Psychology 360: Personality Research

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November 21, 2022

1 Outline (to be added to frequently – keep checking)

This is the abbreviated form of the syllabus. The full syllabus is at https://personality-project.org/courses/360.syllabus.pdf

Current version of November 21, 2022

1.1 News of changes

September 26: Correct link to the NPR program on the Meyers Briggs: part 1
Added a link to a preprint by Beck et al. discussing the Big Few as a model for the college student. See Deep lexical structure for an alternative approach to personality taxonomies (Cutler and Condon, 2022)

September 28: Updated the slides on Introversion/Extraversion and theory development. Included the citations to some of the classic studies.

October 3: Updated the Introversion/Extraversion and affect slides. Added a few more readings to the slides. Midterm study questions will appear by Friday. Midterm to be on Wednesday, October 12.

October 5: Improvements to the Achievement Motivation slides.

October 8: Midterm study questions are posted. I will choose a subset and then you can answer yet a smaller subset.

October 9: Minor improvements to the anxiety slides.

October 17: Updated the correlation slides. Moved the due date for the proposal to next Monday.

October 31: Updated the various measurement slides.

November 21: Added the discussion of how to analyze the final project data
2 Daily assignments and notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lecture Notes</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Secondary Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Multiple approaches to personality research</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
<td>Revelle, Wilt and Condon (2011) Individual differences and differential psychology: A brief history and prospect</td>
<td>Revelle and Oehlberg (2008) Integrating experimental and observational personality research. Atherton et al. 2021 Why has personality psychology played an outsized role in the credibility revolution?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>Extraversion</td>
<td>Extraversion</td>
<td>Wilt and Revelle (2016) Extraversion</td>
<td>The personality coefficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4a</td>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>Anxiety, Negative Affect</td>
<td>The ABCDs of anxiety</td>
<td>(Rogers and Revelle, 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4b</td>
<td>Psychometrics</td>
<td>Introduction to psychometric analysis</td>
<td>Multiple R and R</td>
<td>Getting started in R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Reliability Theory</td>
<td>Basic analysis</td>
<td>Reliability from α to ω</td>
<td>Finding omega</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Measurement</td>
<td>Constructing and validating scales</td>
<td>Validation using peer ratings (Zola et al., 2021) Scale construction Revelle and Garner (2012)</td>
<td>Early SAPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cognitive Ability</td>
<td>Methods of scale construction</td>
<td>Comparing levels of scale reduction PWAS</td>
<td>Cognitive Ability (Revelle et al., 2021)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Final Projects</td>
<td>Proposals</td>
<td>Pitts in research</td>
<td>Revele and Sackett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Scoring scales and analysis</td>
<td>Proposals</td>
<td>Pitfalls in research</td>
<td>Revele and Sackett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Daily detail—Still in progress

3.1 The structure of personality


2. Week 2: Sept 26; Taxonomic approaches to personality Revelle (1995) Personality Processes: Annual Review of Psychology. (Goldberg, 1990, 1992) Traits are facts, not fictions (Romer and Revelle, 1984; Norman and Goldberg, 1966) But perhaps rather than emphasizing the Big Few we should focus on the Many Little (Condon et al., 2020; Möttus et al., 2020). The methods in personality are diverse (Revelle et al., 2011a).

3. Week 3: October 3: A major dimension of personality is Extraversion (Wilt and Revelle, 2016, 2009) how people differ in their approach behavior and their positive affect. Causal theories emphasized differences in rates of learning, differences in overall arousal (Eysenck, 1967) and to differences in
sensitivity to cues for reward (Gray, 1991; Corr, 2002, 2008). How does acting extraverted make you happy (McNiel and Fleeson, 2006; Smillie, 2013; Smillie et al., 2012)

4. Week 4: October 10: A non-biological approach is found in the study of Achievement Motivation which includes both static and Dynamic models of behavior (Revelle and Wilt, 2021). Crucial studies have been done by Andrew Elliott and his colleagues (Elliot and Thrash, 2002; Cury et al., 2006; Elliot and Thrash, 2010) NOTE: There is no class on October 12

5. Week 5: October 17: Anxiety as an important dimension Anxiety. Including a review by (Wilt et al., 2011) discussing the ABCDs of anxiety. Do the dimensions of mood allow for an integration with the structure of traits?

3.2 Personality Measurement

An introduction to issues in psychometrics How do we measure things? What is the correlation coefficient and why it is so useful?


8. Week 8: November 7th Why use R. The ability to report reproducible results Using R-Markdown for reporting research

9. Week 9: The steps of personality measurement. Multiple ways to construct scales. Some early (Revelle et al., 2010) and recent (Zola et al., 2021), (Revelle et al., 2021) examples of validating personality measures. The study of cognitive ability is part of the study of personality (Condon and Revelle, 2014; Revelle et al., 2020), as is the study of interests.

10. Week 10: Course review and how to use psych to analyze your data. See the relevant vignettes:
(a) An introduction (vignette) of the psych package
(b) An overview (vignette) of the psych package
(c) Installing R and some useful packages
(d) Using R and the psych package to find $\omega_h$ and $\omega_t$.
(e) Using R and the psych for factor analysis and principal components analysis.
(f) Using the scoreItems function to find scale scores and scale statistics (this document).
(g) Using mediate and setCor to do mediation, moderation and regression analysis

References


