

PSY 260 PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY

3 Credits, CRN: 64402
Online, Asynchronous
9 January – 12 May 2023

Instructor: Lisamarie Bensman, Ph.D.

Email: bensman@hawaii.edu

Office: Na‘auao 114

Office Hours: By email and appointment via Google video chat. Email is an excellent way to get a hold of me; email anytime. I will respond within 24 hours, except on Saturdays.

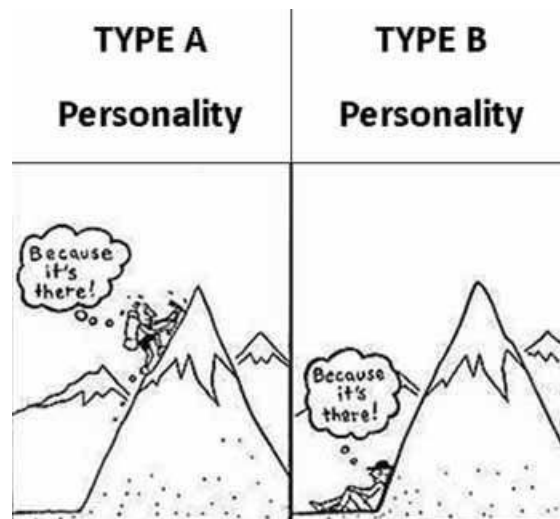
Drop-in [Zoom](#) Wednesdays 1 – 2 p.m. (no appointment needed, just click the link)

I’m also generally in my office on Mondays from 2.15 – 3 p.m.

Effective Date: Spring 2023

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career, and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.



OUR COURSE

How would you describe yourself? How would your best friend describe you? Your parents? Your professors? Would all of these people mention similar characteristics? If so, they may be describing facets of your personality. But what is personality? Does it drive your behavior or is your behavior more a product of your life situation? If personality does drive your behavior, from where does it come? This course will examine these questions and many more. By providing a mixture of the old

and the new, we will cover the main theories of personality. While we will trace the relevant history on personality, we will also explore a large amount of current personality research, including recent work on biology, cross-cultural psychology, and cognitive processes, hopefully demonstrating that the classic theories stimulate research and that research findings often shape the development and acceptance of the theories. Additionally, we will analyze whether personality psychology matters by examining whether personality provides valuable insights into real-life concerns and whether personality researchers have accomplished what they set out to do.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the basic theoretical approaches to personality, how they are developed, changed and analyzed. (3 hours lecture).

This is a distance learning class conducted via the internet using Laulima, the University of Hawai'i's web-based course management system and Revel, the textbook companion website. A web-based course such as this one requires that you have computer literacy skills.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:

1. Recognize the study of personality psychology as a science.
2. Discuss the basic perspectives, concepts, principles, and general information comprising the field of personality psychology.
3. Utilize the various personality psychology models and concepts in explaining human behaviors.



COURSE TASKS.

Because this course is conducted via the internet, our class communication, assignments, and textbook are all online and available via Laulima (<https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal>). Laulima is WCC's online course management system (you might already be familiar with it from previous classes). On Laulima, you will find our syllabus, class announcements, gradebook, and unit folders that include links to our assignments as well as our class lectures/PowerPoints. Access to Laulima requires your regular UH school username and password. **Throughout the semester, I recommend checking Laulima and your UH email once a day.**

You are responsible for keeping up in this class: your diligence in logging in regularly to Laulima and engaging with our content in a timely fashion is essential to your success. **No late work is accepted** (excepting cases of qualified, documented emergencies or usage of ‘free passes’—please see our late work policy in the ‘Late Work’ section of this syllabus).

We have much to learn this semester and you’ll demonstrate the knowledge and skills you’ve acquired using a variety of different formats. As you will see, you will be submitting more work for this class than you likely do for most of your face-to-face courses. Since this is an asynchronous online course, I need to be able to measure how well you are keeping up with the materials; these assignments allow me to gauge how well you are keeping up with and understanding the course material.

Reading Checks:	6 x 10 points = 60 points
Quiz Questions:	6 x 20 points = 120 points
Unit Activities:	6 x 30 points = 180 points
<hr/>	
TOTAL:	360 points

Our assignments follow a uniform structure. We spend two weeks on each unit. During the first week of each unit, the first assignment (the reading check) is due on Friday evening. This assignment helps “get your feet wet” regarding the chapter content. During week two of the unit, the second assignment (the quiz questions) is due on Monday evening. This assignment deepens your understanding of core chapter concepts. At the end of the second week, the final assignment (the unit activity) is due on Sunday evening. This assignment gauges your mastery of the unit material. All assignments may be submitted early, but no assignments are accepted late (excepting cases of qualified, documented emergencies or usage of ‘free passes’—please see our late work policy in the ‘Late Work’ section of this syllabus).

Personality Humor

I don't like people who make "I didn't sleep last night" their entire personality

They are tiring to be around

Our class works on a mastery system. This means that it’s more important that you get concepts eventually than to get them right away (although, it’s awesome if you do get them right away). To this end, our class assignments and policies are all set up for you to succeed, provided you continue to put in the work. Success is obtainable even if you struggle initially or experience difficulties throughout the semester. Each unit is set up with assignments of increasing difficulty and credit, so that the first assignment—when you’re likely the most unsure on our content—is the least complex and worth the least amount of credit. As your knowledge grows throughout the unit, so too does the complexity of and credit for our assignments. As a final feature of our mastery system, we will cover 7 units over the semester but only your highest 6 scores in each assignment category count. This means you don’t have to worry if an assignment doesn’t go your way as you can replace that score with another score from that category. Counting only the 6 highest scores also means that when life inevitably gets in the way and makes it difficult for you to complete your work, you can simply make that an assignment

that you don't submit (in other words, you can miss one assignment in each assignment category with no penalty).



Reading Checks (10 points each, highest 6 scores count, 60 points total)

For each unit, you will complete a brief reading check through Laulima wherein you answer 10 questions about the assigned textbook chapter and supplemental unit PP (a.k.a. our class lecture, which is available on Laulima in the unit folder). The reading checks are open-book, open-notes but should be entirely your own work. **These reading checks work on the mastery system, so you can take them as many times as you would like until the assignment deadline.** The computer will record your highest score, so there's no harm in trying a quiz multiple times. Question format includes multiple choice and true/false questions.

Pro tip: Have the reading check open as you are reading the chapters and PPs and fill in your reading check answers as you move through the assigned readings.

Each reading check is worth 10 points. There are seven reading checks throughout the semester and your highest six scores count, so you can skip one reading check without any negative impact on your final grade. No need to tell me which reading check you're skipping; just don't do it. Reading checks are due on the first Friday of the two-week unit period. Reading checks may be submitted early, but not late. Late reading checks are not accepted (excepting cases of qualified, documented emergencies or usage of 'free passes'—please see our late work policy in the 'Late Work' section of this syllabus).

Quiz Questions (20 points each, highest 6 scores count, 120 points total)

To deepen your knowledge of our class content, you'll WRITE five applied quiz questions for each unit. The questions should come from the textbook chapters and the supplemental PPs for the unit (please see assignment on Laulima for a breakdown of questions by source). Question format is up to you; whichever format you choose, craft questions that apply and/or synthesize our class content. Provide the question, the answer options, the correct answer, and indicate where you found this information.

The questions that you write will go into a question bank for next semester's students to answer, so please be thoughtful and clear. Also, feel free to write in your own voice (i.e. formal writing

isn't necessary, unless you'd like to use it). 'Own voice' includes the option to write in Pidgin (please note somewhere in your submission that you're writing in Pidgin). If you choose this option, you'll be allowing future semesters of students the chance to answer quiz questions in Standard English or Hawaiian Pidgin, per their choosing.

Questions are submitted to the 'Quiz Questions' tab on Lulima. Together these five questions are worth 20 points (please see assignment on Lulima for grading rubric), with partial credit available.

There are seven quiz question assignments throughout the semester and your highest six scores count, so you can skip one quiz question assignment without any negative impact on your final grade. No need to tell me which quiz question assignment you're skipping; just don't do it. Quiz questions are due on the second Monday of each unit. They may be submitted early (if the unit's quiz question assignment is up, go for it), but not late. Late quiz questions are not accepted (excepting cases of qualified, documented emergencies or usage of 'free passes'—please see our late work policy in the 'Late Work' section of this syllabus).



Unit Activities (30 points each, highest 6 scores count, 180 points total)

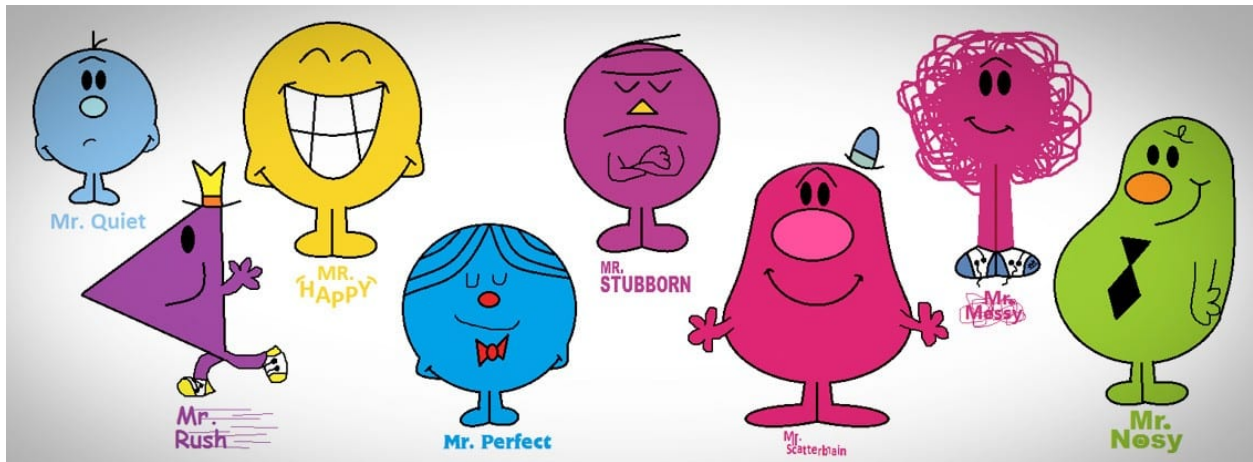
For each unit, you will complete an in-depth activity designed to showcase your understanding of the unit's key topics. Activities vary unit to unit, but all activities will draw on the textbook and supplemental PP (i.e. our class lecture) content for that unit. Details on each individual activity complete with grading rubrics are available on our Lulima in the unit folders. Regardless of the specific activity, your submission should make use of the information from the textbook, supplemental PP, and any posted materials, be thoughtful and thorough, and when responding to a discussion post, build on the responses of fellow students. There are seven unit activities throughout the semester and your highest six scores count, so you can skip one activity without any negative impact on your final grade. No need to tell me which activity you're skipping; just don't do it. Activities are due on the final day of the unit (i.e. the second Sunday). They may be submitted early, but not late. Late activities are not accepted (excepting cases of qualified, documented emergencies or usage of 'free passes'—please see our late work policy in the 'Late Work' section of this syllabus).

Late Work/Assignment Policies

Late assignments are not accepted, except in cases of serious documented emergencies with written verification of the extenuating medical, legal, or other qualifying circumstances. The determination of a qualified emergency is made by me; please contact me as soon as you anticipate or experience a problem.

There are two exceptions to this ‘no late work’ policy: Free passes and mulligans.

1. Free passes: Each student gets two free passes to turn in an assignment late. Each free pass buys an extra week (7 days) after its due date to submit the assignment. To use a free pass, email me to say you’d like to use it and I’ll reopen the assignment.
2. Mulligans: Each student gets two mulligans. A mulligan allows a student to revise and resubmit a previously submitted assignment. For example, if you miss the mark on a unit activity, you could revise your work and resubmit. Mulligans can be used within one week (7 days) of the graded assignment being returned. To use a mulligan, email me to say you’d like to use it and I let you know how to resubmit the work.



Extra Credit

At this point, 4 extra credit assignments are anticipated for the semester. Most are available now and due in the first weeks of the course:

1. Syllabus quiz. Taken on Laulima. Worth up to 3 points. Due 15 January.
2. Introduce yourself to the class using Laulima’s discussion board. Worth up to 2 points. Due 15 January.
3. Meet and Greet with instructor. With online classes, it can be easy to feel you’re all alone in your learning process, but you’re not. I’m in it with you so let’s get to know one another. Sign up for a quick, 10-minute one-on-one introduction with me. Worth 7 points. Due 18 January.
4. Mid-semester check-in with instructor. Worth 15 points. Complete between 6 – 12 March.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Please do NOT wait until the last day to do your work because all kinds of problems (especially technological ones) can happen. This is a reality of online courses. If you experience problems near the deadline and miss submitting the work, your grade will be recorded as a zero (if you have a late pass remaining, you could then choose to still submit the work, but if you are out of late passes, you’d be out of luck).



WHAT PERSONALITY TYPE IS YOUR CAT?



COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE (tentative and subject to change)

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignment Due
1	9 – 15 Jan.	Orientation	Familiarize yourself with our course and Laulima; do extra credit
2 – 3	16 – 29 Jan.	Foundations of Personality	F, 20 Jan.: Reading Check
			M, 23 Jan.: Quiz
			Su, 29 Jan.: Activity
4 – 5	30 Jan. – 12 Feb.	Psychoanalytic Perspectives	F, 3 Feb.: Reading Check
			M, 6 Feb.: Quiz
			Su, 12 Feb.: Activity
6 – 7	13 – 26 Feb.	Biological Theories	F, 17 Feb.: Reading Check
			M, 20 Feb.: Quiz
			Su, 26 Feb.: Activity
8 – 9	27 Feb. – 12 March	Behavioral & Cognitive Theories	F, 3 March: Reading Check
			M, 6 March: Quiz
			Su, 12 March: Activity
	13 – 19 March	SPRING BREAK	NO WORK DUE
10	20 – 26 March	Cognitive Processing Week	Check in with Lisamarie regarding semester progress
11 – 12	27 March – 9 April	Trait Theories	F, 31 March: Reading Check
			M, 3 April: Quiz
			Su, 9 April: Activity
13 – 14	10 April – 23 April	Humanistic Theories	F, 14 April: Reading Check
			M, 17 April: Quiz
			Su, 23 April: Activity
15 – 16	24 April – 7 May	Contemporary Perspectives	F, 28 April: Reading Check
			M, 1 May: Quiz
			Su, 7 May: Activity

Assigned work is due by 11.59 p.m. on the date it is listed. Beyond the free passes, late work is not accepted, excepting documented, qualified emergencies (as determined by me, see course policy).

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

You're spending your valuable time and money on this course, so let's make sure that you are on course for success. Using this grade tracker sheet, you can always be aware of your grade in our course. Simply fill in your scores as you earn them.

Grade Tracker:

Reading Checks

Foundations of Personality =	____/10 points	
Psychoanalytic Perspectives =	____/10 points	
Biological Theories =	____/10 points	
Behavioral & Cognitive Theories =	____/10 points	Highest 6 of 7 Scores = ____/60 points
Trait Theories =	____/10 points	
Humanistic Theories =	____/10 points	
Contemporary Perspectives =	____/10 points	

Quiz Questions

Foundations of Personality =	____/20 points	
Psychoanalytic Perspectives =	____/20 points	
Biological Theories =	____/20 points	
Behavioral & Cognitive Theories =	____/20 points	Highest 6 of 7 Scores = ____/120 points
Trait Theories =	____/20 points	
Humanistic Theories =	____/20 points	
Contemporary Perspectives =	____/20 points	

Unit Activities

Foundations of Personality =	____/30 points	
Psychoanalytic Perspectives =	____/30 points	
Biological Theories =	____/30 points	
Behavioral & Cognitive Theories =	____/30 points	Highest 6 of 7 Scores = ____/180 points
Trait Theories =	____/30 points	
Humanistic Theories =	____/30 points	
Contemporary Perspectives =	____/30 points	

Total Points = ____/360 points

***Add only the scores in this right, bolded column**

Extra credit earned: _____ points

Your total points + extra credit then determines the final course grade that you have earned for PSY 260:

A	=	360.0 – 324 points [percentage of 90 – 100%]
B	=	323.9 – 288 points [percentage of 80 – 89.9%]
C	=	287.9 – 252 points [percentage of 70 – 79.9%]
D	=	251.9 – 216 points [percentage of 60 – 69.9%]
F	=	Below 216 points [percentage of 0 – 59.9%]

To figure out your grade at any point during the semester, total up all the points you've earned up until thus far and use this formula:

$$(\text{Points earned} \div \text{Points possible thus far}) \times 100 = \text{Current grade}$$

For example, say it's partway through the semester and you've earned 179 points thus far and there have been 200 points available. You would take $179 \div 200$, which equals .895 and then multiply .895 by 100, which equals 89.5%. Using the above grade breakdown, we'd see that a percentage of 89.5 means that your current grade would be a 'B'.



LEARNING RESOURCES

We are using OER (Open Education Resources) for this class, which means that **there are no books to buy for this course!** For each unit, textbook chapters will be posted (linked) in our unit folder on Laulima (typically the file is a .pdf, but for some sources, you'll read the content in a web browser). We'll read selections from various authors so that you're exposed to many different perspectives.

Along with our OER textbook chapters, our class PowerPoints and additional course materials are available on Laulima.

Recommended Reading Resources:

American Psychological Association. (2002). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (5th ed.). Washington DC: Author. (In Reference Section of WCC Library or at Reference Librarian's desk. Call number: BF76.7.P83 2001)

Campus Resources:

At WCC, we care deeply about your success. To help you thrive, we have the following:
TRiO: Tutoring and resource center for low-income, first-generation, and/or students with disabilities.

Additional tutoring options: Free online, on-demand [tutoring](#) is also available for all students. Sign in to MyUH.hawaii.edu for access to Tutor.com.

WCC Librarians: Our [librarians](#) are amazing and can help with oh so much.

[Ka Piko](#) is WCC's academic support hub and contains even more tutor help as well as other services.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

I am here to help you succeed in this course. Please don't hesitate to email me or stop by my office if you have any questions, concerns, or problems. At any point in the semester, if you have concerns about our class that you would prefer not to discuss with me, an alternative contact for any concerns is wccaa@hawaii.edu.

In order to keep class fair for everyone, we will adhere strongly to the following course policies:

1. **Plagiarism/Cheating:** I take both plagiarism and cheating very seriously. If I think you have plagiarized (intentionally or unintentionally) or cheated, you will earn a zero for that assignment, no exceptions. A second instance of either will result in failure of the course (i.e. two instances of plagiarism, two instances of cheating, or one instance of plagiarism and one instance of cheating).
2. **Late work policy:** Beyond the free passes, late assignments are not accepted, except in cases of serious documented emergencies with written verification of the extenuating medical, legal, or other qualifying circumstances. The determination of a qualified emergency is made by me; please contact me as soon as you anticipate or experience a problem.
3. **I strongly uphold the University of Hawai'i's non-discrimination policy in my class. Any discriminatory acts or language on the basis of race, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, or sexual orientation will NOT be tolerated. We will maintain our online classroom as a safe environment for all.**



DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at 235-74, royinouye@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale Kako'o 106 for more information. Please note that any special accommodations for the class will begin once the instructor is contacted by the Disability Specialist and will include the assignments from that point forward, as deemed reasonable and appropriate.

SEX DISCRIMINATION & GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Leslie Cabingabang, Confidential Advocate
Phone: (808) 348-0432
Email: leslie.cabingabang@hawaii.edu

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
Phone: (808) 235-7393
Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kāko‘o 101

Karen Cho, Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7404
Email: kcho@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Alaka‘i 120B

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University’s Title IX resources and the University’s Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/



ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are unable to contact me or experience any issues with class that you’d prefer not to discuss with me, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:



Location: Alaka‘i 121
Phone: 808-235-7422
Email: wccaa@hawaii.edu