

**Department of Psychology
Renison College
PSYC 322-R Personality theory
Fall 2009**

Instructor: Kathy Foxall
E-mail: UW ACE
Classroom & time Thursday evening 6:30-9:20 in room 2102 Renison.
Office: 0208 Renison (in the older section of the building)
Office Hours: Thursday 5:00-6:15, and other times by appointment. My office is a mailroom shared with about 16 people and a photocopier, so if I am not in my office during my office hours check the cafeteria. Please feel free to approach me in the cafeteria during my "office hours," even if I am speaking to someone else. As well, feel free to make an appointment if the scheduled time does not work for you.

Course Description:

In this course we will consider classic and contemporary personality theories, and evaluate their usefulness in understanding human behaviour. Recent empirical findings will be considered, and we will study methods used in personality assessment. It is hoped that this course will be meaningful to you, and will lead you to a deeper intellectual and personal understanding of the complexity of human behaviour.

Anti-requisites: Psych 355 and 356. If you have transfer credits from another institution on the topic of personality please check with the psychology department about whether you should take this course.

Required Text: Ryckman, R.M. (2008). Theories of personality. Toronto, ON: Wadsworth/Thomson Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
UW ACE Course notes, syllabi, and announcements will be posted on UW ACE

Classes will include lecture material, case histories, classroom activities, and videos. Some of the videos are from my personal collection, and some can be found on Youtube. I will be posting lecture notes on the course site on UW ACE, and you will probably want to add to these notes during the lecture. Please be aware that these notes are not a substitute for class attendance. Note that due to past losses I do not loan videos from my personal collection.

Course objectives

1. Students will develop a healthy skepticism of popular approaches that attribute personality formation to one or two vivid events or periods of life.
2. Students will develop a deeper appreciation of the great complexity and unpredictability of human behaviour. It is hoped that students will also come to understand the limits of their own knowledge in a discipline where it is common for members of the general public without any special knowledge our scholarly training to believe that they are "experts."
4. Students will develop a broad understanding of the field of personality psychology, and will also develop detailed knowledge in some areas of the discipline.
5. Students will learn how to critically evaluate personality theories, and will apply this knowledge independently.
6. It is hoped that students will develop a greater appreciation of the wide range of normal human behaviour, and will become more accepting of people who are dissimilar to themselves.

COURSE OUTLINE - PSYC 322R
Personality theory Fall 2009

| Class Number | Class Date | Topic | Text Chapter |
|--------------|-------------------|--|----------------|
| 1. | Sept. 17 | Personality & the scientific outlook Psychobiography (http://www.psychobiography.com/) | 1 |
| 2. | Sept. 24 | Freud | 2 |
| 3. | October 1 | Adler | 4 |
| 4. | October 8 | Test 1 <i>Includes all material covered in class and in readings up to and including October 1. Videos are considered to be part of the class.</i> After the test, Maslow's self-actualization position | 12 |
| 5. | October 15 | Horney's Social & Cultural Psychoanalysis | 5 |
| 6. | October 22 | Eysenck's Biological Typology | 10 |
| 7 | October 29 | Interpersonal theories & interpersonal styles Attachment styles Temperament | |
| 8 | November 5 | Test 2 <i>Includes all material covered in class and in readings up to and including October Oct. 29. Videos are considered to be part of the class.</i> After the test, Personality disorders | |
| 9 | November 12 | May's existential-analytical perspective | 14 |
| 10 | November 19 | Optional Essay due Skinner & Behaviour Modification | Readings 15 |
| 11 | November 26 | Bandura's operant analysis. | 17 |
| 12 | December 3 | Theory & Research in Contemporary Personality Psychology | 18 |
| | | Exam period Final exam scheduled by registrar | |

Methods of Evaluation:

| | Date | |
|-----------|------------------------|-----|
| 1. Test 1 | October 8 | 32% |
| 2. Test 2 | November 5 | 32% |
| 3. Exam | Scheduled by Registrar | 36% |

4. Optional Essay Due November 19 in class *Will replace half of test 1 or 2 grade (whichever is lower), making it worth 16%. Note that if your essay grade is lower than your test grades, I will exclude the essay from your final grade calculation.*

Tests and the Exam: The midterms and exam will consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, and short answer questions. Tests and the exam cover all assigned readings and material covered in class. Videos are considered to be part of the class, and there will be questions about the videos on the test and exam. Unfortunately, I cannot arrange alternate screening times for videos, nor can I lend them to students.

Optional essay: Students will prepare a brief (8 pages, typed in 12 point font and double-spaced) focused paper on a topic of their choice from the field of personality theory. A rubric will be used to mark the essay, and that rubric will be posted on UW ACE. Papers with 8 or more grammatical and/or spelling errors will receive a grade no higher than 70%, so make sure that you edit your work carefully. The resources and references needed to complete these assignments can be obtained through the UW library on campus and in the UW library databases for psychology. Other **university library** sources are acceptable as well. In some cases non-scholarly biographical sources on famous people may be acceptable sources, but in general you are required to use scholarly sources. Please review UW policy on plagiarism and keep this in mind when writing your essay. (See section below on avoidance of academic offences for further direction).

Important: It is the student's responsibility to a full back-up copy of their paper, either on disk or in hard copy, to be available to the instructor on request. Work that has been used for other courses is not to be handed in for this course.

Policy on Tests, Exams, and Assignments

MIDTERMS & FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Midterm examinations for half courses within the Psychology Department are scheduled by the instructor of the course. Final examinations are scheduled by the Registrar's Office. Students are strongly urged NOT to make any commitments (i.e., vacation, job related, or other travel plans) during either the term as a whole or the final examination period. Students are required to be available for all examinations during the periods for which they are scheduled (as published in course syllabi).

The same assignment cannot be submitted in more than one course without the prior written permission of all instructors concerned. The written approval must be attached to the work when it is submitted.

Students are required to use American Psychological Association style (5th edition), as described in Mitchell et al. (2007), for all written assignments.

Avoidance of academic offenses:

Note on avoidance of academic offenses: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied

in the Undergraduate Calendar (p.1:11). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 - Student Discipline. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>

Academic Integrity website (Arts):

http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (UW): <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/>

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.