

Course Syllabus

Psychology 231: Personality Psychology Winter 2015

Instructors: Week 1 to Week 6: Dr. Mike Condra
Week 7 to Week 12: Ada Mullett, M.A.

Contact: psyc231@queensu.ca

Class times: Mondays: 10.00 – 11.30 a.m.
Wednesdays: 8.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.

Location: CHERNOFF Auditorium

T.A.s: Christine Lambert & Ashley Bramwell

Office Hours: By appointment

PSYC 231* provides an introduction to the exciting and vibrant field of the study of personality. The course will focus on the foundations of personality theories and on relevant research. The topic is broad, with a range of theories, models and explanations for many aspects of human behaviour, including altruism, authoritarianism, resilience and even humour. Some of these theories – for example, those of Sigmund Freud – have been the source of great debate and controversy, and have had a significant impact on many areas outside the field of personality. Others – such as those of Gordon Allport – are less well known, but have contributed greatly to how psychologists have thought about and studied personality.

In this course we will explore a number of theories and research findings, and critically examine how each may help us - or not help us, as the case may be - to understand the complexity of human personality. It will be, we hope, an interesting, enjoyable and stimulating journey.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

Date	Lect. No.	Topic	Chapter
January 5 th	1	Introduction to the field	1
January 7 th	2	Research methods in personality	1
January 12 th	3	Traits and trait models (i)	2
January 14 th	4	Traits and trait models (ii)	3
January 19 th	5	How do we assess personality (i)	4
January 21 nd	6	How do we assess personality (ii)	4
January 26 th	7	Intrapsychic views of personality (i)	8
January 28 th	8	Intrapsychic views of personality (ii)	8
February 2 nd	9	Cognitive view (i)	10
February 4 th	10	Cognitive view (ii)	10
February 9 th	11	Loose ends and REVIEW	
February 11 th		EXAMINATION	
February 23 rd	12	Self and Identity (i)	5
February 25 th	13	Self and Identity (ii)	5
March 2 nd	14	Genetics (i)	6
March 4 th	15	Genetics (ii)	6
March 9 th	16	The Neuroscience of personality (i)	7
March 11 th	17	The Neuroscience of personality (ii)	7
March 16 th	18	Regulation and motivation (i)	9
March 18 th	19	Regulation and motivation (ii)	9
March 23 rd	20	Gender and personality (i)	11
March 25 th	21	Gender and personality (ii)	11
March 30 th	22	Sexual orientation	12
April 1 st	23	Resilience	13

Accommodation Policy

Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure that they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic responsibilities. If you are a student with a disability and think you need an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office (DSO) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the DSO website at <http://www.queensu.ca/hcnds/ds>

Examinations

The course grade will be based on the examinations as described below. Each examination will include multiple choice questions, definitions and short essay questions. Material from the text and lectures will be examined. Specific weights for these parts will be announced before each examination.

<u>Examination</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Material to be examined</u>
Exam 1 (In-class)	40%	February 11 th	Lectures and Text: January 5 th to February 9 th
Exam 2	60%	April Exam period	Lectures and Text: February 23 rd to April 1 st

Important Note: The final examination for the course will be held during the examination period in April. It will be three hours in length and will be worth 60% of the total marks available. Part 1 of the final examination will be drawn from the second half of the course and will follow the same format as the earlier examination. Part 2 of the final examination will consist of two questions that will draw on information from various parts of the course. The two questions which will comprise Part 2 of the final examination will be provided to the class on February 25th and will be placed on Moodle, along with important information about answering the questions.

Course Text

Miserandino, M. (2012) *Personality Psychology: Foundations and Findings*. Boston, MA: Pearson Academic

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrustees/principlespriorities.html>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/2011-2012-calendar/academic-regulations/regulation-1>), on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/undergraduate/academic-integrity>), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

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Calculator Policy

In this course, all components will be graded using numerical percentage marks.

The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to the Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below