

ADVANCED PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY – PSYC30

Prof. Marc A. Fournier

This course is intended to advance students' understanding of contemporary personality theory and research. Emerging challenges and controversies in the areas of personality structure, dynamics, and development will be discussed.

Prerequisites: PSYB30H3 (Introduction to Personality Psychology)
& [PSYB01H3 or PSYB04H3 or PSYB70H3] &
[PSYB07H3 or STAB22H3 or STAB23H3]

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Teaching Assistants: Chris Sciberas & Aidan Campbell

Lectures: Wednesdays from 12:00 to 14:00 in HLB110 (with WebOption). Until further notice, all classes will be delivered synchronously over Zoom. Video-recordings of the lectures will subsequently be made available on Quercus.

Readings: All readings can be obtained from the Library Reading List on Quercus.

Office Hours: Wednesdays from 14:30 to 15:30 on Zoom.

I. Objectives & Outline

Learning Objectives

To reinforce students' understanding of the various sources of personality data ratings (self-report, informant report, behavioral observation) and the predictive validity of personality ratings in relation to consequential life outcomes.

To introduce students to various focal constructs in contemporary personality research (narcissism, wisdom) as well as the correlates and consequences of these constructs.

To reinforce students' understanding of the dynamics and development of personality from multiple theoretical perspectives (functionalist, organismic, integrative).

To introduce students to principal readings in contemporary personality science, and to familiarize students with the common forms/conventions of scholarly communication (i.e., empirical report, literature review, theoretical framework).

Lecture Outline

Week	Date	Lecture Topic
Week 1	12-Jan	Introduction & Overview
<i>Part I. The Manifestation of Personality</i>		
Week 2	19-Jan	Lecture 1. Personality & Consequential Life Outcomes
Week 3	26-Jan	Lecture 2. Personality & Interpersonal Perception
Week 4	02-Feb	Lecture 3. Personality & Self-Knowledge
<i>Part II. The Organization of Personality</i>		
Week 5	09-Feb	Lecture 4. Integration & Unity of Personality
Week 6	16-Feb	Lecture 5. The Narcissistic Personality
Week 7	02-Mar	Lecture 6. The Wise Personality
<i>Part III. The Development of Personality</i>		
Week 8	09-Mar	Lecture 7. Functionalist Perspectives
Week 9	16-Mar	Lecture 8. Organismic Perspectives
Week 10	23-Mar	Lecture 9. Integrative Perspectives
Week 11	30-Mar	Lecture 10. Volitional Change
Week 12	06-Apr	Summary & Conclusion

II. References & Readings

There is no textbook in this course.

Week 1. Introduction & Overview

There are no assigned readings this week. Please review the syllabus.

Week 2. Personality & Consequential Life Outcomes

Ozer, D. J., & Benet-Martínez, V. (2006). Personality and the prediction of consequential outcomes. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 57, 401-421.

Roberts, B. W., Kuncel, N. R., Shiner, R., Caspi, A., & Goldberg, L. R. (2007). The power of personality: The comparative validity of personality traits, socio-economic status, and cognitive ability for predicting important life outcomes. *Perspectives in Psychological Science*, 2, 313-345.

Week 3. Personality & Interpersonal Perception

Funder, D. C. (2012). Accurate personality judgment. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 21, 177-182.

Gosling, S. D., Ko, S. J., Mannarelli, T., & Morris, M. E. (2002). A room with a cue: Judgments of personality based on offices and bedrooms. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 82, 379-398.

Week 4. Personality & Self-Knowledge

Vazire, S. (2010). Who knows what about a person? The Self-Other Knowledge Asymmetry (SOKA) model. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 98, 281-300.

Vazire, S., & Carlson, E. N. (2010). Self-knowledge of personality: Do people know themselves? *Social and Personality Psychology Compass*, 4, 605-620.

Week 5. Integration & Unity of Personality

Fournier, M. A., Dong, M., Quitasol, M. N., Weststrate, N. M., & Di Domenico, S. I. (2021). Components and correlates of personality coherence in action, agency, and authorship. *European Journal of Personality*, 35, 1-22.

Week 6. The Narcissistic Personality

Miller J. D., Lynam, D. R., Hyatt, C. S., & Campbell, W. K. (2017). Controversies in narcissism. *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*, 13, 291-315.

Week 7. The Wise Personality

Weststrate, N. M., & Glück, J. (2017). Hard-earned wisdom: Exploratory processing of difficult life experience is positively associated with wisdom. *Developmental Psychology*, 53, 800-814.

Week 8. Functionalist Perspectives

Baumert, A., Schmitt, M., Perugini, M., Johnson, W., Blum, G., Borkenau, P., ... & Möttus, R. (2017). Integrating personality structure, personality process, and personality development. *European Journal of Personality*, 31, 503-528.

Week 9. Organismic Perspectives

Ryan, R. M., & Deci, E. L. (2019). Brick by brick: The origins, development, and future of self-determination theory. In *Advances in motivation science* (Vol. 6, pp. 111-156). Elsevier.

Week 10. Integrative Perspectives

McAdams, D. P., & Olson, B. D. (2010). Personality development: Continuity and change. *Annual review of psychology*, 61, 517-542.

Week 11. Volitional Change

Hudson, N. W., & Fraley, R. C. (2015). Volitional personality trait change: Can people choose to change their personality traits? *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 109, 490-507.

Week 12. Summary & Conclusion

There are no assigned readings this week.

III. Evaluation Policies & Procedures

Of greatest importance to me is the extent to which students can demonstrate their intellectual command of the subject matter of this course *in its entirety* at the end of the term. Consequently, it is essential that the final exam provide a comprehensive (cumulative) assessment of the course. Given the stress that cumulative final exams produce, students will have the opportunity to take two term tests to gain an interim assessment of their ongoing command of the course material. Both term tests will be one hour long and will be held outside of class. The first term test (20%) will cover Weeks 2 to 4 and will likely be held in Week 5 or 6. The second term test (20%) will cover Weeks 5 to 7 and will likely be held in Week 8 or 9. Any student who is missing a term test grade will be permitted to take a make-up term test that will be held in Week 10. The final exam (60%) will cover the course in its entirety (Weeks 2 to 11) and will be three hours long. Two-thirds of the questions will cover Part III; the other third of the questions will provide equal coverage of Part I and Part II. Each question will concern an idea from the lectures or readings and require a written response (from a single word to a few sentences).

Summary:

The first midterm (20%) will cover Part I (Weeks 2-4).

The second midterm (20%) will cover Part II (Weeks 5-7).

A cumulative final exam (60%) will cover all Parts (Weeks 2-11)
= 10% [Part I] + 10% [Part II] + 40% [Part III] = 60%.

However, if your performance on the final exam with respect to Part I or Part II is greater than your performance on the respective term test, then I will let your performance on that part of the final exam assume the weight of that term test (essentially rendering the term test a practice test). In other words, if you can improve from the term test to the final exam, then your term test grade will not count. Stated differently, your performance on the term tests and final exam will have an interactive, rather than additive, effect on your final grade.

IV. University Standards & Campus Services

Writing Support. The Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) provides online resources, drop-in hours, one-on-one consultations, and writing workshops. For more information, please visit CTL's Academic Learning Support site at <http://uoft.me/AcademicLearningSupport>.

Academic Integrity. The University treats academic offenses very seriously and sanctions can be severe (e.g., zero in the course, suspension, or even expulsion). All students are expected to both know and respect the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.

Accommodations. *AccessAbility* Services provides accommodations to students with a documented learning, physical, sensory, or mental health disability or medical condition. If you have a disability requiring accommodations, please reach out to the Accessibility Services office (416-287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca).