

Psyc 383		Personality		Fall 2023	
Instructor:	Guy Pelletier	Lecture Location:	ST 135		
Phone:		Lecture Days/Time:	TR 12:30 – 13:45		
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Office:	Sessional office				
Office Hours:	R 14:00-16:00				

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 psychology. Four major domains will be examined: (1) Psychodynamic, from Freud to contemporary theories; (2) Phenomenology, humanism, and existentialism; (3) Traits and the heritability of behavior (4) Behaviorism, Social Learning, and Social Cognitive theories. We will examine theories which are representative of each domain, we will evaluate their strengths and limitations, 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	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Convey concepts and ideas in personality and some aspects of social psychology	Multiple choice exams, Written assignment	1	C
Describe biological, psychological, and social foundations of personality	Multiple choice exams	1	I
Identify historical trends, recent advances, and limits of psychological knowledge	Multiple choice exams	1	I
assess and critically evaluate information, ideas, and assumptions comprehensively and from a variety of perspectives in personality	Multiple choice exams, Written assignment	2	C
assess the relevance, reliability, validity, and utility of different sources of information	Multiple choice exams, Written assignment	5	I
understand the practical importance and uses of concepts and methods in personality psychology	Multiple choice exams,	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 in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity,* and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Course Format

This is an in-person class held on campus.

Prerequisites

Psyc 200-201 – Principles of Psychology I and II

Required Text

Cervone, D. & Pervin, L. (2022). *Personality Theory and Research (15th ed.)*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

The text is available in the University Bookstore and is also available as an eBook.

Assessment Methods

1. **The format of the exams will be entirely multiple choice.**
2. Midterm #1: 20% of final grade, Chapters 1 – 4 and corresponding lectures, 75 minutes
3. **Midterm #1 is Tuesday October 3, 12:30-13:45 PM**
4. Midterm #2: 20% of the final grade, non-cumulative, Chapters 5-9 and corresponding lectures, 75 minutes
5. **Midterm #2 is Thursday October 31, 12:30 – 1:45 PM**
6. **Final Exam:** Set by the Registrar's Office, 40% of the final grade. All material covered in the course, with a strong emphasis on Chapters 10 – 13 and lectures, 2 hours.

Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, online resources of any kind whether accessed by computer, smart phones, etc., is prohibited during the exams in this course. Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

Written essay

1. **Date due:** November 2, 2023, 11:59 PM, electronically in the D2L drop box.
2. Weight: 20% of final grade
3. The essay will consist in a description of the personality of a fictional character from media of your choice: for example, a novel, a movie, a TV show, a comic strip, or any other source that is relevant. Since the course is mostly about adult personality, the character should be an adult (18+ years old). The description of the character's personality must be based one of the theories (or set of theories) that are discussed in the course. For instance, the character could be described from the point of view of a specific theory, for example, attachment theory (psychodynamic domain), or from a humanistic perspective (a whole domain). Academic references must be used to support the concepts used in the personality description. Depending on which theory or domain you choose, you may have to read ahead in the textbook.

4. The instructions for the essay are as follows:

The typing must double-spaced (approx. 250 words per page), in Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins, with a maximum of 1,500 to 2,000 words (6 to 8 pages, excluding the title page and references). Material over 2,000 words will not be read, and the essay will be graded accordingly. The essay should start with an introduction of the fictional character focusing on the character's history (events that happened to him/her/them) and relevant behaviors and emotions. The main body of the essay should then explain the character's personality (why the character is the way he/she/they are) using theoretical concepts and principles.

Make sure that you have a title page with **your name, student number, course number and instructor's name, and a title**. References should be on a separate page at the end of the essay. Although the essay need not be strictly in APA style, **all references in the text and on the reference page must be in APA style**. Following these recommendations will prevent confusion.

You may NOT reference lectures directly, eg "Dr. Pelletier said...", but you may reference material presented in lectures. If you choose to use material presented in the lectures, it is best to refer to the direct source of the lecture material (either the textbook or journal article, [**when in doubt, ask**]). Over reliance on the textbook is discouraged and may lead to a lower mark. You should cover a variety of concepts and use a variety of sources. Avoid quoting sources directly, so you don't copy text and be very careful about using the internet for the description of characters' behaviors and personality. Fictional characters are often described superficially on internet sites, and descriptions based on internet information (including what could be obtained via Chat GPT) would likely not follow a personality theory and not meet the goals of this essay. Also, borrowing from the internet might lead to using material without referencing or using someone else's ideas, not your own ideas. **Copying someone else's material or using material without citation constitutes academic misconduct**.

A more detailed discussion of the assignment will take place on Tuesday September 12. Relevant material will be posted on D2L as required. You will be evaluated on how well you describe your chosen character's personality using a theoretical framework and on a correct understanding of the personality theory or perspective that you are using. You will also be evaluated on following the instructions of the assignment, as well as on writing quality and style (coherence, accuracy, conciseness, grammar).

Without instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day, including weekends. Once approved by the course instructor, and at their discretion, alternative arrangements for missed assessments may be considered <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-2.html>. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity.

Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf>.

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology course instructors 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%

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 (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)
T Sep 5	First day of lectures
R Sep 7	Introduction – the scientific study of persons Ch. 1, 2
T Sep 12	Introduction – the scientific study of persons Ch. 1, 2 Discussion of the written assignment
R Sep 14	Last day to drop a class without financial penalty. Psychoanalysis – Freudian Models Ch. 3
F Sep 15	Last day to add or swap a course
T Sep 19	Psychoanalysis – Freudian Models Ch. 3
R Sep 21	Psychoanalysis – Jung, Adler, Neo-Freudians to Object relations Ch.3
F Sep 22	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
T Sep 26	Psychoanalysis – Jung, Adler, Neo-Freudians to Object relations Ch.3
R Sep 28	Applications of Psychoanalysis, Critical evaluation Ch. 4
S Sep 30	UNIVERSITY CLOSED National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
T Oct 3	Mid-Term #1 (12:30–1:45 PM 75 minutes)
R Oct 5	Phenomenological theory – Roger’s Person Centered theory Ch. 5
M Oct 9	UNIVERSITY CLOSED Thanksgiving Day
T Oct 10	Phenomenological theory – related theories, applications Ch. 6
R Oct 12	Phenomenological theory – related theories, applications Ch. 6 Critical evaluation
T Oct 17	Trait theories Ch 7
R Oct 19	Trait theories Ch 7
T Oct 24	Trait theory: applications and evaluation Ch. 8
R Oct 26	Biological foundations: evolutionary psychology, genetics Ch. 9
T Oct 31	Mid-Term #2 (12:30 – 1:45 pm, 75 minutes)
R Nov 2	Behaviorism and learning approaches to personality Ch.10
T Nov 7	Cognitive theories: Kelly’s personal construct theory Ch. 11
R Nov 9	Julian Rotter’s social learning theory Not in textbook
S Nov 11	UNIVERSITY CLOSED Remembrance Day (Observed Monday Nov 13).
Nov 12-18	Term Break No Classes
T Nov 21	Social Cognitive theory: Bandura and Mischel Ch.12
R Nov 23	Social Cognitive theory: Bandura and Mischel Ch.12
T Nov 28	Social cognitive theory: other theoretical concepts Ch.13
R Nov 30	Social cognitive theory: other theoretical concepts Ch.13 applications, critical evaluation
T Dec 5	Fall Term Lectures End. Commonalities and controversies in personality theories Ch. 1, pp 15-20
W Dec 6	Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.
Dec 9-20	Fall Final Exam Period

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, 2023**.

Seating During Exams

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct

Absence From Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html>. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. **Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. 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** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

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** [Deferred Final Exams | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#) **Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology psyugrd@ucalgary.ca**

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Accommodations

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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

(https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?_gl=1*bcjlpn*_ga*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.*_ga_X4GN9Y4W7D*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

Student Support and Resources

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Thursday, September 14th, 2023**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, September 15th, 2023**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Wednesday, December 6th, 2023**.