

**San José State University**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**PSYC 139, Psychology of Personality, Section 03**  
**Fall 2023**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor(s): Brian Oliveira, Ph.D.  
Office Location: DMH 310  
Telephone:  
Email: [brian.oliveira@sjsu.edu](mailto:brian.oliveira@sjsu.edu)  
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 7:30 – 9:00am  
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00 – 4:15pm  
Classroom: Clark 117  
Prerequisites: Psyc1

**Course Description**

Current approaches to the study of personality and personality processes.

**Course Format**

*This class is delivered in-person in the indicated classroom on the scheduled days and times. Internet connectivity is required to access the following information in Canvas:*

- Faculty contact information
- Course syllabus
- Content review activities
- Grades

**Canvas Use and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, content review activities, grades, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU on Spartan App](#) to learn of any updates. **For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](#).**

**Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)**

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements...

- *PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology* – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
- *PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology* – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

- *PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology* – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.
- *PLO4 – Application of Psychology* – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
- *PLO5 – Values in Psychology* – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

- LO1: be familiar with six approaches to understanding personality and individual differences in behavioral characteristics,
- LO2: address the strengths and weaknesses of each approach
- LO3: critically examine relevant empirical evidence associated with each the theoretical approaches
- LO4: recognize the application of theoretical concepts into real life issues and into psychotherapy

### **Required Texts/Readings**

Ryckman, R. (2013). *Theories of Personality (Tenth Edition)*. Belmont, CA: Cengage. (ISBN: 9781111830663)

### **Other Readings**

### **Other equipment / material requirements**

### **Classroom Protocol**

- 1) Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. This includes coming to class on time and having reading assignments done in advance.
- 2) Class attendance and participation is an important component of this course. Though attendance will not be formally taken, students will be responsible for in-class projects that will require active course involvement.
- 3) Handouts and/or additional readings may be distributed during class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain copies of course notes and handouts from a colleague. Students will be responsible for content from every class, regardless of attendance.
- 4) Please make sure that portable technological devices will not disrupt the class.

### **Recording of Class Lectures**

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictates that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. This permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

- You must request in person that the instructor grant permission for you to record. You may request permission for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.

Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor-generated material for this course such as CRA questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

## **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/academic\\_programs/calendars/academic\\_calendar/](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## **University Policies**

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

## **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

## **Course Requirements and Assignments**

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

## **Student Project**

To further explore Personality theories in applied contexts, students will select an example(s) of a character (or characters) from a source of media such as a movie, TV show, book, etc. The student project should endeavor to better understand and explain the personality characteristics of that person (people) from the perspective of one of the personality theorists that we will be covering during the class. Each student will prepare a class presentation that will include clips from the movie, TV show, book, etc. that allow us to “see” the personality characteristics you wish to focus on. Each presentation then needs to demonstrate how the person’s (people’s) personality characteristics could be understood and explained from the perspective of the personality theorist on which the student chooses to focus.

## **Content Review Activities**

Two content review activities (CRA) will be administered during the semester. The CRAs will not be cumulative and will cover the material presented in class and readings. The CRAs will consist of multiple

choice questions. The CRAs will be administered in Canvas on the dates indicated in the Course Schedule and will be available from 7:00am in the morning until 11:59pm at night.

### Final Content Review Activity

“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

As with the CRAs, the final CRA will cover material presented in class and readings and will be in multiple choice format. The CRA will be administered in Canvas on the date indicated in the Course Schedule and will be available from 7:00am in the morning until 11:59pm at night.

### Grading Information

“This course must be passed with a C- or better as a CSU graduation requirement.”

#### Determination of Grades

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>93 to 100%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>87 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>83 to 86%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>77 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 76%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>67 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 66%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>0 to 59%</i>

## Course Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Required Readings</b>	<b>Assignments or Exams</b>
<b>Week 0:</b> T 8/22 R 8/24	Class Overview & Registration Freud	Chapter 2	
<b>Week 1:</b> T 8/29 R 8/31	Jung Presentation Scheduling	Chapter 3	
<b>Week 2:</b> T 9/5 R 9/7	Adler	Chapter 4	1)
<b>Week 3:</b>			

T 9/12 R 9/14	Erickson	Chapter 6	2)
<b>Week 4:</b> T 9/19 R 9/21	<b>CRA #1 Practice during class</b> <b>CRA #1 In Canvas / No class</b>		CRA #1 (Wks. 0 – 3)
<b>Week 5:</b> T 9/26 R 9/28	Allport	Chapter 8	3)
<b>Week 6:</b> T 10/3 R 10/5	Cattell	Chapter 9	4)
<b>Week 7:</b> T 10/10 R 10/12	Eysenck	Chapter 10	5)
<b>Week 8:</b> T 10/17 R 10/19	Maslow	Chapter 12	6)
<b>Week 9:</b> T 10/24 R 10/26	<b>CRA #2 Practice in Class</b> <b>CRA #2 In Canvas / No class</b>		CRA #2 (Wks. 5 – 8)
<b>Week 10:</b> T 10/31 R 11/2	Rogers	Chapter 13	7)
<b>Week 11:</b> T 11/7 R 11/9	Skinner	Chapter 15	8)
<b>Week 12:</b> T 11/14 R 11/16	Rotter	Chapter 16	9)
<b>Week 13</b> T 11/21	CLASS CANCELLED		
<b>Week 14:</b> T 11/28 R 11/30	Bandura	Chapter 17	10)
<b>Week 15:</b> T 12/5			11)

<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Monday, December 11</b> <b>2:45PM - 5:00PM</b>		CRA #3 In Canvas (Wks. 10 - 15)
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