

Course Outline: PY2330: Personality

Winter Semester, 2001 – 2002

Instructor:	Kendel Tang, Ph.D.	Course Credit Hours:	3 (UT)
Office No.:	C427	Course Section:	A3
Office Hours:	10:30 – 12:00, MW	Class Time:	2:30 – 3:50 p, TR
Office Phone. No.:	539-2867	Student Contact Hours:	3/wk
E-Mail Address:	tang@gprc.ab.ca	Delivery Mode:	Classroom lecture, and discussion
		Course Prerequisites:	PY1040, PY1050

Course Description

Psychology 2330 is intended to provide an introduction to the field of Personality and, as a reflection of the specialized nature of the course, will focus on a relatively detailed exploration of the work of a selection of the major theorists in the field. Specific areas examined in the course will include a study of the classical and contemporary viewpoints of human nature elaborated within the psychodynamic, humanistic/existential/phenomenological, cognitive, behavioural, trait, neuropsychological, social/cognitive, and information-processing perspectives.

The course is designed to acquaint students with the essential structures and processes of selected theories, plus discussion of their major contributions and their strengths and limitations in the context of the inherent difficulty involved in developing a suitably concise yet sophisticated model of human behaviour. In an attempt to develop optimal levels of understanding of the material, the format of the course will consist of a combination of lectures, discussions, and other relevant learning activities. All students are expected to be actively involved in class discussions and other learning experiences.

Course Objectives

1. The successful student should demonstrate an understanding of the relevant concepts, terminology and theoretical assumptions of the personality theories studied in this course and, in addition, should be aware of the major positive and negative criticisms directed at them as well as the research on which these criticisms are based.
2. The student should be able to evaluate each theory in relation to identified standard criteria for evaluation.
3. The student should be able to identify the similarities and differences among the various theories of personality and eventually attempt to synthesize and incorporate aspects of these theories into his/her own theory of personality development.
4. The student should be able to apply certain principles of selected theories towards a clearer understanding of his/her own personality. He/she should be able to interpret the results of selected self/administered personality tests.

Text:

Personality: Theory and Research (8th ed., 2001) by Pervin, L.A. & John, O.P.
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Grading System

Scale	Translation	Approximate % Equivalent
9		90 – 100
8	Excellent	80 – 89
7		72 – 79
6	Good	65 – 71
5		57 – 64
4	Pass	50 – 56
3	Failure	45 – 49
2	Failure	26 – 44
1	Failure	0 – 25

Marks in the course will be weighted as follows:

Average of chapter tests (Test 1 and 2)	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Term Paper	20%
Class Involvement (based on degree of participation in class discussions, number and quality of questions asked indicating interest and curiosity, and participation in other assigned learning activities)	10%
Total:	100%

Course Requirement

Each student is required to write a term paper on a topic that is relevant to the course objectives after consultation with the instructor. An outline of the paper should be submitted to the instructor no later than March 14, 2002. Early consultation is strongly recommended. The instructor will provide students with a list of possible topics to choose from but the student's choice is not limited to the topics on the list. The paper should be typewritten (double-spaced) and should be between 8 and 10 pages in length including a list of references with at least 5 entries. The format and style of the paper should conform to the guidelines of the American Psychological Association (APA) Publication Manual (5th ed.), which is available in the library. Major deviations from the prescribed format will result in a deduction of at most 20 percentage points from the paper's grade. A deduction of 5% from the paper's grade will also be imposed for every day that the paper is submitted later than April 2, 2002.

TIMETABLE
PY 2330
WINTER SEMESTER, 2001 - 02

DATES	TOPICS	TESTS AND EXAMS
Jan. 3, 8	Chapter 1: Personality Theory: From Everyday Observations to Systematic Theories	
Jan 10, 15	Chapter 2: The Scientific Study of People	
Jan. 17, 22, 24	Chapter 3: A Psychodynamic Theory: Freud's Psychoanalytic Theory of Personality Chapter 4: A Psychodynamic Theory: Applications and Evaluation of Freud's Theory	Test 1: Jan. 29 (Tues.), on chapters 1-4 (60 min.)
Feb. 5, 7	Chapter 5: A Phenomenological Theory: Carl Rogers's Person-Centered Theory of Personality Chapter 6: A Phenomenological Theory: Applications and Evaluation of Rogers's Theory	
Feb. 12, 14	Chapter 7: Trait Approaches to Personality: Allport, Eysenck, and Cattell	Midterm Exam: Feb. 19 (Tue.) on chapters 1-7 (80 minutes)
Feb. 21, Mar. 5	Chapter 8: Trait Theory: The Five-Factor Model; Applications and Evaluation of Trait Approaches to Personality	
Feb. 25 - Mar. 1	WINTER BREAK	
Mar. 7, 12, 14	Chapter 9: Biological Foundations of Personality Chapter 10: Learning Approaches to Personality	
Mar. 19, 21, 26	Chapter 11: A Cognitive Theory of Personality: George A. Kelly's Personal Construct Theory of Personality Chapter 12: A Cognitive Theory of Personality: Applications and Evaluation of Kelly's Theory	Test 2: Apr. 2 (Tue.), on chapters 8-12 (60 min)
Mar. 28, Apr. 4	Chapter 13: Social Cognitive Theory: Bandura and Mischel	
Apr. 9	Chapter 14: Social Cognitive Theory: Applications and Evaluation Chapter 15: A Cognitive, Information-Processing Approach to Personality	
Apr. 11	Chapter 16: An Overview of Personality Theory, Assessment, and Research	
Apr. 15 - 24	FINAL EXAM PERIOD	Final Exam: The date will be posted by the Registrar's Office (3 hrs.)

NOTE: The final exam will include all assigned chapters and lecture materials. This timetable is tentative and subject to change. Future changes to this timetable will be announced in class in consultation with the students present.