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**Psychology 383-01**

**Personality**

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|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Instructor:</b>   | Raymond Gunter | <b>Lecture Location:</b>  | SA 106          |
| <b>Phone:</b>        | 403-944-4784   | <b>Lecture Days/Time:</b> | T 18:30 – 21:20 |
| <b>Office:</b>       | A 257          |                           |                 |
| <b>Office Hours:</b> | By Appointment |                           |                 |

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**Course Description and Goals**

The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the main theories, concepts and research strategies that characterize the field of personality. Five major paradigms will be examined: (1) Psychodynamic; (2) Family, Society, and Culture; (3) Traits and the heritability of behavior; (4) Phenomenology and humanism; (5) Behaviorism, Social Learning, and Social Cognitive Learning. We will examine theories which are representative of each paradigm and we will evaluate their strengths and weaknesses. We will also focus on some contemporary issues and future directions, including evolutionary theories of personality and clinical issues such as so-called personality disorders.

**Prerequisites**

Psychology 205 or equivalent

**Required Text**

Larsen, R.J., & Buss, D.M. (2010). Personality Psychology: Domains of Knowledge about Human Nature (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill. (The textbook is available at the U of C bookstore).

**Evaluation**

**The exam format will be entirely multiple guess ... er, choice. Each midterm is NON-CUMULATIVE and covers all previous lectures and textbook chapters. The final is CUMULATIVE but with a strong emphasis on the last third of the course.**

Midterm #1: 30%, 90 minutes, Chapters 1-2, 3-5, 9-10

**Midterm #1 is Tuesday, Feb 14th 2012, first half of the lecture**

Midterm #2: 30%, 90 minutes, Chapters 8, 9, 11, 16

**Midterm #2 is Tuesday, Mar 20 2012, first half of the lecture**

**Final Exam:** 40%, all material covered in the course, 90 minute

### Grading Scale

|    |         |    |        |    |        |    |        |
|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|
| A+ | 96-100% | B+ | 80-84% | C+ | 67-71% | D+ | 54-58% |
| A  | 90-95%  | B  | 76-79% | C  | 63-66% | D  | 50-53% |
| A- | 85-89%  | B- | 72-75% | C- | 59-62% | F  | 0-49%  |

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades beyond the rounding performed by computer programs, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

| Date        | Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)                       |          |
|-------------|---|----------|
| T Jan 10    | Introduction – Contemporary study of personality  | Ch. 1    |
|             | Measurement of Personality  | Ch. 2    |
| T Jan 17    | Psychoanalytic Models of Personality  | Ch. 9-10 |
| F Jan 20    | Last day for registration/change of registration and last day to drop a course with tuition refund. |          |
| T Jan 24    | Psychoanalytic Models of Personality (Cont.)  | Ch. 9-10 |
| T Jan 31    | Trait Theories  | Ch. 3-5  |
| T Feb 7     | Trait Theories (Cont.)  | Ch. 3-5  |
| T Feb 14    | <b>Midterm #1</b>   |          |
|             | Evolutionary Psychology   | Ch. 8    |
| T Feb 28    | Cognitive approaches to Personality   | Ch. 9    |
| T Mar 6     | Phenomenological approaches to Personality/Motives  | Ch. 11   |
| T Mar 13    | Gender, sex, and Personality  | Ch. 16   |
| T Mar 20    | <b>Midterm #2</b>   |          |
|             | Stress, coping, adjustment  | Ch. 18   |
| T Mar 27    | Culture and Personality   | Ch. 17   |
| T Apr 3     | The Self  | Ch. 14   |
| T Apr 10    | Personality Disorders   | Ch. 19   |
| April 16-25 | <b>Final exam (scheduled by the Registrar).</b>   |          |

### **Reappraisal of Grades**

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

### **Academic Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

### **Absence From A Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

### **Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)**

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two (2) credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>

The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **April 13, 2012.**

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 403-220-3911 [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)

**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** Phone: 403-220-3913 [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Important Dates** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 20, 2012.** Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 23, 2012.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 13, 2012.**