Course Information

Course Description
This course is designed to cover in breadth the field of personality theory in psychology. A variety of theoretical perspectives will be presented, compared and contrasted, and practical applications of these theories will be offered.

Prerequisite Skills
Good computer literacy as an end user, including the use of Blackboard and Top Hat, video players, and word processors.

Student Learning Outcomes
The follow learning outcomes are expected:

- Students will be able to describe, compare and contrast core theories in personality
- Students will be able to critically evaluate fictional and non-fictional portrayals of human behavior within the context of core personality theories
- Students will be able to identify ways in which the course content can be applied to their own life circumstances to affect positive change
CLASSROOM MASK POLICY

Students may choose to wear a mask in the classroom, but this is NOT required.

Available Texts and Materials

Recommended Text
I have secured the E-book for the class; that is what is available in the bookstore. You may purchase a hard copy if you wish but I will use the E-resources.

Top Hat
We will be using Top Hat Pro (www.tophat.com) in support of the course. It will be used to enhance classroom sessions interactively and as storage for slideshows. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview (https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Getting-Started-with-Top-Hat) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as provides a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

You can register by simply visiting our course site: https://app.tophat.com/e/060863

Top Hat Pro requires a subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing.

Grading

Students will be measured according to their performance on the following criteria:

- Examinations (E). There will be no traditional examinations in the course. Instead, a series of smaller “test-like” assignments will be offered that may/will include objective (i.e., multiple-choice) and narrative (i.e., short answer) questions. This will be completed through Blackboard online.
➢ **Application Papers (P).** Students shall construct a series of papers over the term. Most will require analysis of a movie through a personality theory lens, while at least one assignment will apply the course material autobiographically (instructions will be provided for each assignment).

➢ **Course Engagement (CE).** I will be tracking course participation through attendance that is recorded by Top Hat and your record of punctuality in completing assignments and exams. **You MUST log into Top Hat even if you are in the physical classroom!** Class sessions will NOT be streamed so you must be present to participate; however, they will be recorded for later viewing. Students will begin with maximum points on this measure with deductions applied for missteps beyond a certain minimum expectation:
  - Expected class attendance: 75%
  - Expected punctual completion of assignments: 85%

➢ In the event that an outbreak of hCoV-19 occurs on campus that dramatically affects our class schedule, I will adjust this in the fairest manner possible for all students.

**Grade Calculation Formula**

0.30(E) + 0.25(CE) + 0.45(P)

DO NOT ATTEMPT to calculate your grade using Blackboard’s “Total” column! It WILL be incorrect! If you would like to have an idea of your grade during the course and do not want to calculate it using the equation above, contact me.

**Grading System**

The following grading scale is in use for this course (rounding is done to the nearest integer according to standard mathematical rules):

- A = > 90
- B = 80 - 89
- C = 70 - 79
- D = 56 - 69
- F = < 56

Additional criteria governing course grades are as follows:

- **You must have a non-zero grade for at least 50% of the available assignments and exams.** Failure to meet this criterion shall result in **automatic failure of the course.**
- **You must pass (x > 55%) ALL PORTIONS of the course individually.** This means your calculated averages on assignments, papers, and course engagement in isolation, NOT together. Failure to meet these criteria shall result in **course failure.**
Note that the instructor has the authority to suspend these rules in individual cases where circumstances may dictate. This will ALWAYS be done to ensure that the student receives the fairest grade possible and will NEVER be used to punish students.

**Submitting Papers**
All papers are submitted through the Assignments tool in Blackboard. Sometimes, things happen with technology. Use the following FAQ to help.

*Q: Can I paste text into Blackboard as my submission?*
*A: NO. Paper submissions MUST be Word or PDF. I will NOT grade pasted text.*

*Q: What do I do if I submit the wrong document?*
*A: Contact me via email to notify me with the correct document attached.*

*Q: What do I do if you tell me that my submission failed?*
*A: If this happens, you will receive a temporary grade of “0” and a note from me that your paper was not readable. Resubmit the assignment via email as soon as possible.*

*Q: What if Blackboard goes down and I can’t submit?*
*A: First, contact the Service Center at 942.2911 to inquire about the outage. Open a ticket if necessary. Then, submit as soon as your access is restored.*

*Q: Can I share a document with you through Google Docs?*
*A: NO. If you do this, I cannot read it. If this happens, you will receive a temporary grade of “0” and a note from me that your paper was not readable. Resubmit the assignment via email as soon as possible but there will be a letter grade penalty.*

**Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**

**ASSIGNMENTS/PAPERS**

If you are late in submitting your work, it will first count against your Course Engagement score. If you are late beyond 7 days, your score on the assignment itself may be penalized according to the degree of lateness.
COURSE ENGAGEMENT

Physical attendance is once again an expectation of the course. However, if you cannot attend, you DO NOT need to provide an excuse. I DO NOT EXCUSE ABSENCE, nor do I consider any absences “unexcused”. They are merely absences. You have paid a large amount of money to learn this material, but I won’t force you to be here. I hope you will choose wisely. That said, poor attendance will affect your Course Engagement grade eventually.

Things NOT To Do

⇒ Cell phones must be turned off or to a silent setting; texting is disallowed. Personal computers are acceptable.
⇒ Persistent and excessive lateness will not be tolerated. If you consistently arrive to class late, I will ask for a meeting with you.
⇒ The use of personal listening devices during class is forbidden.
⇒ While I encourage an open classroom regarding communication, student discussions that become disruptive to the class will not be allowed.

Communication

You may reach me via telephone or email. Email is the preferred communication method. Because I also have administrative responsibilities, it is best to schedule an in-person meeting rather than to rely on office hours.
General Policies Related to This Course
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)¹
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)²

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s [Statement of Academic Integrity](#)³.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at [ADA@angelo.edu](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).⁴ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
**Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact me if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. I will do everything I can to help you, but that may mean advising you to try the course again another time. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#) for more information.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

If I detect that two papers are the same, both students will receive no credit for that assignment.

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for [Observance of Religious Holy Day](#) for more information.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:
Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171). For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

This document constitutes an explicit agreement between the course instructor and the students enrolled in the course. All issues pertaining to the conduct of the course shall be governed by this document, and where it is silent, the course instructor’s discretion shall be binding. If any rules, guidelines, and/or restrictions must be changed during the term, the instructor may do so and will communicate those changes to all students through Blackboard.
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<th>Assignments</th>
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<td>31 January – 4 February</td>
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<td>7-11 February</td>
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<td>28 February – 4 March</td>
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