

Signature Assignment for Core Curriculum SLO #1: Critical Thinking Acuity (Draft)

Course: Introduction to Psychology (PSY 213)
Instructor: Dr. Kenneth J. Anich, SVD, Ed.D.
Assignment Title: Choosing and Defending what you believe to be the best Theory of Personality from four choices.
Assignment ID: (To be assigned)

Outcome to be assessed: Critical Thinking Acuity is the student's ability to skillfully conceptualize, apply, analyze synthesize, and/or evaluate information gathered from credible sources as a guide to belief and action.
To solve complex intellectual challenges using appropriate sources and processes.

Purpose: After you have studied Freudian, Adlerian, Humanism, and Cognitive approaches to personality, you are challenged to take a critical stand on which theory makes the most sense to you in relation to key concepts such as free will, choice, origin of personality issues, and a possible approach that would be most effective addressing an assigned psychological issue. This paper should be a minimum of five and no more than seven pages long in addition to a page with at least five quality Works Cited, at least one from a primary source.

Issue: Imagine you are working as a minister in a parish. A 30-year-old parishioner requests to see you about a problem she is experiencing. After listening to her issues and the length of time they have been bothering her, you determine there is a good chance she is experiencing clinical depression. You are aware of different therapists in your community and need to determine which therapeutic approach could best help your parishioner.

In this critical thinking assignment, you are to:

- 1) give a brief description of the symptoms that may indicate clinical depression.
- 2) offer a clear hypothesis as to which therapeutic might be the best for this specific mental illness.
- 3) note the specific philosophical influences for the approach and in particular around the idea of free will and choice.
- 4) explain the key assumptions of this particular theory in regards to personality and the development of a mental health issue.
- 5) from what you have researched, critically defend how this approach may be more efficacious over the other approaches and why.
- 6) have a clear summary pulling together the key ideas supporting your hypothesis.

The paper should be written in clear and good English either in MLA or Chicago format. The following attached Critical Thinking Rubric will be applied for the purpose of a Signature Critical Thinking Assessment.