SYLLABUS
PSYC 3361.W02 – Psychology of Personality
Spring 2018

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Office Hours: Email: pamela.brouillard@tamucc.edu
Tuesday 10:00-12:00 Phone: 361-825-5982
Thursday 1:00-3:00; or by appointment Class Location - Online

Required Text and Online Supplemental Materials:

*****The version of the text being used in this course is an Ebook with REVEL Access (ISBN-13: 9780133938258); you must have REVEL to complete the work for the course. REVEL is an online student class support system designed to provide each student with supplemental course support including low stake quizzes, videos and other exercises to help you learn the material in the course and to self-assess your mastery of the material. The link to Pearson/REVEL website will be provided to you in Blackboard under the “Start Here” tab.

Blackboard
This course is an online class and will use Blackboard, so every student must have regular access to a computer, laptop, or tablet with internet access and a working Blackboard account with an Islander email address. Please check Blackboard regularly as announcements will be posted there as well as any changes to the syllabus or assignments.

If you do not know your login information for Blackboard, please contact the IT Help Desk, (361) 825-2692. If there are issues within your Blackboard course please contact me first as typically the instructor is the only one who can make changes/fix issues within a course.

If you are having technical difficulties, please contact the IT Help Desk or your Internet Service Provider. You may also wish to forward your TAMU-CC email to your personal email address in order to receive announcements and other material in a timely fashion.

Contact Information
My goal is to help you have a successful experience in this course so please contact me if you need assistance. Email is the best way to get in touch with me. Be sure to include your course & section number in the email subject line so I can help you more effectively. I will typically respond to most email within 48-72 hours during the normal work week, but less frequently on the weekends. I encourage you to contact me early on if you have concerns.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Psychology 3361 is an overview of the major ideas that describe the development of both normal and abnormal human personality. In other words, we will be discussing why psychologists
believe people act the way they do. The underlying assumptions of a variety of theories, both historical and modern, will be discussed in terms of their relative merits and their relationship to contemporary psychology. A previous course in introductory psychology (PSYC 2301) is a requirement for this course.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After you have completed this course, you should be able to:

- Identify and describe the basic approaches to understanding personality development and demonstrate mastery of this knowledge in quizzes, examinations and other class assignments.
- Describe the differences between normal and abnormal personality development across theoretical models and demonstrate mastery of this knowledge in quizzes, examinations and other class assignments.
- Identify and describe the strengths and weakness of the major personality theories formation and demonstrate mastery of this knowledge in quizzes, examinations and other class assignments.

**Eclassroom Expectations**

- All students are expected to actively participate in all class activities. This means that your comments, question and contributions should indicate that you have read the assigned material and are prepared to contribute in a thoughtful and meaningful manner.
- Please be courteous in your comments to other and recognize that some of the topic areas in this course may cover sensitive material that you may have personal knowledge of or have experience with. Respect the privacy and confidentiality of yourself and others by not revealing personal information in class or other group forums.
- While it is healthy to have an informed critical view of all academic material, be thoughtful in your critique of ideas that you may disagree with and respect the views of your classmates, professor and the researchers and authors that have contributed to the material in the course.

**MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Please read the following course requirements carefully and email me if you have questions. Alternatively, if you are on campus you can come and see me during the office hours listed above if you have questions.

**Readings** You are expected to read the assigned chapters and review the PowerPoint slides from the text before completing the weekly discussions, assignments, quizzes and exams. Your etextbook also has additional online resources which you can use to help you master the material. Some of the supplemental text materials (e.g. short client videos) may be used in graded assignments, but many activities are supplemental and will not be graded. Graded assignments will be noted in the directions on Blackboard.

**Assignments** – There will be regular assignments given throughout the course (see the course calendar for specific dates) that correspond to the material covered in a particular unit. Instructions for each assignment will be posted on Blackboard with the unit content and will be
due on the dates specified on the courses calendar. These assignments are graded and will count toward your final course grade and will typically consist of short reaction papers or other similar assignments.

**Discussions:** Each week there will be a discussion prompt posted on the Blackboard discussion board. For each discussion assignment you will be required to do two things. First – you must respond to the prompt with a well thought out, researched and original response (Initial Response/IR). You will be graded on both content and style so please proofread your work. Additionally, to foster collaboration between students, you must make a minimum of 2 response postings to other students in the class (Peer Response/PR1 & PR2). These responses should be well thought out and original as well. Postings of encouragement (e.g. “Great point”, “I agree”, etc.) are great and help to build a sense of community – but will not count toward the 2 required weekly response postings. Some of the discussion prompts (or course assignments) may require you to first watch a video clip (links will be provided on Blackboard) or complete some library-based research. Please refer to the Discussion Forum Guidelines (under the Syllabus & Information tab in Blackboard) for more details. You will be expected to make your first posting of the week (to each discussion) by Wednesday at 11:59 p.m. and have all of your postings completed by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of the week that it is due unless otherwise indicated on the calendar. No discussions will be accepted and graded after 11:59 p.m. on Sunday.

**Revel Quizzes:** Chapter summary quizzes on Revel will be assigned weekly (see course calendar for due dates). The purpose of these quizzes is to help you gauge your understanding of the material as you prepare for the exams. Thus, these quizzes should be completed after you have read the chapters and reviewed the corresponding PowerPoint slides. Each question of the quizzes is worth two points, and you will have two attempts at answering each question correctly. If you answer incorrectly on the first attempt, one point will be deducted. If you answer incorrectly on the second time, the second point will be deducted.

**Four exams** will be given during weeks 1-16. **Each exam will be worth 100 points** and will consist of approximately 40-45 multiple-choice questions and a variety of essay questions. The exam test window will be open from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. on exam days. Students who have an average exam score of over 80% after taking the first three exams will be eligible to opt out of the final exam but are still expected to participate in class and complete the remaining assignments. If you take the final exam, I will drop your lowest exam score and use your three best exam scores to calculate your exam grade.

All students are required to use the Respondus Lockdown Browser to access exams in this course. Students may also be required to utilize Respondus Monitor for some or all of the course exams. This program uses a webcam and video technology to prevent cheating during online exams. Use of the Monitor feature requires a small fee to utilize. **Students are responsible for downloading the program, ensuring appropriate equipment to utilize this service, and paying any associated fees prior to the testing window.** More information about accessing online tests and the testing policies for the course are provided on Blackboard under the Syllabus & Information tab.
GRADING
Each component of the course will be worth the following percentages of your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revel Quizzes (14 @ 10 points each)</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion (11 @ 10 points each)</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (4 @ 25 points each)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (4 @ 100 points each)</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>750</strong></td>
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Final letter grades will be assigned based on the following total percentages. If you have questions about your grade at any time, please contact me.

- **A = 90-100%** 675-750 pts.
- **B = 80-89%** 600-674 pts.
- **C = 70-79%** 525-599 pts.
- **D = 60-69%** 450-524 pts.
- **F = 59% & below** 449 and below

I reserve the right to raise a student’s final grade when it falls within a few points of the cut-off for the next highest grade, for any of the following reasons: 1) Exceptional class participation and effort; 2) Pronounced improvement throughout the course; and 3) Isolated low grade. If you need assistance calculating your point total, contact me during office hours.

Department Facebook Page
If you are interested in keeping up with what is going on within the psychology department, especially if you are a psychology major, consider “liking” our department page as well (https://www.facebook.com/pages/Texas-AM-University-Corpus-Christi-Department-of-Psychology-Sociology/334128353345477).

Using Resources Outside of Class
There are a number of resources available to you outside of class and I strongly encourage you to contact me if you have any questions, difficulties, comments, or simply want feedback. *I want you to succeed in this class.* You are also strongly encouraged to make use of the Center for Academic Student Achievement (CASA). CASA offers a variety of services including tutoring, writing assistance, and mentors. The personnel in the center are a great resource to help you with various aspects of academic and college life. You can access their website for additional information at [http://casa.tamucc.edu/](http://casa.tamucc.edu/). The Counseling Center can help you to better understand and address factors which may interfere with your academic success and these services are provided to you as part of your academic fees. Counseling can help to increase self-awareness, improve self-confidence, strengthen coping skills, and teach you more effective strategies for all aspects of your life. Counselors can also help you to improving study skills, reduce text anxiety,
strengthen time management skills, and improve problem solving skills. They are located in the Driftwood Building and you can access their website at http://counseling.tamucc.edu/

Classroom/Professional Behavior
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Statement of Civility
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) Familiarize yourself with TAMUCC’s Academic Honesty Policy at http://catalog.tamucc.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=242#Academic_Honesty. If you have any questions or are unclear about anything, by all means please talk with me or contact someone at the Center for Academic and Student Achievement (CASA) at http://casa.tamucc.edu/ before engaging in any questionable behavior. In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a zero for the assignment or exam.

Integrity Test: If for any reason as your instructor, I suspect your work is not your own or that you have not adhered to the university academic honest guidelines in completing assignments, I reserve the right as your instructor to challenge a test, quiz, assignment or any graded score. In the case of suspected problems with test scores, I will ask the student to complete a random selection of oral test items as a judge of knowledge of the material. If the student is unable or unwilling to complete the requested items an exam/quiz/assignment grade of “0” for assignment in question will be given and they will be referred for an academic integrity issue.
Grade Appeal Process

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.

Dropping a Class
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. **Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form.** Just stopping attendance and participation will not automatically result in your being dropped from the class. April 6 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information, please call 361-825-3466.

Student with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
**Academic Continuity**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane, in which classes cannot be held on the TAMUCC campus, this course will continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., email, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.
## COURSE CALENDAR

This calendar is tentative. If changes occur, a revised version will be re-posted on Blackboard. All assignments (including discussion posts and quizzes) are due by 11:59pm on the assigned day, unless otherwise indicated (e.g. the week before spring break and the final week of class).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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| Week 1 1/16-1/21 | Defining Personality: Understanding Yourself and Others | 1 | Discussion IP - Due 1/17 (Wednesday)  
**Assignment 1 – Due 1/21(Sunday)**  
Discussion PRs - Due 1/21 (Sunday) |
| Week 2 1/22-1/28 | Assessment and Methods | 2 | Discussion IP-Due 1/24 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 2 Quiz Due 1/26 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs-Due 1/28 (Sunday) |
| Week 3 1/29-2/4 | The Big Five Personality Traits | 3 | Discussion IP-Due 1/31 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 3 Quiz Due 2/2 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs - Due 2/4 (Sunday)  
**Assignment 1 - Due 2/4 (Sunday)** |
| Week 4 2/5-2/11 | Biological Underpinnings of Personality | 4 | Discussion IP - Due 2/7 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 4 Quiz Due 2/9 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs - Due 2/11 (Sunday) |
| Week 5 2/12-2/18 | Self-Concept and Self-Processes | 5 | **Exam 1 (Chapters 1,2, 3,4): Monday 2/12**  
Revel Chapter 5 Quiz Due 2/16 (Friday) |
| Week 6 2/19-2/25 | Psychodynamic Approaches | 6 | Discussion IP-Due 2/21 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 6 Quiz Due 2/23 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs-Due 2/25 (Sunday)  
**Assignment 2 - Due 2/25 (Sunday)** |
| Week 7 2/26-3/4 | Motivation | 7 | Discussion IP-Due 2/28 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 7 Quiz Due 3/2 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs - Due 3/4 (Sunday) |
| Week 8 3/5-3/11 | How Learning Shapes Behavior | 8 | **Exam 2 (Chapters 5,6,7): Monday 3/5**  
Revel Chapter 8 quiz Due 3/9 (Friday) |
| 3/12-18 | | | Spring Break! |
| Week 9 3/19-3/25 | Personality Across the Lifespan | 9 | Discussion IP - Due 3/21 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 9 quiz Due 3/23 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs - Due 3/25 (Sunday) |
| Week 10  | Gender and Personality | 10 | Discussion IP-Due 3/28 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 10 quiz Due 3/30 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs-Due 4/1 (Sunday)  
**Assignment 3 - Due 4/1 (Sunday)** |
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| Week 11  | Culture and Personality| 11 | Discussion IP-Due 4/4(Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 11 quiz Due 4/6 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs - Due 4/8 (Sunday) |
| 4/2-4/8  |                        |    |                                   |
| Week 12  | Personality in the Workplace | 12 | **Exam 3 (Chapters 8,9,10,11) Monday 4/9**  
Revel Chapter 12 quiz Due – 4/13 (Friday) |
| 4/9-4/15 |                        |    |                                   |
| Week 13  | Personality and Relationships | 13 | Discussion IP - Due 4/18 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 13 quiz Due – 4/20 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs - Due 4/22 (Sunday) |
| 4/16-4/22|                        |    |                                   |
| Week 14  | Personality and Mental Health | 14 | Discussion IP-Due 4/25 (Wednesday)  
Revel Chapter 14 quiz Due 4/27 (Friday)  
Discussion PRs-Due 4/29 (Sunday)  
**Assignment 3 - Due 4/29 (Sunday)** |
| 4/23-4/29|                        |    |                                   |
| Week 15  | Personality and Physical Health**Quiz due early – end of the semester. | 15 | Revel Chapter 15 quiz Due 5/2 (Tuesday) |
| 4/30-5/2 | Short Week             |    |                                   |
| 5/4-5/10 | Final Exam Week        |    | **Final Exam: (Chapters 12, 13,14,15): Monday 5/7** |
|          |                        |    |                                   |