

# CLP 2001: PERSONAL GROWTH

Spring 2026 Syllabus

**Instructor:** Ms. Wendy L. Rosché

**Zoom Office Hours:** By appointment

**E-mail:** [smith.wendy@ufl.edu](mailto:smith.wendy@ufl.edu)

**Telephone:** (352) 392-0731

**Team TAs:** After registration, you will be assigned to a 5 to 15-person team, headed by a Team TA. Team TAs will take charge of leading weekly discussion and grading assignments for each group of students. TA assignments will be posted in Canvas, under Files, by the end of Week 2.

**Head TAs:** Megan Touchstone ([m.touchstone@ufl.edu](mailto:m.touchstone@ufl.edu)) and Tyler Favier ([tyler.favier@ufl.edu](mailto:tyler.favier@ufl.edu))

**Team TA Office Hours:**

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97966950205>

Meeting ID: 979 6695 0205

Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 (7:25-8:15)					
2 (8:30-9:20)					
3 (9:35-10:25)					
4 (10:40-11:30)					
5 (11:45-12:35)					
6 (12:50-1:40)					
7 (1:55-2:45)					
8 (3:00-3:50)					
9 (4:05-4:55)					
10 (5:10-6:00)					

Please reach out to your **Team TA with any assignment questions** through e-learning mail system or attending their office hours. Please reach out to **Head TAs for any grading issues and missed assignments** through e-learning email system. Please **use the instructor's UF email address** ([smith.wendy@ufl.edu](mailto:smith.wendy@ufl.edu)) to correspond with her.

## Course Overview

CLP 2001: Personal Growth is a course designed to help participants integrate the science of psychology into the practice of enhancing one's life, liberty, and happiness pursuit (and helping others do the same). It focuses on biological, psychological, and socio-cultural methods of learning, change, and growth.

Psychology can be defined as the scientific study of behavior (e.g., reading, writing, talking) and mental processes (e.g., learning, perception, memory, attitudes, problem-solving).

Science can be defined as a way of thinking that emphasizes empiricism and rationalism (over other ways of seeking and determining knowledge such as authority, intuition, and tenacity) to pursue validity (i.e., the best available approximation of the truth).

The scientific mindset typically requires curiosity (e.g., interest in behavior and mental processes), skepticism (willingness to withhold belief until after gathering valid evidence), and a prepared mind (e.g., deep understanding of how to minimize logical fallacies/threats to validity, openness to experience, and willingness to adjust one's thinking based on new and/or better information).

## Course Objectives

- Help ourselves and others live longer, healthier lives
- Help ourselves and others experience more liberty/freedom of choice
- Help ourselves and others pursue happiness in more effective ways

Successful students in this course will also:

Learn (rather than simply memorize, then forget) basic principles related to the course that are both: (a) meaningful to them and (b) related to the content-related course outcomes listed above

Take accountability for their own learning (rather than projecting that accountability onto others or things outside of their control)

Validly evaluate their own learning and accountability (rather than passively waiting for others to do so or do so in an invalid way)

Collaborate in a professional, civil, mature manner with the professor and their classmates to come up with a valid grade based on their learning and accountability levels demonstrated throughout the entire term (rather than based on professionalism, civility and/or maturity during a portion of the term, meaningless learning, or simple memorization)

## Required Text and Materials

The H2O for Education System, which includes a digital textbook, is required and provides an array of tools to help you achieve the course objectives. This course is participating in UF All Access. UF All Access will provide you with the required materials digitally at a reduced price and the charge will be posted to your student account. **Opt-in will only be available from one week prior to the start of class until midnight on the last day of drop add.** If you do not opt in, you will have to buy the materials directly from the vendor at a higher price. **You must have your own individual access to the materials to earn points in the class. You cannot use your account from a prior semester.**

**Within 5 business days after you opt in, you will be entered into the H2O for Education System. Please do not contact the instructor or TAs about your lack of access until 5 business days have elapsed.** Please follow these instructions to access the System and its features:

- Click this link and enter your initial username and password (see below for how to get your initial username and password): <https://www.excellenceuniversity.net/login.php>
- Your initial username will be your UF email address (an address ending in "@ufl.edu")
- Your initial password will be the last four digits of your student ID number
- After your initial log in, you will be asked to change your username and password via the "*My account*" page.
- This course uses a digital textbook. It is included in your package.
- To access your textbook and WATER Game Scorecard Companion Articles, click on the links underneath "*Read*" on the left side of your H2O Dashboard.
- To access WATER Game Scorecard, STEAM Training Manual, and Mission fulfillment System, click on the links underneath "*Apply*" on the left side of your H2O Dashboard.
- To access H2O articles and podcasts, click on "*Listen*" on the right side of your H2O Dashboard.
- To access your Plan, Execute, and Progress Tabs, click on the "*Achieve*" tab on the right side of your H2O Dashboard
- If you require assistance, please first work with a TA. Most issues can be resolved with the TA. Please don't email [support@tbb2excellence.com](mailto:support@tbb2excellence.com) until you have worked with a TA and they refer you to Support.

## E-Learning System Materials and Procedures

PowerPoints, grades, mail system, office hours, and other important materials can be accessed on the course website in the e-Learning System: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. It is a good idea to visit the course site before each class, to receive updates/announcements, such as grade postings and any schedule changes. If you need e-learning technical support, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

## Exams and Assignments

You will earn points for successful and on-time completion of each assignment, but you **must** be signed up for The H2O for Education System to earn any credit. If assignments are not turned in electronically or are turned in after the deadline, no credit will be given. If you have any issues with submitting assignments through the e-learning system, to get credit, you must email the completed assignment to the instructor and the grading TA **before the assignment deadline**. Allow yourself enough time that if you have computing issues, you still have time to email the completed work to the instructor and grading TA before the deadline.

1. Quizzes – 10 question quizzes on each textbook chapter
2. Activating the Mission Activities – applying textbook materials to life
3. STEAM Training Steps Activities – applying STEAM training manual to self and teamwork.
4. Discussion posts and replies – integrating course content into discussions.
5. WATER game Scorecard – group evaluation tool.

**Missing quizzes.** Students who miss one or more quizzes during the semester will have an opportunity to take each missed quiz during a 24-hour period that begins with the start of the official final exam period for this class. You can only take make-up *missed* quizzes. You cannot retake a quiz to improve your original score on that quiz. **The course schedule below gives the quiz make-up day and time.** There is no final exam in this class.

## Late Work Policy

If you can document that you were ill or experienced some other personal challenge that prevented your on-time completion of an assignment, you will be given a reasonable amount of time (generally 1 week) to make up what you missed during your approved absence. Requests for extensions **MUST** be submitted by Friday as 12:00 noon to be considered. All assignments are known from the first day of class and can be submitted early, so students are expected to submit the work on time and to plan their time accordingly. Make-up work is permitted for religious holy days and UF-sponsored activities, but whenever possible, plan ahead instead of asking to submit work late. If something prevented your on-time completion of an assignment, please email [m.touchstone@ufl.edu](mailto:m.touchstone@ufl.edu) with documentation supporting your request by 12:00 noon on Friday. If you are experiencing substantial life disruption, beyond normal illness or normal personal challenges, please complete and submit the “Contact My Instructor” request form located on the Campus Assistance and Resources for Empowerment (CARE) website <https://care.dso.ufl.edu/instructor-notifications/>. UF's complete attendance policy is here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

## Grading

Grades will be based on scores on:

25% 13 textbook chapter quizzes. 10 questions per quiz. Taken on eLearning.

25% 13 textbook Activating the Mission exercises. Submitted through eLearning.

25% 24 STEAM training manual exercises. Submitted through eLearning.

10% 15 weekly discussion posts. Submitted through eLearning.

10% 2 WATER Game Scorecard group performance scores. Submitted by your team TA, in consultation with you and other members of your team. Details follow.

5% SONA research participation: either by getting at least 15 research credits or reviewing journal articles. Details follow.

**100%**

Grades are based on the totals you earn on these assignments, plus, any extra-credit points you might accrue. Grading will be done on UF's standard scale:

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	$\geq 93\%$	C	73%-76.99%
A-	90%-92.99%	C-	70%-72.99%
B+	87%-89.99%	D+	67%-69.99%
B	83%-86.99%	D	63%-66.99%
B-	80%-82.99%	D-	60%-62.99%
C+	77%-79.99%	E	$\leq 59.99\%$

## WATER Game Scorecard

You will be assigned to a 5–15 person team, headed by a TA, which will work together throughout the semester. With your input, your team TA will complete two online WATER Game Scorecards reflecting your team's performance, one midsemester and one near the end of the semester (see Planned Course Schedule and Assignments for the two deadlines). The purpose is to evaluate your performance as a team. It has a second purpose of helping you assess how your class team is exhibiting excellence and why you made that assessment.

To prepare yourself to be part of a high-performing team and to provide background so you can meaningfully assess your team's performance, look carefully at the WATER Game Scorecard PDF version on the H2O for Education System Dashboard under *Apply*, on the left side, where you also find the STEAM Training Manual. To prepare even more thoroughly, take a look at the WATER Game Scorecard Companion Articles here:

- For the top half of the scorecard (Planning Excellence):  
<http://www.excellenceuniversity.net/journal/category/teamgroup-excellence/water-game-scorecard-tips>

- For the bottom half of the scorecard (Execution Excellence):  
<http://www.excellenceuniversity.net/journal/category/teamgroup-excellence/water-gamee-scorecard-tips/page/2>

**In your team, you will be asked to provide a justification for each score you provide.** If you do not provide a justification or if the justification isn't reasonable, it won't be likely to influence the TA's scores.

All questions about the online WATER Game Scorecard will be answered by TAs during their office hours, either on Zoom, by email through Canvas, or through the eLearning Chat.

### Research Participation (SONA)

Five percent of your grade will come from research participation, either by getting at least 15 research credits or reviewing journal articles. All the details for both options are in Canvas, under Files, and the file is called "Research Participation (SONA). **Please start this assignment as soon as possible, or you may not finish it on time.**

### Extra Credit Opportunities

1. If at least 90% of students complete the GatorEvals, the whole class will get *the opportunity* to earn 1% extra credit. The 1% is not guaranteed. The opportunity will come in the form of one extra credit multiple choice question. Only students who answer that question correctly will receive the 1% extra credit. Course announcement will be sent if/when this opportunity is available. There might be other possible extra credit opportunities. Course announcement will be sent when additional opportunities are available.
2. To foster a global community of personal-growth-centered learners and leaders, the co-authors of our textbook (Drs. Martin Heesacker and Brian Higley) and the author of the forward to the textbook (Fortune 500 business consultant John Spence) serve as panelists on a podcast series called *Journey Into Excellence*. Two individuals who have been through Dr. Heesacker's Personal Growth course and served hundreds of students as TAs in the course (i.e., Valeria Prudnikova and Megan Touchstone) have (a) selected clips from this series related to course material and (b) written personal reflections on these clips on LinkedIn. These LinkedIn posts are focused on building a bridge between academic learning and practical implementation, providing students with an opportunity to witness how the concepts covered in this course come to life in real world scenarios.

Interested students can earn *extra credit points*—and network with people across the world interested in personal and professional growth—by joining this global discussion forum. Students who have already submitted discussion posts on our course's forums that relate to the LinkedIn posts are welcome to simply copy and paste them to the LinkedIn forums (making any

edits they deem necessary) to share their thoughts with others who are interested in the topics covered in this course. Below are the specific guidelines for LinkedIn posts:

All LinkedIn posts must be properly formatted, completed, and submitted by December 1st by 11:55 pm. Failure to complete any of the following components of work upon initial submission will result in no extra credit for that post.

Each high-quality LinkedIn post will result in a 0.2% increase in a student's overall grade. Students can earn a maximum of 1.0% for 5 high-quality LinkedIn posts. For example, if a student has an overall grade of 89% in the class, a 1.0% increase would mean the student would now have a 90% in the class.

High quality posts are both helpful and impressive. A helpful post includes relevant quotes from course materials, such as the podcast, textbook, STEAM Training Manual, or WATER Game Scorecard. An impressive post clearly connects with the discussion's subject matter (e.g., "Leading By Example") or with the personal experience of the person posting (e.g., illustrating how the person posting led by example in the course).

### **LinkedIn Post Submission Guidelines:**

1. Format all posts properly. Use your LinkedIn Profile so we know who posted.
2. To respond to others' LinkedIn posts, please follow the format below:
  - Thank you for sharing these thoughts. While reading your post, the following quote came to mind: (replace these instructions with a quote from the podcast clip, LinkedIn post, course textbook, course PowerPoints, STEAM Training Manual, WATER Game Scorecard, other course materials here).
  - I think the quote above relates to this post because: (replace these instructions with 1-2 thoughtful and concise paragraphs on how the quote identified above relates to the post to which you are responding).

To begin posting on LinkedIn:

Megan's LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/megan-touchstone-39139028b/>

Valeria's LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/valeriaprudnikova/>

\*There might be other possible extra credit opportunities. Course announcement will be sent when additional opportunities are available.

## Academic Honesty

**Cheating will not be tolerated** at UF. Cheating is defined in the UF Handbook, and it is the student's responsibility to be familiar with its many forms (including plagiarism). If a student is caught cheating, the first offense will result in a zero for that quiz assignment and a record of the event will be placed in a temporary file with the Office of Student Affairs. The second offense will result in an "E" for the course, and the student will go before the Honor Court. As a result of completing registration at UF, every student has agreed to the following statement: "I understand that UF expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

## Students Requiring Accommodations

The University of Florida is committed to providing academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students should present their accommodation letter to me supporting a request for accommodations. The University encourages students with disabilities to follow these procedures **as early as possible** in the semester.

## Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.  
Source: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>

## Planned Course Schedule and Assignments

\*Note the contents of this syllabus may be changed during the semester. If changes are made to this syllabus there will be an announcement via email and/or Canvas. It is your responsibility to check your university email and Canvas announcements on a daily basis.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE
<b>Week 1: Course Introduction</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Read the syllabus carefully and <b>complete syllabus quiz</b>		
Finish Week 1 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, Jan 13
	First Response Post	Thursday, Jan 15
	Second Response Post	Saturday, Jan 17
PS. Detailed requirement of discussion posts is in Canvas, under Files.		
*If you registered during drop-add, your deadline is automatically extended by a week, for this week's assignments only. Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due by 11:55 pm on the due date.		
<b>Week 2</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Register for the H2O for Education System		
Briefly preview the PowerPoint slides for Chapters 1-13 of the text		
Submit a screenshot or snippet of your name on the H2O for Education People Tab	*This is important to make sure you have accessed the course materials successfully! If you have any issues, please contact the Head TAs.	
Finish Week 2 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, Jan 20
	First Response Post	Thursday, Jan 22
	Second Response Post	Saturday, Jan 24
<b>Week 3</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 1 of the text		
Read chapter 1 of the text: Frenzied Doing		
Finish following assignments	A signed Read, Do, and Review Commitment	Sunday, Jan 25
	Chapter 1 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 1, 2, and 3	
Finish Week 3 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, Jan 27
	First Response post	Thursday, Jan 29
	Second Response post	Saturday, Jan 31
<b>Week 4</b>		

Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 2 of the text Read chapter 2 of the text: H2O, Mission Activation, and Excellence Trees		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 2's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, Feb 1
	Chapter 2 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 4, 5, and 6	
Finish Week 4 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, Feb 3
	First Response Post	Thursday, Feb 5
	Second Response Post	Saturday, Feb 7
<b>Week 5</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 3 of the text Read chapter 3 of the text: How Much Can We Do? Assessing WATER Levels		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 3's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, Feb 8
	Chapter 3 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 7, 8, and 9	
Finish Week 5 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, Feb 10
	First Response post	Thursday, Feb 12
	Second Response Post	Saturday, Feb 14
<b>Week 6</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 4 of the text Read chapter 4 of the text: How Do We Want to Do It? Planting, Watering, and Observing the Growth of the Tree		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 4's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, Feb 15
	Chapter 4 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 10 and 11	
Finish Week 6 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, Feb 17
	First Response Post	Thursday, Feb 19
	Second Response Post	Saturday, Feb 21
<b>Week 7</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 5 of the text Read chapter 5 of the text: What's in the Way? Identifying and Pulling Weeds		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 5's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, Feb 22
	Chapter 5 Quiz	

	STEAM Training Steps 12 and 13	
Finish Week 7 Discussion	Main Post (discussion of WAT elements)	Tuesday, Feb 24
	First Response Post	Thursday, Feb 26
	Second Response Post	Saturday, Feb 28
<b>Week 8</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 6 of the text		
Read chapter 6 of the text: Are We All Doing It Together? Pruning the Tree		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 6's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, March 1
	Chapter 6 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 14 and 15	
	WATER Game Scorecard (assess WAT)	
Finish Week 8 Discussion	Main Post (discussion of ER elements)	Tuesday, March 3
	First Response Post	Thursday, March 5
	Second Response Post	Saturday, March 7
<b>Week 9</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 7 of the text		
Read chapter 7 of the text: Why Are We Doing It? Providing Adequate Sunlight		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 7's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, March 8
	Chapter 7 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 16 and 17	
	WATER Game Scorecard (assess ER)	
Finish Week 9 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, March 10
	First Response Post	Thursday, March 12
	Second Response Post	Saturday, March 14
<b>Week 10</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 8 of the text		
Read chapter 8 of the text: Are We Doing It Well? Recruiting and Retaining Arborists		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 8's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, March 22
	Chapter 8 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 18	
Finish Week 10 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, March 24
	First Response Post	Thursday, March 26

	Second Response Post	Saturday, March 28
<b>Week 11</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 9 of the text		
Read chapter 9 of the text: Recruiting and Retaining Arborists (Part One)		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 9's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, March 29
	Chapter 9 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 19	
Finish Week 11 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, March 31
	First Response Post	Thursday, April 2
	Second Response Post	Saturday, April 4
<b>Week 12</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 10 of the text		
Read chapter 10 of the text: Recruiting and Retaining Arborists (Part Two)		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 10's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, April 5
	Chapter 10 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 20	
Finish Week 12 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, April 7
	First Response Post	Thursday, April 9
	Second Response Post	Saturday, April 11
<b>Week 13</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 11 of the text		
Read chapter 11 of the text: Recruiting and Retaining Arborists (Part Three)		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 11's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, April 12
	Chapter 11 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 21	
Finish Week 13 Discussion	Main Post	Tuesday, April 14
	First Response Post	Thursday, April 16
	Second Response Post	Saturday, April 18
<b>Week 14</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 12 of the text		
Read chapter 12 of the text: The Impact of H2O, Mission Activation, and Excellence Trees		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 12's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, April 19

	Chapter 12 Quiz STEAM Training Steps 22 WATER Game Scorecard (assess WAT)	
Finish Week 14 Discussion	Main Post (discussion of WAT elements)	Tuesday, April 21
	First Response Post	Thursday, April 23
	Second Response Post	Saturday, April 25
Student Evaluations of Teaching	If at least 90% of students provide evaluations, you get to answer a quiz question <b>worth 1% extra credit.</b> <a href="https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/">https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/</a>	Opens April 12 12:01 am Closes April 26, 11:59 pm
<b>Week 15</b>		
Listen to a short PowerPoint presentation		
Look over the PowerPoint slides for Chapter 13 of the text		
Read chapter 13 of the text: Reading, Doing, and Reviewing . . . Forever		
Finish following assignments	Chapter 13's "Activating the Mission" activity	Sunday, April 26
	Chapter 13 Quiz	
	STEAM Training Steps 23 and 24	
Finish Week 15 discussion	WATER Game Scorecard (assess ER)	
	Main Post (discussion of ER elements)	
	First Response Post	
<b>Final Exam Week</b>		
Student Evaluations of Teaching	If at least 90% of students provide evaluations, you get to answer a quiz question worth 1% extra credit. <a href="https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/">https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/</a>	Saturday, April 25, 11:59 pm
<b>Make-up Quizzes Day</b>	On Canvas, same as before. Only for quizzes you missed. Not for improving scores.	Monday, April 27, 12:01 am to 11:59 pm