

Grande Prairie Regional College
Psychology 2330 (A2) & PSY 356 (AU)
Friday 2:30-5:30
Personality Theories
Fall Term September-December 2009

Instructor: Ali M. AL-Asadi
Office Number: C402
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-11:30
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Course Credit Hours: 3 (UT: Alberta)
Student Contact: 3 hours per week
Prerequisites: PY1040 & PY1050

IMPORTANT: Please remember this is a university course and you are a university student.

Textbooks:

- Hergenhahn, B. R., Olson, M. H., & Cramer, K. (2003). **An Introduction to Theories of Personalities (Canadian Edition)**. Pearson Education Canada Inc., Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Publication Manual of the APA will be on reserve in College Library

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 view points of human nature elaborated within the psychodynamic, humanistic/existential/phenomenological, cognitive, behavioural, trait, neuropsychological, 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 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.

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 selected self/administered personality tests.

Marks in the course will be weighted as follows:

Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4	25%
Exam 2: Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9	25%
Final Exam: 10-16	25%
Paper	25%
Total:	100%

Course Requirement

Paper: This is a reflective paper. You must keep a daily journal of the concepts and activities that were presented and discussed in class. You must relate these activities and concepts to yourself or someone in your environment. In your writing, try to analyze behaviours, thoughts, and the emotion in the context of the theory that was covered. In another word, how would Freud, Jung, Erikson, Roger, etc. view and analyze the person you are writing about. Basically it is an application of the various personality theories and perspectives to yourself or the person you are writing about.

Additional Course Information

Students will be held accountable for lectures delivered, readings assigned, and any announcement 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 class attendance is highly correlated with final grade in the course.

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 voice mail (780-539-2061) or e-mail (aalasadi@gprc.ab.ca) together with a phone number where the student may be reached to arrange for an alternative date to write the test, if feasible. 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 emergency or to unavoidable circumstances beyond the student's control.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. You should consult the section on cheating and plagiarism of current GPRC calendar.

If a student is unable to write the final exam for a valid reason, 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 strongly encouraged to talk to the instructor after class in his office or in the hallway about any concerns related to the course or just to further discuss the course material.

Please keep this course information sheet for future reference.

Grading System

Alpha Grade	%	4-Point Equivalence	Descriptor
A+	95-100	4.0	Excellent
A	90-94	4.0	Excellent
A-	85-89	3.7	First Class Standing
B+	80-84	3.3	First Class Standing
B	75-79	3.0	Good
B-	70-74	2.7	Good
C+	65-69	2.3	Satisfactory
C	60-64	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	55-59	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	53-54	1.3	Poor
D	50-52	1.0	Minimal Pass
F	00-49	0.0	Failure

TIMETABLE

PY2330: Fall Session 2009

*Please note that the dates and the sequence of chapters are tentative and may change.

Dates	Dates	Topics	Evaluation
Week 1	September 4	Chapter 1: What is Personality	
Week 2	September 11	Chapter 2: Freud	
Week 3	September 18	Chapter 2: Freud	
Week 4	September 25	Chapter 3: Jung	
Week 5	October 2	Chapter 3: Adler	
Week 6	October 9	Chapter 4: Adler Chapter 5: Horney	
Week 7	October 16	Chapter 5: Horney Exam 1	E1 (25%): 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 8	October 23	Chapter 6: Erikson	
Week 9	October 31	Chapter 7: Allport Chapter 8: Cattell & Eysenck	
Week 10	November 6	Chapter 9: Skinner Chapter 10: Dollard & Miller	
Week 11	November 13	Chapter 11: Bandura & Mischel Chapter 12: Wilson & Barash	E2 (25%): 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Week 12	November 20	Chapter 13: Kelly Chapter 14: Rogers	
Week 13	November 27	Chapter 15: Maslow	
Week 14	December 4	Chapter 16: May	
	December 9	No Classes. Final Exam Period	E3 (25%) Final Exam: 10-16