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PSYX 385.01: Psychology of Personality - Methodology, Theories, and Application

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Psyx 385 – Psychology of Personality: Methodology, Theories, & Application

Fall 2021, Section 1

Course Location and Time

LA 11 (Eck Hall)

Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30 pm – 1:50 pm

Instructor Information

Instructor: Duncan G. Campbell, Ph.D.

Email: duncan.campbell@umontana.edu

Office: Skaggs Bldg., Room 143

Office hours: TBA

Phone: (406) 243-4731

Required Text

Friedman, H.S. & Schustack, M.W. (2016). *Personality: Classic Theories and Modern Research, 6th Edition*. Boston, MA: Pearson.

Additional required and supplemental readings will be announced and made available via Moodle.

Course Objectives

This course introduces historical and modern conceptualizations of personality in three sections: background/methodology, major theoretical perspectives/aspects, and applications. We begin with background and methodology in order to set the stage for the work to follow. In the second division, we examine the major theoretical perspectives or ‘aspects’ of personality psychology. Within each aspect, we study the work of influential/representative theorists. In the course’s final weeks, we will apply our new knowledge to investigation of issues of everyday interest. At the close of the semester, I expect you to be well-informed about the field of personality psychology. You will be able to articulate key features of the major theoretical perspectives/aspects in the field, and you will be knowledgeable about major theorists’ contributions to each aspect. Knowledge in these areas will increase your understanding of the human experience and will serve as a foundation for development of knowledge regarding counseling and psychotherapeutic interventions.

Learning Outcomes

Over the course of the semester, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of commonly-used research methodologies in personality psychology and will understand how different types of personality data inform the science of personality.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the historical and contemporary theoretical models of personality.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the application of personality theory to physical health, gender, and culture/ethnicity.

Course Requirements and Policies

1. Exams

Exams: Four exams will assess your understanding of the course material. The tentative dates of the first three exams are listed on the attached course schedule. Please note that the dates of the first three exams might change depending on the pace of the class. The date and time of the final examination is

determined by the University Registrar's office. **Neither the date nor the time () of the final examination will change.** Arrange your schedules accordingly.

Each exam is worth 50 points and includes short answer and multiple choice questions. Exams will assess your understanding of the material presented in the lectures and the assigned readings. Please note that the exams **will** assess knowledge of material from the assigned readings that is **not** discussed in class and material from lecture that you will **not** find in the text. **The final exam is cumulative and covers the material discussed over the entire semester.**

Make-up exams

Make-up exams will be granted only if an absence is excused for one of the following reasons: 1) participation in a university-sanctioned athletic or formal academic event; 2) a prolonged or severe illness; and 3) death or serious illness in your family. In fairness to all students, reasons for missed exams **must be documented in writing** by an appropriate person or agency. Make-up exams will be administered immediately upon your return to class and may differ in format from the standard exam (e.g., essay questions only). Furthermore, I am unlikely to be available for questions before or during make-up exams. Please let me know right away if you're aware of an exam scheduling problem.

2. Expectations

You are expected to read all assignments **prior to class meetings**. I also expect you to be present for each class meeting and to be an active class participant. Your classmates and I will appreciate your discretion with respect to cell phone conversations, text messaging, and personal conversations. Finally, although I'm happy to correspond with students via email, University policy prohibits e-mail correspondence to and from a non-University email account. **Please send all email correspondence from your University account.**

3. Academic integrity

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. Specifically, cheating will result in a "0" for the assignment in question and may result in a failing course grade and dismissal from the University. Please enlist my help if you are having difficulty with the course content. Plagiarism is an example of academic dishonesty and will be addressed accordingly. If you have questions about what might constitute plagiarism, please let me know. Finally, please review the [Student Conduct Code](#) .

4. Disability modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Office for Disability Equity](#). If you have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not already registered with the Office of Disability Equity (ODE), please contact them (Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243). I will work with you and ODE to provide appropriate accommodations.

5. Drop date

You may drop the course or change your grading option via CyberBear through the 15th instructional day. You may drop the course or change grading options via Drop form through the 45th instructional day (Fee applies; instructor & advisor signatures required; a "W" will appear on transcript for drops). Beyond the 45th day, dropping courses and/or changing grading options require a Petition to Change Registration form (Fee applies; instructor, advisor and Dean of College signatures required; a "WP" [Withdraw Passing] or "WF" [Withdraw Failing] will appear on transcript). **November 2nd is the last day to drop classes or change grading options. After that date, I will not sign a Petition to Change Registration unless you provide suitable documentation of justification (e.g., prolonged illness, family**

emergencies, etc.). Additionally, I will assign an 'incomplete' only when urgent circumstances arise. These circumstances will require appropriate documentation (e.g., letter from a physician, etc.). It is your responsibility to contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to confirm details about registration and the dates above.

6. Grading

Course grading is based on a total of 200 points.

Weighted final: Because the final exam is cumulative, I use a 'weighted' final procedure for those students who do better on the final than the average of their performance on Exams 1-3. This weighted procedure makes the final exam 'worth' $\frac{1}{2}$ of the final grade, while the average of Exams 1-3 composes the other $\frac{1}{2}$. This procedure is only used if the student does better on the final and only when it improves the student's point total.

Standard final: When a student's final performance is equal to or less good the average of Exams 1-3, I use a standard weight for the final. In this case, each exam is worth 50 points (i.e., 25% of the final point total).

There will be no grade curves in this course. Point totals are always 'rounded up' in the student's favor.

Final grades will be assigned using the following scale:

Points	Letter Grade
187-200	A
180-186	A-
173-179	B+
167-172	B
160-166	B-
153-159	C+
140-152	C
120-139	D
<120	F

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Topics	Required Reading
Tuesday, Aug. 31	Course overview and introduction	Syllabus & Chapter 1
Thursday, Sept. 2	Measurement	Chapter 2
Tuesday, Sept. 7	Measurement & Psychometrics	Chapter 2
Thursday, Sept. 9	Psychoanalysis: Origins	Chapter 3
Tuesday, Sept. 14	Psychoanalysis: Models	Chapter 3; Freud (Moodle)
Thursday, Sept. 16	Psychoanalysis: Defense & development	Chapter 3
Tuesday, Sept. 21	Neoanalysts: Jung, Adler	Chapter 4
Thursday, Sept. 23	Neoanalysts: Horney; Object Relations	Chapter 4
Tuesday, Sept. 28	Exam 1	Chapters 1-4
Thursday, Sept. 30	Biological aspects: Temperament & Eysenck's Arousal/Activation theory	Chapter 5
Tuesday, Oct. 5	Gray's reinforcement sensitivity; Evolutionary approaches	Chapter 5
Thursday, Oct. 7	Behavioral and learning aspects: Pavlov, Watson & Skinner	Chapter 6
Tuesday, Oct. 12	Skinner's behaviorism; Dollard & Miller's social learning theory	Chapter 6
Thursday, Oct. 14	Cognitive aspects: Kelly	Chapter 7
Tuesday, Oct. 19	Bandura's Social Cognitive theory	Chapter 7
Thursday, Oct. 21	Exam 2	Chapters 5-7
Tuesday, Oct. 26	Trait Aspects: Allport, Factor analysis and Cattell	Chapter 8
Thursday, Oct. 28	The Five Factor Model and Theory	Chapter 8
Tuesday, Nov. 2	Humanism: Carl Rogers, phenomenology, and the self-concept	Chapter 9
Thursday, Nov. 4	Rogers, Continued	Chapter 9
Tuesday, Nov. 9	Maslow's self-actualization	Chapter 9
Thursday, Nov. 11	Early Person-situation Interactionism: HS Sullivan and Henry Murray	Chapter 10
Tuesday, Nov. 16	Contemporary Interactionism: Mischel's Cognitive Affective Personality System	Chapter 10
Thursday, Nov. 18	Exam 3	Chapters 8-10
Tuesday, Nov. 23	Sex and Gender: Basic principles	
Thursday, Nov. 25	Thanksgiving	Chapter 11
Tuesday, Nov. 30	Contemporary issues: Gender and Personality	Chapter 11; TBA (Moodle)
Thursday, Dec. 2	Personality and Health: Pathways & mechanisms	Chapter 12
Tuesday, Dec. 7	Appraisal, optimism and hardiness	Chapter 12
Thursday, Dec. 9	Personality, culture and ethnicity	Chapter 13
Friday, Dec. 17 (10:10-12:10p)	FINAL EXAM	All readings, inclusive