San José State University  
Department of Psychology  
Psyc 139 (1) Psychology of the Person;  
Section 40688

**Instructor:** Naomi Wagner, Ph.D  
**Office Location:** DMH #310  
**Telephone:** (408) 924-5646  
**Email:**  
Psychprof1@yahoo.com Please note it is #1 not lower-case L (preferred)  
Naomi.wagner@sjsu.edu  
  
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.

**Website:**  
http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/  

**Office Hours:**  
- MW 08:45-10:30 DMH 310  
- By e-mail- responses to your mail sent same day  

**Class Days/Time:** MW 07:30-8:45  
**Classroom:** DMH 355  
**Prerequisites:** PSYC 100  

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU**  
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/  
You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by me).
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. We will examine historically-relevant and current theories and assess their current status on the basis of research. We will examine applications of theoretical concepts into applied contexts—such as psychotherapy, the job market, and the dating scenes.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives
This class is aimed at acquainting the student with the major theories of personality, with the historical factors related to their emergence, and with their current status as established by empirical findings. The current possible applications into a variety of real-life situations and the importance of such applications to better understand human behavior, will also be addressed.

We will follow the textbook sequence of chapters and will allocate two week to each of the theories. The presentation of each theory will introduce its basic concepts, how these concepts are measured, how they are proposed to be applied, and results of studies that evaluated the theoretical concepts.

GE Learning Objectives:
The GE Writing Requirement is met through the weekly writing assignments that are posted on the instructor’s website.

GE learning Outcomes

Upon the completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate

• GELO 1  A broad understanding of issues related to the social sciences
• GELO 2  An ability to communicate ideas effectively both in speaking and in writing
• GELO 3  The capacity for critical and creative thinking;
• GELO 4  The ability to assess information
• GELO 5  The ability for creative and critical thinking

Class activities linked to these outcomes are:
• The identification of the main questions asked by researchers in this area
• The examination of the multiple explanations provided to the questions
• The exploration of yet unknown issue waiting for subsequent research
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: critically examine relevant empirical evidence associated with each of the theoretical approaches

LO4: recognize the application of theoretical concepts into real life issues and in psychotherapy

Measurement of the course learning outcomes will be achieved via evaluation of the student’s written assignment for each chapter, midterms, and a cumulative final exam.

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.

Important Information:

- Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

- The credit hour is defined as "the amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student
achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester..."

2) A credit hour is assumed to be a 50-minute (not 60-minute) period.

• As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minuts of direct faculty instruction and six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

• **Recording:** Common courtesy and professional behavior dictates that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. This permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

**Required Texts/Readings**

- Study guide recommended.
- Instructor’s website: You will find lecture-notes (power-points) and learning objectives for each chapter

http://www.sjsu.edu/people/Naomi.wagner/

Please view the calendar at the end of this syllabus for assignments, dues dates, and exams.

**Assignments:** Weekly homework consists of the assigned reading, and responding to the Learning Assignments that are posted on the Instructor’s website. These assignments are designed to enable the student to process the information more efficiently and to retain it better. They cover main concepts and issues related to these concepts.

You need to complete the learning assignments after we have finished each chapter and send them back to me. We will go over them in class as preparation for the test. This is to benefit your learning!!
Submitting all the weekly assignments filled correctly gives you 5% to your final grade.

NOTE that University policy F69-24, “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

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, along the sequence described below. Some parts of the chapters will be skipped, please see reading list below.

Students are expected to:

- Maintain polite and considerate behavior toward their fellow students and the instructor.
- Not to text-message during class
- Not to make or receive phone calls
- Not to surf the Internet during class.
- NOT leave class to use their cell-phone.

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).

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. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at 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/.

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.

Grading:
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).

The final grade is calculated as the number of correct items on the 4 tests, divided by 250 (total number of questions) plus the 5% if applicable.

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
Exam Dates:
Exam 1: Wed. September 25, 2013
Exam 2: Wed. October 30, 2013
Final: Monday, December 16, 2013 07:15-09:30 AM

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at: http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to
SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus

**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/](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/](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. The Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/).

**Additional Resources Important for Your Success**
The university offers Counseling Services, Health Center/Wellness and Health Promotion Department, ad Career Center
See: http://sjsu.edu/wellness
http://sjsu.edu/counseling/workshops
**PSYC 139 (1) Personality, Fall 2013, Course Schedule**

*List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.*

<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>August 21</td>
<td>Introduction to the study of personality Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 26</td>
<td>Cont-d chapter 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Research methods chapter 2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 2</td>
<td>No class Labor Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>Research methods (cont-d)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>Research Methods cont-d</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>Research methods cont-d</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>The Psychoanalytic approach chapter 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sept 18</td>
<td>Psychoanalytic approach cont-d</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 23</td>
<td>The psychoanalytic approach</td>
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<td>Sept 25</td>
<td><em>Midterm #1 chapters 1,2,3</em></td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Sept 30</td>
<td>Psychoanalytic research- only the Humor section ch 4</td>
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<td>Oct 2</td>
<td>Neo Freudians chapter 5</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 7</td>
<td>The Trait Approach Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Oct 9</td>
<td>The Trait Approach (cont-d)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 14</td>
<td>The Trait Approach (cont-d)</td>
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<td>Oct 16</td>
<td>The Biological Approach Chapter 9</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 21</td>
<td>The Biological approach (cont-d)</td>
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<td>Oct 23</td>
<td>The Biological Approach (cont-d)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Oct 28</td>
<td>The Biological Approach (cont-d)</td>
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<td>Oct 30</td>
<td><em>Midterm #2 chapters 4 (humor) 5, 7, 9</em></td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 4</td>
<td>The Biological research Chapter 10</td>
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<td>Nov 6</td>
<td>Biological Research (cont-d)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>The Humanistic Approach chapter 11</td>
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<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>The Humanistic Approach (cont-d)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 18</td>
<td>The Behavioral Social-Learning Approach chapter 13</td>
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<td>Nov 20</td>
<td>Behavioral (cont-d)</td>
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<td>Nov 27</td>
<td>Behavioral (cont-d)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Dec 2</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>Dec 4</td>
<td><strong>Midterm #3 chapters 10, 11, 13</strong></td>
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<td>Dec 9</td>
<td><strong>Final Review</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Monday, Dec 16, 2013</td>
<td>Time: 07:15-09:30</td>
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<tr>
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