ABSTRACT

Personality measures often take a supporting role in the counseling process. They act as an auxiliary in the battery of tests given to students in order to assess their general personal adjustment either as bases for admission, retention or dismissal. In these testing practices, the general personality profile of students is usually considered in the assessment process, and not the students’ temperament types. Temperaments are basic dimensions of personality that are fundamentally based on biology and genetics. It commands better description of personality as it categorically identifies a person according to his distinct, dominant characteristics, which in turn help determine his unique behavioral responses. This present study has been designed to revive the use of temperament as an important personality variable by creating a new temperament test, which is primarily based on Galen’s Theory of Humor. Two studies were conducted in order to meet the study’s research objectives. Study 1 involved the development of a valid, reliable and four-dimensional temperament scale within the Thai context. Study 2 evaluated and compared the three posited hierarchical path models in terms of their efficacy in explaining the direct and indirect influences of temperament types towards the participants’ well-being, academic performance and college adjustment being mediated by their adversity quotient, emotional intelligence and coping styles. Overall, the findings from the present study showed that the temperament types could be factored into four distinct categories, which are the Sanguine, Choleric, Melancholic and Phlegmatic, and their corresponding effects on students’ well-being, academic performance and college adjustment demonstrated variable differences. The implications of the findings are discussed in reference to the cultural parameters that significantly influence Thai students’ experiences in their academic life.