PSY 2360: Introduction to Individual Differences and Personality **Winter**, 2018

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Instructor:

Classroom:

Course Description: A survey of basic research in individual differences and personality, including a discussion of major personality theories, personality variables (i.e., aggression, altruism) and the measurement of personality variables. Prerequisite(s): PSY 100 with a grade of 2.0 or higher.

Required: Miserandino, M. (2012). Personality Psychology Foundation and Findings. Pearson Education. New York. A good website to get books is www.allbookstores.com

Academic Misconduct: The University's regulations that relate to academic misconduct will be fully enforced. Any student suspected of cheating and/or plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students and, thereafter, to the Academic Conduct Committee for adjudication. Anyone found guilty of academic misconduct in this course may receive a course grade of 0.0, in addition to any penalty assigned by the Academic Conduct Committee. Students found guilty of academic misconduct by the Academic Conduct Committee may face suspension or permanent dismissal. The full policy on academic misconduct can be found in the General Information section of the Undergraduate Catalog.

Add/Drops & Incompletes: The University add/drop and incomplete grade policies will be explicitly followed. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the University deadline dates for dropping the course. Here is a link to important dates to remember: http://wwwp.oakland.edu/registrar/important-dates/

Make-up Exams: Make-up exams will be considered on an individual basis. All make-up exams consist of essay questions only. Verification, (a signed, written document) must be presented to me to validate your absence. Please understand that vacation, work, anxiety, sleeplessness, or over-sleeping are not considered valid reasons for missing an exam. It is your responsibility to arrange for a make-up exam, the time and nature of which will be determined by the professor. For the OU excused absence policy, see http://wwwp.oakland.edu/provost/policies-and-procedures/.

Faculty Feedback: As a student in this class, you may receive "Faculty Feedback" in your OU e-mail if your professor identifies areas of concern that may impede your success in the class. Faculty Feedback typically occurs during weeks 2-5 of the Fall and Winter terms, but may also be given later in the semester and more than once a semester. A "Faculty Feedback" e-mail will specify the area(s) of concern and recommend action(s) you should take. Please remember to check your OU email account regularly as that is where it will appear.

Audio Recording Policy: Students who wish to audio-record lectures may request permission to do so. These recordings may only be used for the purpose of personal study. Students may not share these recordings with other individuals without the consent of the professor. At the conclusion of the semester, students may request permission to keep these recordings if needed, otherwise it is expected that all audio-recordings will be deleted from all electronic recording and storage devices.

Resolution of Student Academic-Related Concerns: The student has an obligation to attempt to resolve all academic-related concerns with the instructor. If a suitable solution cannot be reached, then the student should consult the Department of Psychology Procedure for the Resolution of Student Academic-Related Concerns at https://www.oakland.edu/Assets/Oakland/psychology/files-anddocuments/Undergrad-Advising/Resolution%20of%20Student%20Concerns-04-2017-approved%20full%20doc.pdf

Disability Services: Students with disabilities who may require special considerations should make an appointment with campus Disability Support Services. Students should also bring their needs to the attention of the instructor as soon as possible.

Veteran Support Services: The office of Veteran Support Services (VSS) is responsible for giving support services to more than 300 veterans, service members, and dependents of veterans. VSS is staffed with personnel who are veterans and current or former students. Any student veteran or dependent of a veteran requiring assistance with navigating the Veterans Administration, understanding servicerelated benefits, or requires referrals to campus and community resources should contact one of the Veterans Liaisons by visiting 116 North Foundation Hall, or phoning 248-370-2010. http://wwwp.oakland.edu/veterans/

## **Course Objectives:**

- 1. Describe dominant theories in Personality
- 2. Describe how personality and individual differences are assessed
- 3. Demonstrate knowledge of important research related to Personality Theory

Grades: Total points earned during the semester will be based on the following course material.

- Three exams consisting of multiple choice. Two exams will be worth 50 pts. each and the final exam will be worth 100 pts. (200 pts.)
- Chapter quizzes (13 chapter quizzes x 15 pts. each = 195 pts.): Quizzes will be over readings, PowerPoint and video presentations.
- Writing Assignments (3 @ 20 pts. = 60 pts.) Writing assignment require that you use one peer-reviewed article on the topic. See the Finding Articles online link in Moodle.
- Discussion questions will be presented in class throughout the semester (no set day). There will be 13 discussion questions possible. Students will need to complete 9 of the 13 discussion questions at 5 points each (9 x 5 = 45 pts.). Points will be allocated based on quality of submission. Additional submissions will be accepted for extra credit (2.5 pts. each).

## Total points possible = 500

**Grade Calculation:** Students should calculate their grade throughout the semester by totaling the number of points earned and dividing by the total number possible. The sum of points earned in all activities will be converted to a percentage of all points possible.

## **Grading Scale:**

| Percentage | OU Grade |
|------------|----------|
| 100        | 4.0      |
| 99         | 4.0      |
| 98         | 4.0      |
| 97         | 4.0      |
| 96         | 4.0      |
| 95         | 4.0      |
| 94         | 3.8      |
| 93         | 3.7      |
| 92         | 3.7      |
| 91         | 3.6      |
| 90         | 3.6      |
| 89         | 3.5      |
| 88         | 3.4      |
| 87         | 3.4      |
| 86         | 3.3      |
| 85         | 3.3      |
| 84         | 3.2      |
| 83         | 3.2      |
| 82         | 3.1      |
| 81         | 3.1      |
| 80         | 3.0      |

| Percentage | OU Grade |
|------------|----------|
| 79         | 2.9      |
| 78         | 2.8      |
| 77         | 2.7      |
| 76         | 2.6      |
| 75         | 2.5      |
| 74         | 2.4      |
| 73         | 2.3      |
| 72         | 2.2      |
| 71         | 2.1      |
| 70         | 2.0      |
| 69         | 1.9      |
| 68         | 1.8      |
| 67         | 1.7      |
| 66         | 1.6      |
| 65         | 1.5      |
| 64         | 1.4      |
| 63         | 1.3      |
| 62         | 1.2      |
| 61         | 1.1      |
| 60         | 1.0      |
| ≥59        | 0.0      |

<sup>\*</sup>The percentages for your course grade are rounded to the nearest whole number. For example, 83.4% is equal to 83% and an OU grade of 3.2

## Tentative Detailed Class Schedule and Topical Outline: PSY 2360

| Date                      | Topic   | Assignment                                |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Week 1<br>Jan. 3          | Syllabus Introduction   | Read                                      |
|                           | Chapter 1: Who am I? Understanding the Building Blocks of Personality | Read                                      |
|                           | Discussion Question 1   | Complete in-class                         |
| Week 2<br>Jan. 8          | Chapter #2: Personality Traits: A Good Theory                         | Read                                      |
|                           | Discussion Question 2   | Complete in-class                         |
| Week 3<br>Mon.<br>Jan. 15 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day   | No Class                                  |
| Wed.<br>Jan. 17           | Online quiz #1  | Complete in Moodle by Wednesday (15 pts.) |
|                           | Chapter #3: Personality Traits: Practical Matters                     | Read                                      |
|                           | Discussion Question 3   | Complete in-class                         |
| Week 4<br>Jan. 22         | Online quiz #2  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)       |
|                           | Chapter #4: Personality Assessment                                    | Continue Lecture                          |
|                           | Discussion Question 4   | Complete in-class                         |
| Week 5<br>Jan. 29         | I ()nling alliz #3  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)       |
|                           | Chapter #5: Self and Identity   | Read                                      |
|                           | Discussion Question 5   | Complete in-class                         |
| Sun.,<br>Feb. 4           | Personality Assessment  | Paper #1 Due in Moodle                    |
| Week 6<br>Feb. 5          | Online quiz #4 and 5  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)       |
| Fri.<br>Feb. 9            | Test #1   | Chapters 1 – 5                            |
| Week 7<br>Feb. 12         | Chapter #6: Genetics  | Read                                      |
|                           | Discussion Question 6   |   |
| Week 8<br>Feb. 19         | Winter Break  |   |
| Week 9<br>Feb. 26         | Online quiz #6  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)       |

| Chapter #7: The Neuroscience of Personality                         | Read   |
|---|--|
| Discussion Question 7   | Complete in-class  |
| Online quiz #7  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)  |
| Chapter #8: Intrapsychic Foundations of Personality                 | Continue Lecture   |
| Discussion Question 8   | Complete in-class  |
| Online quiz #8  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)  |
| Chapter #9: Regulation and Motivation:<br>Self-Determination Theory | Read   |
| Discussion Question 9   |  |
| Online quiz #9  | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)  |
| Freudian Theory   | Paper #2 Due in Moodle   |
| March 19 Chapter #10: Cognitive Foundations of Personality          | Read   |
| Discussion Question 10  | Complete in-class  |
| Test #2   | Chapters 6 – 9   |
| Online quiz #10   | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)  |
| Chapter 11: Gender and Personality                                  | Read   |
| Discussion Question 11  | Complete in-class  |
| Online quiz #11   | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)  |
| Chapter 12: Sexual Orientation: An Integrative Mini-Chapter         | Read   |
| Online quiz #12   | Complete in Moodle Monday (15 pts.)  |
| 1   |  |
| Chapter 13: Resilience: An Integrative Mini-Chapter                 | Read   |
|   | Read   |
| Mini-Chapter  | Read Paper #3 Due in Moodle  |
|   | Personality Discussion Question 7  Online quiz #7  Chapter #8: Intrapsychic Foundations of Personality Discussion Question 8  Online quiz #8  Chapter #9: Regulation and Motivation: Self-Determination Theory Discussion Question 9  Online quiz #9  Freudian Theory  Chapter #10: Cognitive Foundations of Personality  Discussion Question 10  Test #2  Online quiz #10  Chapter 11: Gender and Personality  Discussion Question 11  Online quiz #11  Chapter 12: Sexual Orientation: An Integrative Mini-Chapter |

\*\*\* FINAL EXAMINATION \*\*\*
Monday, April 23 @ 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.