

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

PSYCHOLOGY 2330 (PY2330)

PERSONALITY

COURSE OUTLINE

Fall Semester, 1999 - 2000

INSTRUCTOR: DR. KENDEL TANG
OFFICE NUMBER: C427
OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 539-2867
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 - 11:30 AM, M & W, 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 structures and processes of selected theories, plus discussion of the 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 hi/her own personality. He/she should be able to interpret the results of selected 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	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 (Tests 1 and 2)	20%
Midterm 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 November 25, 1999. Early consultation is strongly recommended. The students 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 (4th ed.), which is available in the college library. A copy of selected guidelines is also available from the instructor upon request. 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 December 7, 1999.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

Students will be held accountable for lectures delivered, readings assigned, and any announcements that will be made in class from time to time. If a student is unable to attend a particular class, it will be his/her responsibility to find out what was missed. For optimal learning and readiness for class participation, students are expected to attend class regularly (no less than 80% attendance) and to read the assigned chapters before coming to class on the dates indicated on the timetable, except, of course, for the first session. Past course records show that very rarely can a grade of 8 be achieved by a student with less than 80% class attendance. Similarly, a grade of 5 is very rarely obtained by a student with less than 50% class attendance.

If a student foresees that he/she will be unable to write a test or exam at a scheduled time due to illness or emergency, he/she should notify the instructor immediately, preferably one day in advance. A message may be left on the instructor's answering machine (539-2867) or e-mail (tang@gprc.ab.ca) together with the phone number where the student may be reached to arrange for an alternative date to write the test. Failure to notify the instructor will result in a grade of zero for the test that was missed, unless proof is presented that the student was physically or mentally unable to do so due to a sudden illness or to unavoidable circumstances beyond the student's control.

If a student is unable to write the final exam for a valid reason, e.g., illness or death in the family, he/she should ask the instructor for a deferred exam and submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (see the College calendar about deferred exams). Otherwise, students are advised against making any plans that will prevent them from writing tests or exams on the scheduled dates.

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

Please keep this course information sheet for future reference.

TIMETABLE
PY2330
FALL SEMESTER, 1999 - 2000

<u>DATES</u>	<u>TOPICS</u>	<u>TESTS, EXAMS, AND PAPER</u>
Sept. 9 - 14	Personality Theory: From Everyday Observations to Systematic Theories (Chapter 1)	
16 - 21	The Scientific Study of People (Ch. 2)	
23 - 30	A Psychodynamic Approach: Freud's Psychoanalytic Theory of Personality (Ch. 3 & 4)	Test 1: Oct. 5 (Tue.) (Ch. 1 - 4)
Oct. 7 - 12	A Phenomenological Theory: Carl Rogers' Person-centered Theory of Personality (Ch. 5)	
14 - 21	A Phenomenological Theory: Applications and Evaluation of Rogers' Theory (Ch. 6) Trait Approaches to Personality: Allport, Eysenck, and Cattell (Ch. 7)	Midterm Exam: Oct. 26 (Tue.) (Ch. 1 - 7)
Oct. 28 - Nov. 2	Trait Approaches: The Five-Factor Model; Applications and Evaluation of Trait Approaches to Personality (Ch 8)	
Nov. 4 - 16	Learning Approaches to Personality (Ch. 9) A Cognitive Theory of Personality: George A. Kelly's Personal Construct Theory of Personality (Ch. 10)	
18 - 25	A Cognitive Theory of Personality: Applications and Evaluation of Kelly's's Theory (Ch. 11) Social Cognitive Theory: Bandura and Mischel (Ch. 12)	Term Paper Outline Due: Nov. 25 Test 2: Nov. 30 (Tue.) (Ch. 8 - 12)
Dec. 2 - 9	Social Cognitive Theory: Applications and Evaluation (Ch. 13) A Cognitive, Information-Processing Approach to Personality (Ch. 14) An Overview of Personality Theory, Assessment, and Research (Ch. 15)	Term Paper Due: Dec. 7 (Tue.)
13 - 21	Final Exam Period	Final Exam: Date to be announced by the Registrar's office

Note: This timetable is subject to change. Any future changes will be announced in class.