

Psyc 383	Personality	Fall 2016
Instructor:	Guy Pelletier, Ph.D.	Lecture Location: ST 141
Phone:	403-355-3212	Lecture Days/Time: T 18:00 to 20:45
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Office:	AD 155B	
Office Hours:	By appointment	

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the main theories, concepts and research strategies that characterize the field of personality. Four major domains will be examined: (1) Psychodynamic, from Freud to contemporary theories; (2) Traits and the heritability of behavior; (3) Phenomenology, humanism and existentialism; (4) Behaviorism, Social Learning, and Social Cognitive theory. We will examine theories which are representative of each domain, we will evaluate their strengths and weaknesses, and we will discuss their implications for psychological interventions. Toward the end of the course we will focus on some contemporary issues and future directions.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Convey concepts and ideas in personality and some aspects of social psychology	1	C
Describe biological, psychological, and social foundations of personality	1	I
Identify historical trends, recent advances, and limits of psychological knowledge	1	I
assess and critically evaluate information, ideas, and assumptions comprehensively and from a variety of perspectives in personality	2	C
assess the relevance, reliability, validity, and utility of different sources of information	5	I
understand the practical importance and uses of concepts and methods in personality psychology	7	I

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Prerequisites

Psyc 200-201 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

Cervone, D. & Pervin, L. (2016). *Personality Theory and Research (13th ed.)*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

The text is available in the University Bookstore and is also available as an electronic book (Kindle version)

Evaluation

The exam format will be entirely multiple choice. Students are not allowed to use any materials other than the exam materials during the exams. Students cannot use lecture notes, texts, personal computers or tablets, iPhones, etc.

Midterm #1: 30% of final grade, Chapters 1 – 4 and corresponding lectures, 75 minutes

Midterm #1 is Tuesday October 4, 2016, first half of the lecture

Midterm #2: 30% of the final grade, Chapters 5-9 and corresponding lectures, 75 minutes

Midterm #2 is Tuesday November 1, 2016, first half of the lecture

Final Exam: Set by the Registrar's Office, 40% of the final mark. All material covered in the course, with a strong emphasis on Chapters 10 – 15 and lectures (including the video: The Human Experiments), 2 hours.

Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be "A" grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades 400-level psychology courses will be "A" grades.

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.* An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.* Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

B Range: *Good Performance.* Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.* Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards.* Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met.* Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
T Sep 13	Introduction – the scientific study of persons Ch. 1, 2
T Sep 20	Psychoanalysis – Freudian Models Ch. 3
F Sep 23	Last day to drop courses without financial penalty.
M Sep 26	Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.
T Sep 27	Psychoanalysis – Jung, Adler, Neo-Freudians to Object relations Ch.3 Applications of Psychoanalysis, Critical evaluation Ch. 4
T Oct 4	Mid-Term #1 Phenomenological theory – Roger’s Person Centered theory Ch. 5
T Oct 11	Phenomenological theory – related theories, applications Ch. 6 Critical evaluation
T Oct 18	Trait theories Ch 7
T Oct 25	Trait theory: applications and evaluation Ch. 8 Biological foundations: evolutionary psychology, genetics Ch. 9
T Nov 1	Mid-term #2 Video: The Human Behavior Experiments No readings
T Nov 8	Behaviorism and learning approaches to personality Ch. 10
T Nov 15	Cognitive theories: Kelly’s personal construct theory Ch. 11 Julian Rotter’s social learning theory Not in textbook
T Nov 22	Social Cognitive theory: Bandura and Mischel Ch.12
T Nov 29	Social cognitive theory: other theoretical concepts Ch.13

	applications, critical evaluation
T Dec 6	Commonalities and controversies in personality theories Ch. 14, 15
F Dec 9	Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw from full session Fall Term courses.
December 12-22	Final exam dates for full session Fall Term.

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services ; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

Travel During Exams

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 9, 2016**.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 [suyaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **September 23, 2016**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **September 26, 2016**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 9, 2016**.