San José State University  
Department of Psychology  
Psyc 139 (3) Psychology of the Person;  
Section 21397 Spring Semester 2012  

Instructor: Naomi Wagner, Ph.D  
Office Location: DMH #315  
Telephone: (408) 924-5646  
Email: Psychprof1@yahoo.com Please note it is #1 not lower-case L  
Website: http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/  
Office Hours:  
- MW 08:45-10:30 DMH 315  

Course Description  
This course introduces the student to theories and research exploring the nature of the “person”—the nature and the sources of our consistent behavioral patterns and intrapersonal processes.  

Course Content Learning Outcomes  
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: to critically examine relevant empirical evidence associated with each the theoretical approaches  
LO4: recognize the application of theoretical concepts into real life issues
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.

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Textbook**
  - Study guide recommended.
  - Instructor’s website: [http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/](http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/)

**Companion Website:** The textbook offers students online companion website for quizzes, flash cards, and chapter summaries, click on the following link, and then click on “access now” (a button below Study Skills, in green color.)


**Classroom Protocol**

This course is based on the active participation of the student, and the main requirement is READING and ATTENDANCE. You are expected to read the assigned materials before class, so that the teacher can elaborate and expand. Because of time constraints it may not be impossible to cover all the segments of a given unit. However, you are responsible for all the assigned reading, as the exams will include questions from ALL the parts of the unit. We will cover one chapter per week, and follow the sequence of the textbook, chapter-by-chapter. Some parts of the chapters will be skipped, please see reading list below.
The best way to contact me is via e-mail. In the subject line please specify the title of the class. If you leave a phone message, speak slowly and clearly, and when you leave a phone number speak VERY clearly, and repeat the number.

Attendance:
Your regular attendance and participation are factors contributing to the successful completion of this course. If you do not attend class you will miss on the opportunity to ask questions and to get clarifications. In addition, please make all effort to come to class on time. Tardiness disturbs the instructor and other students, and also deprives you of the short reviews of the previous lecture that are presented at the beginning of each class. **If you hold a full time job, please make all effort to attend class regularly, and to study each night for at least an hour and a half.** Cramming before the test has not been very effective for most students. As you read, take notes and go over the material that has been discussed in class, pay attention to concepts, and examples of these concepts. Be familiar with important studies. Chapter summaries are posted on my website (see address above).

Distractions:
You cannot surf the Internet, text-message, or respond to cell-phone during class. Please do NOT leave class to use your cell-phone.

Teacher Availability:
Do not hesitate to e-mail me or to come by with questions. If you have not done so well on any of the tests, please come to see me ASAP, in order to go over test questions that you missed, so we can understand how you interpreted the questions, and devise strategies for doing better on the next test.

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 section at [http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html](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/](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 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/).

Assignments and Grading Policy

Extra Credit:
Please note that I do not give extra-credits. You mastery of the subject matter as measured on the exams is the factor that counts.
Homework: Weekly homework consists of the assigned reading, and defining and providing examples of the outlined concepts. See details in the weekly power-points posted on the instructor’s web-site.

Grading:

We are going to have 3 multiple choice midterms, of 50 questions each, and a final, of 100 multiple-choice questions. The questions are factual, conceptual, and applied. The final grade is calculated as the number of correct items on the 4 tests, divided by 250 (total number of questions)

The grading scale:
A+    98-100%
A     93-97
A-    90-92
B+    87-89
B     83-86
B-    80-82
C+    77-79
C     73-76
C-    70-72
D+    67-69
D     63-66
D-    60-62
F     <60

Exams:
We will have 3 midterms and a final. Each midterm will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 2 points. The questions are factual (specific information), conceptual (assigning a concept to a scenario), and applied (use the information to offer solution to a problem). Each midterm will cover about 3 to 4 chapters. Please bring a scantron (#882) and a pencil. The final will include 100 multiple-choice questions and will be selectively cumulative; that is, it will cover the central themes for each topic studied (you will receive a study guide).

Exam Dates:
Exam 1: Wed. February 29, 2012

Exam 2: Wed. April 4, 2012

Exam 3: Wed. May 9, 2012

Final: Monday, May 21, 2012, 12:15-14:30
Make up exams:
Please note exam dates and plan your trips and events accordingly. You will be allowed to reschedule an exam ONLY upon the presentation of documented medical reason, or if you have a mandatory, documented school activity.

University Policies

Academic integrity
Students should know that the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require 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 website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

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 in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 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 DRC (Disability Resource Center) 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 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd 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.

Learning Assistance Resource Center
The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning
assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

**SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

**Peer Mentor Center**

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/. 
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>Introduction to the study of personality Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Jan. 30</td>
<td>Chapter 1(Cont-d)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>Research chapter 2</td>
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<td>Feb 6</td>
<td>Cont-d</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>Research con-d</td>
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<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>The Psychoanalytic Perspective Chapter 3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>The Psychoanalytic Perspective (con-d)</td>
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<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Psychoanalytic cont-d</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>Psychoanalytic Research segment on Humor only</td>
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<td>Feb. 27</td>
<td>The Neo-Freudians Chapter 5</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 29</td>
<td>Midterm 1 , chps 1,2,3 4 (Humor only)</td>
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<td>Mar 5</td>
<td>Neo-Freudian research chapter 6 (2 first sections)</td>
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<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>The Trait approach chapter 7</td>
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<td>Mar 12</td>
<td>Trait approach cont-d</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 14</td>
<td>Trait approach cont-d</td>
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<td>Mar 19</td>
<td>The Trait research chapter 8</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>The Trait research cont-d</td>
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<td><strong>March 26- March 30 Spring Break</strong></td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>Biological perspective chapter 9</td>
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<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Midterm 2 chps 5, 6 (the assigned sections) ,7, 8</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Apr 9</td>
<td>Biological Perspective (cont-d)</td>
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<td>Apr 11</td>
<td>Biological research chapter 10</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Biological research cont-d</td>
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<td>Apr 18</td>
<td>The Humanistic perspective chapter 11</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 23</td>
<td>The Humanistic Approach cont-d</td>
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<td>Apr 25</td>
<td>Humanistic research chapter 12</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>The Behavioral approach chapter 13</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td>The behavioral approach cont-d</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>The behavioral approach cont-d</td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td>Midterm 3 chaps 9,10, 11, 12</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>Week</td>
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<td>Final</td>
<td>Monday, May 21, 2012, 12:15-14:30</td>
<td>Final is selectively cumulative and cover the highlights (main concepts) of the previous chapters, plus all of chapter 13.</td>
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