

Syllabus for Personality Theories PSC 162

UC Davis

Instructor: Christopher J. Hopwood, PhD

Location: Psychologische Hochschule, Berlin

Course Content

This course will cover major theories of personality development, structure, and dynamics. It will span normal and abnormal personality, and will emphasize research methods for studying personality in particular. The content of the course will primarily come from the textbook listed below. As this course will be taught during a study abroad program, efforts will be made to thematically connect course content across courses and with cultural experiences associated with the study abroad. For that reason, we will not follow the order of book chapters exactly.

Goals and Expectations

The goals of this course are to:

1. Become aware of and be able to compare the major contemporary theories of personality.
2. Develop the ability to critically critique personality research studies.
3. Effectively communicate ideas through writing and group based discussion.
4. Understand the connections between personality theories and the personal, social, and cultural milieus in which they developed.

This course will emphasize critical thinking, for instance by critically reviewing personality research and debating about unresolved topics in the field. It will also emphasize writing, which will constitute a major aspect of the course grade (see below). Students will get the most out of this course if they read the book/papers before the class in which they are discussed and actively participate in class discussions.

Along with the benefits of engaging in a local culture as part of a study abroad come increased responsibility to approach the experience in a scholarly manner. Students are expected to take advantage of the cultural experiences by considering thoughtfully how they relate to coursework, and to comport themselves with respect and maturity. Failure to do so can affect your grade and may result in dismissal from the program.

Book

Funder, D. C. (2015). *The personality puzzle* (7th edition). New York, NY: W. W. Norton.

Please purchase this book prior to departure for Berlin.

Grades

Exercises: There will be four in class exercises requiring group participation, based on the topics of that week. These will include: designing an experiment, debating an issue in personality psychology, critically reviewing a psychological study, and developing a personality assessment tool. Students will be graded

on their contribution to the exercise within their group. Each of these exercises will count for 5% of your grade.

Examination: There will be two multiple-choice exams. Each exam will count for 20% of your grade.

Reflection papers: You will write one 1-2 page reflection paper on personality psychology each week. Each reflection paper should be turned in by email before class on Wednesday each week. Reflection papers for the personality course must deal with topics discussed in class, although those topics can be embedded within your personal experience, particularly with respect to being in Berlin. However, these papers should be written from a psychological/empirical point of view. They should be thematic and rooted in skepticism, evidence, and the scientific method rather than personal opinions, subjective experiences, or appeals to authority. Reflection papers should be completed alone. Each paper will count for 10% of your grade.

Grading Scale

A+	=	97-100	C+	=	77-79
A	=	93-96	C	=	73-76
A-	=	90-92	C-	=	70-72
B+	=	87-89	D+	=	67-69
B	=	83-86	D	=	63-66
B-	=	80-82	D-	=	60-62
			F	=	59 and below

Grade Changes

I will adhere to these cut-offs. There will not be any curve or extra credit assignments offered beyond what is described above. At the end of the quarter, if you believe that we made an error in calculating your grade, please let us know. We will check your grade and will change it if we have made an error. This is the only circumstance under which we will change a grade. Under no circumstance will we “bump up” your grade or give you a special extra credit opportunity. We never do this, so please don’t ask. There will be no exceptions.

Academic Honesty

The student shares with the instructor and teaching assistant the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards. Students who violate the UC Davis academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the examination or in the course. Please see <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/files/plagiarism.pdf> for further details.

Policy on Religious Observations

If you anticipate being absent from class due to a major religious observance, please provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second class meeting.

Note taking and recording

You are encouraged to take notes on the lecture. A podcast of the course will be available through CANVAS. You are not permitted to take notes or tape-record for purposes of sale and distribution.

Students with Special Needs

Students with disabilities should contact the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities to establish reasonable accommodations at <https://sdc.ucdavis.edu/>. If you require any accommodations you should see the instructor as soon as possible. A minimum of one week's notice is needed to ensure accommodations.

Academic Assistance

You are expected to produce college level work. If you have any trouble with the material covered in class, please make an appointment to speak with the instructor. Additionally, the university has resources to assist students. A lot is expected of you, but the university wants to help you to produce your best work.

Conduct

You are required to treat others in the course with respect, which includes refraining from offensive language, listening to opinions that differ from your own, and facilitating a safe and productive learning environment. You may eat and drink in class so long as you do so politely. Please do not communicate with others via messaging, social media, or phone while in class. If you have any personal or health issues that interfere with your ability to concentrate or participate, please notify the instructor and pursue appropriate means of addressing these issues. If you are sleeping, regularly absent, or unable to attend appropriately, the instructor will otherwise assume no valid excuse for these behaviors. Failure to comply with the conduct policy could affect your grade.

Disclaimer

As the instructor, I reserve the right to make any changes that I deem necessary to the details and/or policies listed in this syllabus. This includes adjusting the schedule according to the pace of the course and the needs of the students. Adjustments to the schedule are likely depending on availability of guest lecturers and field excursion schedules. You will be given notice of any changes.

Syllabus for Individual Studies PSC 198

UC Davis

Instructor: Christopher J. Hopwood, PhD

Location: Psychologische Hochschule, Berlin

Course Content

This purpose of this course is to promote and enhance the impact of study abroad on your personal, academic, and occupational development. The content of this course consists entirely of cultural experiences in Berlin and dedicated time for you to reflect on those experiences. These include experiences related to art and history in general, the complex political dynamics of Berlin during the 20th century, and psychology.

Goals and Expectations

The goals of this course are to:

1. Expose students to culturally rich experiences.
2. Encourage reflection on the meaning of cultural, travel, and diversity.
3. Promote clarity about student's personal goals.
4. Improve student writing skills.

Students are expected to participate in culturally rich activities, design and participate in their own personal program of cultural activities, and spend dedicated time reflecting upon and writing about the meaning of their trip to Berlin in terms of personal identity and future goals.

Activities and Grades

There will be three sets of activities: group activities, personal experiences, and reflective writing. We will also spend some time during class discussing these activities and the study abroad experience, overall. The grade for the course is P/NP; students who show appropriate effort and conduct in the course will pass.

Group Activities

There will be four group activities, on Thursday of each week. During the first three weeks we will visit the Jewish Museum, Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, and GDR museum. These three sites highlight the major political dynamics of Berlin in modern history: the treatment of Jews by Nazis during World War II and the division of Berlin and Germany into communist and capitalist regions following the war. During the final week we will visit one of the five museums on Museum island - which one will be determined at the time of the visit and based on student interest and availability. These museums highlight different aspects of world history and art, and are located in culturally-rich central Berlin, close to the central train station and the students' hostel.

Individual Activities

There will be four culturally interesting individual activities, which will generally fall into one of three types. First are visits to interesting sites in and around Berlin, such as the Bauhaus museum, a river ride,

the East side gallery, a soccer match, or a visit to a particular Neighborhood (e.g., Mitte or Friedrichschain). At least two activities must be of this type. Second are trips to other cities or sites in Europe, such as Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Hamburg, etc. Third are books written about Berlin/Germany or by German authors. You should submit a plan for your individual activities no later than Friday morning during the first week. Students can plan activities together, although each student should have their own, individualized plan. This plan should describe each of the activities you have chosen, how it relates to your goals for study abroad, and what you expect to learn.

Reflection Papers

You will write one 1-2 page reflection paper focused on your study abroad experience each week. Each reflection paper should be turned in by email before class on Wednesday each week, along with the reflection paper for PSC 162. Reflection papers for individualized studies can deal with any aspect of your personal experiences while studying abroad. They should be subjective rather than empirical, and should touch upon your career goals and academic and personal growth. However, these papers should be written after spending some time alone purposefully meditating on the impacts study abroad is having on you, personally. This is why two hours per day, on Thursday afternoons, have been dedicated to reflecting on and writing about the study abroad experience.

Conduct

You are required to treat others in the course with respect, which includes refraining from offensive language, listening to opinions that differ from your own, and facilitating a safe and productive learning environment. You are required to treat those not involved with the program with respect at all times. You should remember that you are a representative of UC Davis and this program, and that your behavior has implications beyond your own. You should also keep in mind that your cultural assumptions may not hold when abroad, and be open to learning and adjusting. You should also recall that, while there are many desirable aspects to being abroad, your main goals involve education. Under no circumstances should you participate in any illegal activities, and you should take preventative measures to be safe at all times (e.g., tell people where you are going, travel in teams, stay in safe or familiar places at night). Failure to comply with the conduct policy could affect your grade.

Disclaimer

As the instructor, I reserve the right to make any changes that I deem necessary to the details and/or policies listed in this syllabus. This includes adjusting the schedule according to the pace of the course and the needs of the students. Adjustments to the schedule are likely depending on availability of guest lecturers and field excursion schedules. You will be given notice of any changes.

Combined Schedule

Lectures will generally occur from 10-3 Monday through Wednesday with a field trip on Thursday morning. There will be four guest lectures, one per week. The schedule for field excursions and guest lectures will be determined as details of the trip are scheduled.

This schedule reflects 80 hours of total instruction time.

In class = $4 * 4 * 3 = 48$. 40 of those hours are for PSC 162, 8 will be reserved for 198. The other 32 hours for 198 will be based on four group cultural experiences (12 hours), four personal cultural experiences (12 hours), and dedicated time for reflective writing (8 hours).

Date	Personality Topic	Activity	Chapter
June 20		Arrive in Berlin	
22	Introduction	In class exercise	
23	Research Methods	Personal cultural experience	1
24	Assessment	Guest lecture, Paper due	2
25		Jewish museum, reflective writing	
29	Traits, in class exercise	In class exercise	4, 6
30	Stability	Personal cultural experience	7
July 1	Judgment	Guest lecture, Exam 1, Paper due	5
2		Sachsenhausen museum, reflective writing	
6	Genetics	In class exercise	9
7	Psychoanalysis	Personal cultural experience	10, 11
8	Existentialism	Guest lecture, Paper due	12
9		GDR museum, reflective writing	
13	Culture	In class Exercise	13
14	Learning	Personal cultural experience	14
15	Reflection	Guest Lecture, Exam 2, Paper due	
26		Museum Island, reflective writing	
July 27		Depart Berlin	