

PSYCHOLOGY 2330 (PY 2330)

PERSONALITY

COURSE OUTLINE

Fall Semester, 1998-99

INSTRUCTOR: DR. KENDEL TANG

OFFICE NUMBER: C427

OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 539-2867

OFFICE HOURS : 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., M-W-F, 11:00 - 12:00 p.m., T-R, or by appointment

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/biological, social cognitive, and information-processing perspectives.

The course is designed to acquaint students with the essential structure 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.

PREREQUISITES: PY 1040 : Basic Psychological Processes

PY 1050: Social and Individual Behaviour

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 self-administered personality tests.

Text:

Pervin, L. A. & John, O.P. (1997). Personality: Theory and Research (7th ed.). Toronto: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

**GRADING SYSTEM**

<u>SCALE</u>	<u>TRANSLATION</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE % EQUIVALENT</u>
9		90 - 100
8	<u>Excellent</u>	80 - 89
7		72 - 79
6	<u>Good</u>	65 - 71
5		57 - 64
4	<u>Pass</u>	50 - 56
3	<u>Failure</u>	45 - 49
2	Failure	26 - 44
1	Failure	0 - 25

Marks in the course will be weighted as follows:

Average of chapter tests (Tests 1 and 2)	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Term Paper	20%
Class Involvement (based on the degree of participation in class discussions, number of questions asked indicating interest and curiosity, and participation in other assigned learning activities)	10%
	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 no later than November 26, 1998. The instructor will provide students with a list of 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 7 and 10 pages in length. The format and style of the paper should conform to the guidelines of the APA Publication Manual, which is available in the college library. A copy of a set of relevant guidelines is also available from the instructor upon request.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Students will be held accountable for lectures delivered, readings assigned, and any announcements that will be made in class. If a student is unable to attend a particular class, it will be his/her responsibility to find out what was missed.

If a student foresees that he/she will be unable to write an exam or a test at a scheduled time because of an event beyond his/her control, the student should notify the instructor immediately, preferably at least one day in advance. A message may be left on the instructor's answering machine (539-2867) together with a phone number where the student may be reached. If the student is unable to write the final exam at the scheduled time, he/she should notify the instructor in advance and submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (see the College calendar about deferred exams). Students are advised against making any plans that will prevent them from writing tests or exams on the scheduled dates.

For optimum learning and class participation, students should read the assigned topics before coming to class (except for the first class).

Every student is cordially invited to see the instructor after class either in the hallway, in the cafeteria, or in his office to talk about any concern or to further discuss the course material.

**Please keep this course information sheet for future reference.**

## **RECORD OF STUDENT'S MARKS ON TESTS AND EXAMS**

Test 1	_____
Test 2	_____
Midterm Exam	_____
Final Exam	_____

**TIMETABLE**  
**PY 2330**  
**FALL SEMESTER, 1998-99**

<u>DATES</u>	<u>TOPICS</u>	<u>TESTS, EXAMS, AND PAPER</u>
Sept. 3 - 8	Personality Theory: From Everyday Observations to Systematic Theories (Chapter 1)	
10 - 15	The Scientific Study of People: (Ch. 2)	
17 - 22	A Psychodynamic Approach: Freud's Psychoanalytic Theory of Personality (Ch. 3)	
24 - Oct. 1	A Psychodynamic Theory: Applications and Evaluation of Freud's Theory (Ch. 4)	
		Test 1: Sept. 29 (Ch. 1 - 3)
Oct. 6 - 8	A Phenomenological Theory: Carl Rogers' Person-centered Theory of Personality (Ch. 5)	
Oct. 13 - 15	A Phenomenological Theory: Applications and Evaluation of Rogers' Theory (Ch. 6)	
20 - 22	Trait Approaches to Personality : Allport, Eysenck, and Cattell (Ch. 7)	
		Midterm Exam: Oct. 27 (Ch. 1 - 7)
29 - Nov. 3	Trait Approaches: The Five-Factor Model; Applications and Evaluation of Trait Approaches to Personality (Ch. 8)	
Nov. 5 - 10	Learning Approaches to Personality (Ch. 9)	
12 - 17	A Cognitive Theory of Personality: George A. Kelly's Personal Construct Theory of Personality (Ch. 10)	
19 - 26	A Cognitive Theory of Personality: Applications and Evaluation of Kelly's Theory (Ch. 11)	
		Test 2: Nov. 24 (Ch. 8 - 10)
Dec. 1 - 3	Social Cognitive Theory: Bandura and Mischel (Ch. 12)	
	Social Cognitive Theory: Applications and Evaluation (Ch. 13)	
		Term Paper is due: Dec. 1
Dec. 8 - 17	Final Exam Period	

Note: The final exam will include all assigned chapters and lecture materials which may not be contained in the text. The final exam date will be announced by the Registrar's office.  
A late term paper will receive a deduction of 5% from its assigned grade for each day that it is late, except for circumstances beyond the student's control. (This timetable is subject to change.)