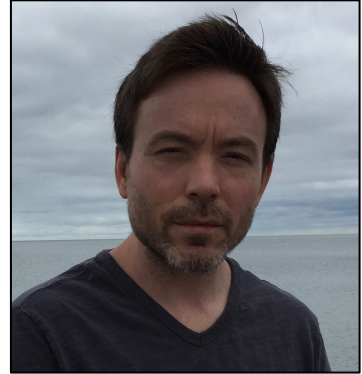


INTRODUCTION TO PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY – PSYB30H3

Prof. Marc A. Fournier



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.

Instructor Email: marc.fournier@utoronto.ca

Teaching Assistants: Chris Sciberas (Head T.A.) & Nicole Cosentino

Lectures: Wednesdays from 14:00 to 17:00 in AC 223 (lectures will be WebOptioned).

Readings: All course readings can be obtained from the links that are provided below.

Office Hours: Fridays from 13:00 to 14:00 on Zoom (details available on Quercus).

Prerequisites: PSYA01H3 and PSYA02H3 (Exclusion: PSY230H).

Course Overview. This course will consist of twelve weeks of lectures, broken into three parts. In an effort to achieve a *cost-free curriculum*, each part will be supplemented by online readings that will serve as an alternative to a traditional textbook. Parts I and II of the course will conclude with a one-hour review session followed by a one-hour in-class term test. The course as a whole will conclude with a three-hour final exam that will be cumulative and comprehensive in scope.

I. Learning Objectives

- To introduce students to the scientific study of the whole person (individual differences).
- To introduce students to the intellectual forces that historically shaped the scientific study of personality psychology (i.e., psychoanalysis, behaviorism, humanism, evolution).
- To introduce students to personality traits, focal constructs in contemporary personality theory and research, and to the longstanding issues relating to taxonomy, heritability, consistency, and continuity that have preoccupied this area of scientific inquiry.
- To introduce students to the constructs of agency, identity, morality, and the self that extend the science of personality psychology beyond the study of traits.
- To reinforce students' abilities to communicate through writing.

II. Lecture Outline

Part I. You Are a Unique Variation on an Evolved Psychological Design Situated in Culture

Readings:

Why Science? by Edward Diener

Personality Assessment by David Watson

The New Big Five by Dan P. McAdams and Jennifer L. Pals

Lectures:

(11-01-2023) Week 1. The whole person

(18-01-2023) Week 2. Our evolutionary origins

(25-01-2023) Week 3. Family, society, and culture

(01-02-2023) Week 4. Part I review and **in-class term test**

Part II. On Personality Traits—Taxonomy, Heritability, Consistency, and Continuity

Readings:

Personality Traits by Edward Diener and Richard E. Lucas

Personality Stability and Change by M. Brent Donnellan

The Nature-Nurture Question by Eric Turkheimer

Lectures:

(08-02-2023) Week 5. History of trait concepts

(15-02-2023) Week 6. Contemporary trait taxonomies

(01-03-2023) Week 7. Heritability, consistency, and continuity

(08-03-2023) Week 8. Part II review and **in-class term test**

Part III. Beyond Personality Traits—Agency, Identity, Morality, and the Self

Readings:

Intellectual Abilities, Interests, and Mastery by David Lubinski

Motives and Goals by Ayelet Fishbach and Maferima Touré-Tillery

Self and Identity by Dan P. McAdams

Creativity by Dean Keith Simonton

Lectures:

(15-03-2023) Week 9. Self and other

(22-03-2023) Week 10. Goals and needs

(29-03-2023) Week 11. Values and morality

(05-04-2023) Week 12. Identity and the life story

(Date TBD) Final Exam Period: Three-Hour Cumulative Final Exam

III. Links to Readings

Part I. You Are a Unique Variation on an Evolved Psychological Design Situated in Culture

Diener, E. (2022). Why science?. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/qu4abpzy>

Watson, D. (2022). Personality assessment. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/eac2pyv7>

McAdams, D. P., & Pals, J. L. (2006). A new Big Five: Fundamental principles for an integrative science of personality. *American Psychologist*, 61(3), 204–217.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/0003-066X.61.3.204>

Part II. On Personality Traits—Taxonomy, Heritability, Consistency, and Continuity

Diener, E. & Lucas, R. E. (2022). Personality traits. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/96u8ecgw>

Donnellan, M. B. (2022). Personality stability and change. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/sjvtxbwd>

Turkheimer, E. (2022). The nature-nurture question. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/tvz92edh>

Part III. Beyond Personality Traits—Agency, Identity, Morality, and the Self

Lubinski, D. (2022). Intellectual abilities, interests, and mastery. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/4atgdkf6>

Fishbach, A. & Touré-Tillery, M. (2022). Motives and goals. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/6acvnd85>

McAdams, D. P. (2022). Self and identity. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/3gsuardw>

Simonton, D. K. (2022). Creativity. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/nwzd6yuc>

IV. Evaluation Policies & Procedures

The course will consist of two one-hour in-class term tests and a three-hour final exam. The term tests will be held in Week 4 and Week 8. The final exam will be held in the final exam period. Each test or exam will consist of both multiple-choice questions and short-answer questions. There will be three short-answer questions on each term test and four short-answer questions on the final exam. Taken together, the short-answer questions will be worth 25% of your final grade.

As what matters to me is how much of this course you can command in its entirety by term's end, it is essential that the final exam provide a comprehensive (cumulative) assessment of the course. However, if your performance on the multiple-choice component of the final exam with respect to either Part I or Part II is greater than your performance on the multiple-choice component of the respective term test, then your performance on the multiple-choice component of the final exam will assume the weight of the multiple-choice component of the term test. Taken together, the multiple-choice questions (however they are weighted) will be worth 75% of your final grade.

Term Test 1 (01-02-2023):	30 MC questions (15%) & 3 SA questions (07.5%) = 22.5%
Term Test 2 (08-03-2023):	30 MC questions (15%) & 3 SA questions (07.5%) = 22.5%
Cumulative Final Exam:	90 MC questions (45%) & 4 SA questions (10.0%) = 55.0%

V. University Standards & Campus Services

Quercus. This course uses the University's learning management system, Quercus, to post information about the course as well as announcements and updates. The site is dynamic and new information and resources will be posted regularly as we move through the term, so please make it a habit to log in to the site on a regular, even daily, basis. To access the course website, go to the U of T Quercus login page at <https://q.utoronto.ca>. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, you should see the link or "card" for PSYB30H3. You may need to scroll through other cards to find this. Click on the PSYB30H3 link to open our course area, view the latest announcements, and access your course resources. There are Quercus help guides for students that you can access by clicking on the "?" icon in the left side column. **SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT GRADES POSTED ONLINE:** Please also note that any grades posted are for your information only, so that you can view and track your progress through the course. No grades are considered official, including any posted in Quercus at any point in the term, until they have been formally approved and posted on ACORN at the end of the course. Please contact me as soon as possible if you think there is an error in any grade posted on Quercus.

Academic Integrity. The University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously and sanctions can be severe (e.g., zero in the course, suspension, or expulsion). The University's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* outlines the behaviors that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences in papers and assignments include 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 cheating includes using or possessing unauthorized aids, looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test, misrepresenting your identity, or falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

Religious Accommodations. The University has a commitment concerning accommodation for religious observances. I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other compulsory activities on religious holy days not captured by statutory holidays. According to University Policy, if you anticipate being absent from class or missing a major course activity (like a test, or in-class assignment) due to a religious observance, please let me know as early in the course as possible, and with sufficient notice (at least two to three weeks), so that we can work together to make alternate arrangements.

Disability-Related Accommodations. 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 (<http://www.utoronto.ca/ability/>) as soon as possible. AccessAbility Services staff (located in Room AA142, Arts and Administration Building) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. Please contact 416-287-7560 or email ability.utoronto.ca for more information. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion. The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights, and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

Missed Term Work Policy. For missed term work (assignments and term tests) due to illness, emergency, or other mitigating circumstances, please follow the procedures outlined below.

Note:

- The following reasons are not considered sufficient for missed term work: travel for leisure, weddings, personal commitments, work commitments, human error.
- [Missed Final Exams](#) are handled by the Registrar's Office and should be declared on eService.
- Instructors cannot accept term work any later than five business days after the last day of class. Beyond this date, accommodations are only possible via the Registrar's Office [petition process](#).

The email address to submit missed term work accommodation requests in <PSYB30> is:
<marc.fournier@utoronto.ca>

ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY accommodations:

For missed work due to ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY, complete the following process:

1. Complete the [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#).
2. Declare your absence on [ACORN](#) (Profile & Settings > Absence Declaration)
3. Email **both** of the following items to the course email **within 2 business days** of the missed work:

- the [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#)
AND
- a screenshot of your Self-Declared Absence on ACORN

Note:

- *If you are unable to submit your request within 2 business days, you must still email your instructor within the 2-business day window to explain the nature of the delay. Exceptions to the 2-business day deadline will only be made under exceptional circumstances.*
- *If your absence is declared on ACORN, we do not require any additional supporting documentation (e.g. medical notes) to support your missed term work accommodation request.*

ACADEMIC CONFLICT accommodations:

For missed term work due to an ACADEMIC CONFLICT (e.g. two midterms at the same time):

1. Complete the [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#).
2. Take screenshots of your course Quercus pages that demonstrate the conflict.
3. Email the form and screenshots to the course email **at least two weeks (10 business days) before the date of the activity**, or as soon as possible if it was not possible to identify the conflict earlier. Requests sent after the activity deadline may not be accommodated.

Note:

- *Multiple assignments due on the same day are not considered conflicts. Students are expected to manage their time effectively to meet assignment deadlines.*
- *Back-to-back tests/quizzes are not considered conflicts. Only overlapping activities are conflicts.*
- *Students are responsible for keeping their course timetables conflict-free. Students who register in two courses with overlapping lecture/tutorial/lab schedules will not be accommodated.*

RELIGIOUS CONFLICT accommodations:

For missed term work due to a RELIGIOUS CONFLICT:

1. Complete the [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#).
2. Email the form to the course **email at least two weeks (10 business days) before the date of the activity**, or as soon as possible if it was not possible to identify the conflict earlier. Requests sent after the activity deadline may not be accommodated.

ACCESSABILITY SERVICES accommodations:

For missed **TERM TESTS** due to ACCESSABILITY REASONS:

- **Contact your AccessAbility consultant** and have them email the course email detailing accommodations required.

For missed **ASSIGNMENTS** due to ACCESSABILITY REASONS:

- If your desired accommodation is **within the scope** of your Accommodation Letter (e.g. your letter includes “extensions of up to 7 days” and you need 3 days):
 1. Complete the [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#).
 2. Email the form ***AND*** your **Accommodation Letter** to the course email specifying how many days extension you are requesting.

- If your desired accommodation is **outside the scope** of your Accommodation Letter (e.g. your letter includes “extensions of up to 7 days” but you need more time than that):
 1. **Contact your AccessAbility consultant** and have them email the course email detailing the accommodations required.

Accommodation Procedure:

After submitting your documentation, you will receive a response from your instructor or TA. This form does not guarantee that you will be accommodated. The course instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made. Failure to adhere to any aspect of this policy may result in a denial of your request. **You are responsible for checking your official U of T email and Quercus course announcements daily**, as accommodations may be time-critical.

For missed assignments, **do not wait for the instructor’s response to resume work on your assignment**. Extensions may be as short as one business day, depending on the nature of the illness/emergency. Complete your assignment as soon as you’re able, and email it to your instructor.

For an **anticipated absence** (e.g. a scheduled surgery or an illness with a prolonged recovery period), if you would like to request accommodations in advance, submit a [Verification of Illness Form](#) completed by your doctor AND the [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#) to the course email. Absences can be declared up to 14 days into the future on ACORN.

Missed Accommodations:

If an accommodation is granted but a continued illness/emergency prevents you from meeting its requirements, you must repeat the missed term work procedure to request additional accommodations. **Please make it clear in your subject line that you are requesting a second accommodation**. E.g. If you are given an extension but are still sick and need more time, or if you miss a make-up term test, you must submit *another* [Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations Form](#) and declare your extended absence on ACORN. *Note: In the case of a missed make-up test, an opportunity to write a second make-up test may not necessarily be provided.