points	C-	73% – 70%	700-739 Points
B	86% – 84%	840-869 Points	D+	69% – 67%	670-699 Points
B-	83% – 80%	800-839 Points	D	66% – 60%	600-669 Points
			F	59% - Below	000-599 Points

**Format:**

Psychology 205 will be taught entirely on-line, with no face to face meetings. Students are required to read text chapters and overviews, participate in a weekly discussion forum, submit assignments, and take exams, all on-line. The site is open 24/7 for your convenience. **It is expected that if you go out of town you will find a way to access the Internet** (Internet cafes, hotel offices, etc.) in order to sustain your participation.

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Check the Distance Education web site if there seem to be problems with the system:  
[http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/server\\_status.asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/server_status.asp).

**EXAMS:**

There will be five (5) exams, each worth 100 points. Each exam will cover information from the text, overviews, and discussions. The test format may contain multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, or essay questions. Anything covered in the class, including discussions and assignments, should be considered testable information. *There will be no comprehensive final exam.*

**DISCUSSIONS:**

There will be one discussion per week, running from Monday to Friday. Each week, students will be able to select one of the questions posted and develop a response. In addition, students will need to respond to two posts from other students who have answered different questions. Discussions are intended to increase interaction and should deepen understanding and thinking about the subject matter. Weekly discussions will count 20 points per week for a total of 180 points. Specific details on how to write discussion responses are available under 'Instructions for Discussions' in the 'Getting Started' Folder.

**PERSONAL INTRODUCTION:**

Students will be asked to post a personal introduction in Module 1 the first week of class, worth 20 points. Instructions for this assignment can be found in Module 1.

**PERSONALITY MEASUREMENT ASSIGNMENTS:**

Part of the study of personality is focused on how personality characteristics are measured. In each module, you'll find one or more links to online personality tests that will help you understand more about the process of measurement as well as provide you with interesting information about yourself. The links to the measurements as well as instructions for the write-ups for each of these assignments will be found in the course content modules. There will be nine of these personality measurement assignments required over the course of the quarter, worth 20 points each or 180 points total.

**THEORETICAL ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENT:**

This paper is designed to help you integrate some of the concepts that we have studied so far. Students will do this by viewing an episode of *Real World* and completing an analysis of two of the characters. Students will be asked to discuss the personalities of the characters and their relationship from a specific theoretical perspective covered in this class. Instructions for this assignment will be found in Module 3. The assignment will be worth 50 points.

**VISION QUEST ASSIGNMENT:**

This exercise is designed to help students synthesize a variety of concepts related to psychology and personality theory. The assignment is based on some of the features of a traditional "vision quest" in which an individual wanders or travels on a journey seeking personal insight. After going on your own quest, students will be asked to write about their insights and apply course material to the experience. Instructions for this assignment will be found in Module 5. The assignment will be worth 50 points.

**A NOTE ABOUT COURSE CONTENT:**

Since Introduction to Personality examines many aspects of the individual, this course will discuss some provocative material. Please be advised that when controversial topics are explored, they will be framed within an academic context. Keep in mind that finding oneself in a space outside of one's comfort zone is an opportunity for learning. Students may be confronted with subject matter that is difficult to read about, view, or discuss. If a student has any questions or concerns about course content or climate, feel free to email the instructor about it immediately.

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**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425-564-2498 or TTY 425-564-4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require on-line course modifications, adaptations, or accommodations because of a disability should be sure the letter is from the DRC is sent to me during the first week of the quarter. Information is also available at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>

**ADVISING:**

The Psychology Department has an in-house advisor, Deanne Eschbach, located in D110C. Call 425-564-2216 or 425-564-2212 for an appointment.

**SAFE SPACE:**

This class is a Safe Space for all students. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, queer-identified, and transgendered students along with students of all cultures, nationalities, and spiritual beliefs are welcome in this on-line class and encouraged to share your thoughts and be an integral part of this class. If a student has any questions or concerns about this, feel free to email the instructor about it immediately. **All are welcome in this class!**

**PLAGIARISM AND OTHER CONDUCT POLICIES:**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty that occurs when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.
- e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

**Consequences:** If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

Cheating, stealing, plagiarizing, and inappropriate or disruptive online classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

**INCOMPLETE:**

If a student fails to complete all the required work for the course, the instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). You must contact the instructor before grades are assigned to be considered for this exception and you must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

**F GRADE:**

Students who fail the course will receive a letter grade of "F".

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**WITHDRAWAL:**

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

**HARDSHIP WITHDRAWAL:**

The instructor may assign a grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at his or her discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances that may have occurred after the withdrawal period. A student must contact the instructor *before* grades are assigned to be considered for this exception and you must provide proof of need for this exception. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office *before* grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:**

Submit proofread work only. If you need help with your writing, please make use of the following student support services:

- Academic Success Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/academicsuccess/>
- Academic Tutoring Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring/>
- TRiO Student Support Services: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/TRiO/>
- Bellevue College Writing Lab: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/>

**LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER:**

You are strongly encouraged to use the resources of the Library Media Center, whether in person or via the web. Talk to a Reference Librarian at the Library (D-126), by calling 425-564-6161, or by email at [reference@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:reference@bellevuecollege.edu).

- Main Library Media Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
- For the LMC online catalog: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/catalogs.html>
- For article databases: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/periodicals.html>

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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b><u>WEEK:</u></b>	<b><u>MODULE:</u></b>	<b><u>CHAPTERS:</u></b>	<b><u>READINGS:</u></b>	<b><u>ACTIVITIES &amp; ASSIGNMENTS</u></b>
<i>Week 1</i> April 4-10	1	Chapter 1  Chapter 4	The Study of the Person  Personality Traits, Situations, and Behavior	Discussion 1 (M-F)  Personal Introduction (Th)
<i>Week 2</i> April 11-17		Chapter 5  Chapter 7	Personality Assessment I: Personality Testing and Its Consequences  Using Personality Traits to Understand Behavior	Discussion 2 (M-F)  PM 1: The Big Personality Test (Th)  Exam I (Fri/Sat)
<i>Week 3</i> April 18-24	2	Chapter 8	The Anatomy and Physiology of Personality	Discussion 3 (M-F)  PM 2: Your Sex I.D. (Th)
<i>Week 4</i> April 25-May 1		Chapter 9	The Inheritance of Personality: Behavioral Genetics and Evolutionary Theory	Discussion 4 (M-F)  PM 3: Senses Challenge (Th)  Exam II (Fri/Sat)
<i>Week 5</i> May 2-8	3	Chapter 10	Basics of Psychoanalysis	Discussion 5 (M-F)  PM 4: Perfectionism (Th)
<i>Week 6</i> May 9-15		Chapter 11  Chapter 12	The Workings of the Unconscious Mind: Defenses and Slips  Psychoanalysis After Freud: Neo-Freudians, Object Relations, and Current Research	Discussion 6 (M-F)  PM 5: Interactive Lonely Hearts Ad (Th)  Assignment: Theoretical Analysis (F)  Exam III (Fri/Sat)
<i>Week 7</i> May 16-22	4	Chapter 13	Experience, Existence, and the Meaning of Life: Humanistic and Positive Psychology	Discussion 7 (M-F)  PM 6: Art and Personality (Th)
<i>Week 8</i> May 23-29		Chapter 14	Cultural Variations in Experience, Behavior, and Personality	Discussion 8 (M-F)  PM 7: Face Perception (Th)  Exam IV (Fri/Sat)
<i>Week 9</i> May 30-June 5	5	Chapter 15  Chapter 16	Learning to Be a Person: Behaviorism and Social Learning Theories  Personality Processes: Perception, Thought, Motivation, and Emotion	Discussion 9 (M-F)  PM 8: Morals and Social Responsibility (Th)
<i>Week 10</i> June 6-12		Chapter 17	What You Know About You: The Self	Discussion 10 (M-F) PM 9: What Kind of Thinker Are You?(Th)
<i>Week 11</i> June 13 & 14		Chapter 19	Conclusion: Looking Back and Looking Ahead	Closing Discussion (M-W) Assignment: Vision Quest (M)  Exam V (Wed/Thurs)