

Personality
(PSYB30H3 S LEC01)

Winter 2014 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Jessica Dere, Ph.D., C. Psych.

Class Time and Location: Wednesdays, 2:00 to 5:00pm, AC-223

Office Hours and Location: Thursdays, 2:00 to 4:00pm, SW-521

Email: PSYB30.S2014@gmail.com

Office Phone: (416) 208-2999

Teaching Assistants:

Zoe Francis, Chad Danyluck, and Tara Gralnick

T.A. office hour information to be provided on Blackboard.

A note on email communication: *All questions* regarding the course, lectures, readings, exams, etc. **must** be sent to the course email address: PSYB30.S2014@gmail.com. Questions that have already been answered in the course syllabus, in lecture slides, or on Blackboard will **not** receive a response. Students may contact Dr. Dere directly for personal or confidential matters.

*** Please note: Course announcements will be made through Blackboard. Students are responsible for monitoring the course website regularly for important announcements and updates. Class emails will also be sent through Blackboard. Therefore, students are responsible for making sure that their listed email address is correct. ***

Prerequisites: PSYA01H3 and PSYA02H3

Exclusion: PSY230H

Required Textbook: Funder, D. C. (2013). *The Personality Puzzle* (6th ed.). New York, NY: Norton.

Additional Material: Additional readings and/or other course material may be placed on the Blackboard course page over the course of the semester, and will be announced in class. You will be responsible for any additional materials that are labeled as required course material.

Course description (from 2013-14 Calendar): This course is intended to introduce students to the scientific study of the whole person in biological, social, and cultural contexts. The ideas of classical personality theorists will be discussed in reference to findings from contemporary personality research.

Learning objectives: At the conclusion of the course, students should be able to ...

1. Identify the major approaches to the psychological study of personality
2. Identify and describe the defining characteristics of each of the major approaches examined in the course
3. Identify and describe key differences between the major approaches examined in the course
4. Demonstrate a basic understanding of research methodology in personality psychology
5. Demonstrate understanding of recent trends and current research findings in personality psychology

Class structure

The format of the course will consist primarily of lectures, but will also include video and other methods to help illustrate course material. The material covered in lectures will generally correspond to the material in the textbook, but will often serve to supplement the readings rather than duplicate their contents. Therefore, I will assume that you have read the relevant readings prior to coming to class, and having done so will make the learning experience more enjoyable and productive for everyone. I will also present material that is not included in the readings; therefore, class attendance is very important and strongly encouraged. Students will also be asked to engage in in-class learning activities to help illustrate course material. Class discussion generated from these activities may inform exam questions, also making class attendance very valuable. **You will be responsible for all material covered in class and in the readings.** I will make lecture slides available on Blackboard, but these will not be sufficient to understand everything that was covered in class. Furthermore, the slides posted on Blackboard may differ somewhat from those presented in class, due to copyright issues. I will do my best to post the lecture slides several hours prior to class time each week.

A note on the textbook

In light of the length of the selected textbook, several of the textbook chapters have not been assigned as required reading. Students are encouraged to read those chapters that are not covered during the course if there are certain excluded topics that pique their interest, and/or to support their learning. There will be occasions when concepts from non-assigned chapters will be referenced in subsequent assigned chapters. I will do my best to foresee such instances, and to define and discuss these concepts during relevant class lectures.

Students are encouraged to make use of the “Think About It” questions at the end of each textbook chapter, to aid with studying and the review of course material. Students are also encouraged to make use of the online study resources offered by the textbook publisher. A link to these resources is available on the Blackboard course page under ‘Online textbook resources’.

Class schedule

Date	Topic	Readings*
January 8	Introduction to the course Sources of Data in Personality Psychology	Chapters 1, 2
January 15	Research Methods in Personality Psychology	Chapter 3
January 22	Trait Approaches: Personality Traits, Situations, and Behavior	Chapter 4
January 29	Trait Approaches: Using Personality Traits to Understand Behavior	Chapter 7
February 5	Biological Approaches to Personality	Chapter 9, and DeYoung (2010) article (will be available via Blackboard)
February 12	<i>Midterm review session – format TBA</i>	---
READING WEEK		
February 26	Psychoanalytic Approaches: Basics and Contemporary Directions	Chapters 10, 12
March 5	Humanistic and Positive Psychology Approaches	Chapter 13
March 12	Cultural Approaches to Personality	Chapter 14
March 19	Behaviorism and Social Learning Theories	Chapter 15
March 26	The Self	Chapter 17
April 2	Disorders of Personality	Chapter 18

Please note: The class schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

* Additional Readings may be required, as announced on Blackboard and in class.

Evaluation

- Blackboard Quizzes: 8% (4% each)
- Mid-term examination: 42%
- Final examination: 50%

Blackboard Quizzes (4% each): Students will be asked to complete two quizzes during the semester. Your grade on each quiz will be worth 4% of your final course grade. For each quiz, you will have one week to complete the quiz via the Blackboard portal; the quizzes will be available under the “Quizzes” heading on the Blackboard course page. No extensions will be granted for completing the quizzes. Each quiz will consist of 20 multiple choice or true/false questions, and will be based on the textbook material. You will have 45 minutes to complete each quiz (multiple attempts will not be allowed). Results will then be discussed in class to facilitate review of the material.

- **Quiz 1:** To be completed between January 26th and February 2nd (by 11:59pm EST)
 - Will cover Chapters 1 to 4, and 7.
- **Quiz 2:** To be completed between March 23rd and March 30th (by 11:59pm EST)
 - Will cover Chapters 10, 12 to 15, and 17.

Mid-term examination (42%): The mid-term exam will cover all required readings and in class material from the beginning of the course through to reading week. The exam will consist primarily of multiple-choice questions, with a couple of short answer questions, and will not exceed two hours. The mid-term will take place after reading week. The specific date, time and location of the mid-term will be announced once they have been set by the registrar’s office.

Final examination (50%): The final exam will not be cumulative. It will cover all required readings and in class material from after reading week through to and including the final class. The exam will consist primarily of multiple-choice questions, with a couple of short answer questions, and will not exceed two hours. The final exam will be scheduled during the University examination period.

Policies for Examinations in this Course

Please Note: You must bring **photo identification** with you to each examination or you will not be permitted to write the examination.

Missed Mid-term Examination: A make-up mid-term exam will be held approximately two weeks following the date of the mid-term. Students will be permitted to take the make-up exam only if they were absent on the date of the mid-term exam due to a verified illness, a serious family emergence (e.g., death of a close family member), or religious observances. For absences due to illness, students must provide a valid and complete **UTSC Medical Certificate**. The certificate must indicate: (a) that the student sought medical attention on the day of the exam; (b) the nature/timeline of the student's problem and the diagnostic tests that were performed; and (c) how the problem prevented the student from writing the mid-term exam. Students who miss the mid-term exam must contact Dr. Dere via the course email address within **three business days** of the mid-term exam date. They must also submit their documentation within **five business days** of the mid-term exam date either to Dr. Dere (SW521) or to the Department of Psychology's Administrative Assistant, Nina Dhir (SW427F). Students will then be informed whether or not their documents have been accepted. Students whose documents are accepted will be provided with the date, time, and location of the make-up exam. Students who do not contact Dr. Dere within three business days of the mid-term exam, whose documents are not accepted, or who do not appear for the make-up exam, will receive a grade of zero on the mid-term exam.

The form for medical documentation can be found at the following link:

http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/resources/pdf_general/UTSCmedicalcertificate.pdf

Rights and Responsibilities

Copyright in Instructional Settings:

If a student wishes to tape-record, photograph, video-record or otherwise reproduce lectures, course notes/slides, or other similar materials provided by instructors, he or she must obtain the instructor's written consent beforehand. Without consent, all such reproduction is an infringement of copyright and is absolutely prohibited. In the case of private use by students with disabilities, the instructor's consent will not be unreasonably withheld.

Accessibility:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the *AccessAbility* Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and *AccessAbility* Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC *AccessAbility* Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
- Misrepresenting your identity.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/>).

UTSC Missed Final Examination Policy:

From the UTSC Registrar's Office: "Students are expected to write their final examinations at the end of their courses and are strongly discouraged from missing a final examination. Very occasionally, students encounter circumstances where it is impossible for them to write a final examination; for example, because of a serious illness or the death of a close family member. If you are ill or other circumstances absolutely prevent you from attending a final examination, you may petition (with supporting documentation) for permission to defer writing it until a later date. In most cases deferred exams will be written in the next final examination period or in the study break that immediately precedes it. However, students should be aware that deferred exams can be scheduled at any time during the following session."

Grade Scale

NUMERICAL MARKS	LETTER GRADE	GRADE POINT VALUE
90 - 100%	A+	4.0
85 - 89%	A	4.0
80 - 84%	A-	3.7
77 - 79%	B+	3.3
73 - 76%	B	3.0
70 - 72%	B-	2.7
67 - 69%	C+	2.3
63 - 66%	C	2.0
60 - 62%	C-	1.7
57 - 59%	D+	1.3
53 - 56%	D	1.0
50 - 52%	D-	0.7
0 - 49%	F	0.0

Additional information

Some important dates for Winter 2014 semester (from UTSC Course Calendar):

January 19: Last day to add S courses (on ROSI only)

February 17: Last day to drop Y courses (on ROSI only) without academic penalty and have them removed from the transcript

February 17: Family Day Holiday (University closed)

February 18 - 21: Reading Week

March 23: Last day to drop S courses without academic penalty and have them removed from the transcript (on ROSI only)

April 4: Last day of classes and last day for submission of term assignments in S and Y courses

April 5 - April 9: Study Break

April 9: Last day to drop UTSC S and Y courses (on eService only) and have them remain on the transcript with a grade of LWD indicating withdrawal without academic penalty.

April 10 - 26: Final examination period

April 18: Good Friday (University closed)