

**This is your syllabus. Please read it completely and refer to it often.**

## **Welcome to PSY 309!**

Personality Psychology • Spring 2021

### •••COURSE QUICK FACTS•••

**Lectures:** Dr. B love in every module!

**Readings:** Chewy! Mmmm, science. No textbook.

**Viewings:** Watch Ted talks; Dr. B bonus footage, demos; virtual tours...

**Keeping It Real:** All asynchronous. Paced at a module per week.

**Assessment:** Module quizzes, video assignments, self-graded activities. No exams!

**Extra Credit:** Extensive, to protect your grade in these uncertain times.

Unique #:

Instructor: Kirsten Bradbury, Ph.D.

Email: [bradbury@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:bradbury@austin.utexas.edu)

*Watch for opportunities throughout the semester for Zoom Meet & Greet Drop-In's with Dr. B!*

Teaching Assistants (TA's) Names and Email: To Be Announced (see Canvas)

*Available for Online Office Hours weekly via Zoom drop-in and by appointment. Details to be provided on Canvas.*

Pay attention to the Course Announcements we post on Canvas! This is how we communicate with the class as a group and provide you with important information throughout the semester in an ongoing way.

### •••COURSE DESCRIPTION•••

Lecture course covering a range of topics within Personality Psychology, including normal and abnormal development of personality across the life span; a variety of theories of personality and types of personality assessment that trace the history of psychological science; personality disorders from multiple etiological perspectives; and links between personality and other aspects of life, like health and relationships. Students are given the opportunity to try multiple forms of personality self-assessment, from Freud's symbolic analysis of dreams to Seligman's strengths questionnaires. Using these assessments, students gain knowledge of themselves as well as engage in critical thinking around the development and accuracy of the various instruments. With a supportive pedagogical structure, reasonable workload expectations, and modern delivery, Dr. Bradbury makes it fun to apply the science of psychology to understanding personality.

### •••TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS•••

All students are required to have access to a **laptop or desktop computer**, running either **Windows** or **macOS** operating systems. (Tablets, smartphones, and Microsoft Surface devices are not advised or supported for this course.) Your computer should meet the following requirements:

- Modern and up-to-date operating system (macOS or Windows)
- Browser: Chrome (highly recommended), Safari or Firefox (If using Safari or Firefox, be prepared to [download Chrome](#) and use it.)
- 5 Mbps internet connection speed ([check your speed here](#))
- Functional webcam and microphone
- Zoom installed and configured

Confirm that your computer is able to stream video by visiting <https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tower/tech.php>

**Technical Support:** If you experience a technical problem, click on the "Online Course Tech Support" item in the left-side navigation bar. The Online Course Tech Support chatbot, called "LAITS Bot", will assist with technical problems and can escalate your question to a human if it cannot readily answer your question.

### •••COURSE REQUIREMENTS•••

**Required Course Materials:** All required readings are available online or provided through Canvas. No textbook. Everything you need to participate in the course is on Canvas, including lectures, readings, viewings, course administration materials (syllabus, course calendar), communication from the teaching team (announcements), assignment descriptions and submission, quizzes, grades, etc.

**You will complete 12 modules.** Each module covers a different topic within Personality Psychology and consists of a lecture and/or additional viewings, readings, a journaling assignment, and a quiz.

**Lectures** can be viewed anytime. No required class meetings, neither Zoom nor in person. These are videos of Dr. B teaching the concepts of the class and explaining assignments, often with slides shown within the lecture. Other course materials can also be accessed as you like, on your own schedule.

**Quizzes** each consist of 10 multiple-choice items. Quizzes cover material from the lecture, readings, and viewings for that module. Quiz questions range from very easy to very difficult and are not all answerable by memorization of material alone or direct reference to it. That is, some items will require *application, synthesis, interpretation, integration, or extension* of the material in order to be answered correctly. You will need to understand the material in order to do well on the quizzes, but you will not be under time or memorization pressure when you take them. The quizzes are not timed. You could let your friends "help" you when you take them, but you'll probably get higher grades if you take them on your own.

**Journal Assignments** are self-graded. You complete an assigned activity or exercise to deepen and extend your understanding of the module topic. At the end of the semester, you assign yourself a journaling grade. (This is on the honor system. You could cheat, but the only person you'd be ripping off is you.)

**Video Assignments** bookend the semester. You will complete the first one to introduce yourself to us and show us your initial understanding of personality psychology, and the second at the end of the semester to show us how much you've learned about applying a theory of personality. Both of these assignments have clear criteria for completing them with a high grade and are designed to allow you to have fun with them and be creative. You submit them to us on Canvas through the Assignment link. You must keep your video to the time limit. Descriptions and due dates given on the Canvas Course Assignments Page. We love getting to know you through these assignments!

**A note about course pacing:** The course is designed to allow you to complete course requirements on your own schedule, without synchronous requirements that could conflict with other responsibilities throughout the week. However, the course is not designed to be completed in a very short time, far ahead of time, or 'all at once.' The course is meant to be nibbled throughout the semester, not binged at the beginning or end. Modules are intended to be worked on weekly. The **course calendar** provides both a suggested schedule for completing the course most comfortably, as well as required deadlines for submitting assignments and completing quizzes.

#### **Course Grades:**

300 points total – 1/3 quizzes, 1/3 journaling, 1/3 video assignments.

Quizzes: We count your best 10 of 12. 10 x quizzes @ 10 points each = 100 points

Journal Assignments: You give yourself up to 100 points for your efforts on 12 assignments = 100 points

Video Assignments: 2 @ 50 points each = 100 points

A = 93-100  
A- = 90-92  
B+ = 86-89  
B = 83-85  
B- = 80-82  
C+ = 76-79  
C = 70-75  
D = 60-69  
F = <60

**Extra Credit:** Need more points? At the end of the semester, students who want to complete extra credit learning activities in order to pull up their grade will be given the opportunity to do so. Details to be announced on Canvas later in the semester.

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641.

TTY. We care about all our students' learning abilities. Please let us know if we can improve the learning environment for you or otherwise assist you in achieving the highest level of success you can in this course. If you have accommodations, send us an email to let us know and we will assist you in implementing them for this course.

### Title IX Reporting

Title IX is a federal law that protects against sex and gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating/domestic violence and stalking at federally funded educational institutions. UT Austin is committed to fostering a learning and working environment free from discrimination in all its forms. When sexual misconduct occurs in our community, the university can:

1. Intervene to prevent harmful behavior from continuing or escalating.
2. Provide support and remedies to students and employees who have experienced harm or have become involved in a Title IX investigation.
3. Investigate and discipline violations of the university's relevant policies.

Under Senate Bill 212 (SB 212), the professor and TAs for this course are **required** to report for further investigation any information they receive concerning incidents of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking committed by or against a UT student or employee. Federal law and university policy also requires reporting incidents of sex- and gender-based discrimination and sexual misconduct (collectively known as Title IX incidents).

**This means we cannot keep confidential information about any such incidents that you share with us. If you need to talk with someone who can maintain confidentiality, please contact** University Health Services (512-471- 4955 or 512-475-6877) or the UT Counseling and Mental Health Center (512-471-3515 or 512-471-2255). We strongly urge you to make use of these services for any needed support.

### Diversity Statement

The Department of Psychology values the richness and open dialogue that diversity brings to our community. Diversity refers to individual differences that broadly include ability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. We appreciate that diversity enriches both the departmental social climate and the scope and depth of the department's research mission.

As a department, we are fully committed to a journey of inclusion and justice for all students from groups that are marginalized or minoritized. We acknowledge this has not always been the case to the extent that it should have been. Our department is in the process of diversifying and creating identity safety for all students.

In keeping with the department's values, I am committed to creating a learning environment that is safe and supportive of your identity and perspective. In addition, I will honor your request to address you by a name and gender pronoun you use (she/he/they/ze, etc). If you need additional support, these are some of the available resources on campus.

Division of Diversity and Community Engagement <https://diversity.utexas.edu/>

Gender and Sexuality Center <https://diversity.utexas.edu/genderandsexuality/>

Multicultural Engagement Center <https://diversity.utexas.edu/multiculturalengagement/>

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**We welcome ALL students to PSY309. We're going to have a fantastic semester!!**  
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●●●COURSE CALENDAR●●●

PSY309 Personality • Spring 2021 • Dr. Bradbury • [bradbury@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:bradbury@austin.utexas.edu) • Calendar as of 01/09/2021 • **Everything is on Canvas.**

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<b>Week by Week</b>	<b>Recommended Pacing of Modules</b>	<b>Required Deadlines!</b>
Before Jan 25	<b>Welcome.</b> Relax, look around. Or get a head start.	
Jan 25-29	<b>Module 0.</b> Intro to course, Dr. B, Syllabus	Module 0 must be completed before accessing Module 1.
Feb 1-5	<b>Module 1. The Riddle of Personality</b> Quiz 1 Journaling Activity 1	<b>Video Assignment #1 due F Feb 5 by 5:00PM</b>
Feb 8-12	<b>Module 2. Personality Tests</b> Quiz 2 Journaling Activity 2	
Feb 15-19	<b>Module 3. Freudian Personality Theory</b> Quiz 3 Journaling Activity 3	
Feb 22-26	<b>Module 4. Jung &amp; the Myers-Briggs</b> Quiz 4 Journaling Activity 4	
March 1-5	<b>Module 5. Maslow &amp; Humanism</b> Quiz 5 Journaling Activity 5	
March 8-12	Catch-up Week: <b>Do</b> Modules 1-5 <b>before</b> Spring Break!	
March 15-19	Spring Break MARCH 15-19	
March 22-26	SB Extension, because maybe we need it this semester	
Mar 29-April 2	<b>Module 678. The Big 5 Catch-Up Module</b> Quizzes 678 Journaling Activities 678	
April 5-9	<b>Module 9. Individual Differences in Personality</b> Quiz 9 Journaling Activity 9	
April 12-16	<b>Module 10. Positive Psychology &amp; Personality</b> Quiz 10 Journaling Activity 10	
April 19-23	<b>Module 11. Personality Disorders</b> Quiz 11 Journaling Activity 11	
April 26-30	<b>Module 12. Personality &amp; Health</b> Quiz 12 Journaling Activity 12	<b>Video Assignment #2 due F April 30 by 5:00PM</b>
May 3-7	Last week of class: Wrap it up!	<b>Enter your Journaling self-grade by May 7 at 5:00PM!</b> <b>Quizzes 1-12 CLOSE May 7 at 5:00PM</b>
May 10-14	If needed, complete extra credit work to pull up your grade by today.	<b>All Extra Credit work final deadline May 14 at 5:00PM!!</b>

**We're going to have a great semester!!**