

Personality Psychology

01:830:338:01

Fall 2015 Monday/Wednesday 1:40-3:00pm

Hill 114

Instructor and TAs

Instructor:

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UNDERGRADUATE ASSISTANTS:

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Course Description and Objectives

Examination of major personality theories and contributing research evidence with particular emphasis upon motivation and dynamics of behavior. In addition, exploration of original essays addressing the major theoretical movements in personality.

- Describe and differentiate among the major psychological approaches which explain personality.
- Define and apply key personality concepts, terms, and theories.
- Identify and read original essays from the psychologists who have made major contributions to an understanding of personality.
- Explain research methodology and the ability to evaluate the merit of personality studies.
- Practically apply acquired insight of personality to one's own life

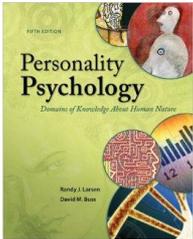
CURRENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Violations include: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity.

General Academic Integrity Link: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>

Resources for instructors (and students) can be found at: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/resources>

Instructional Resources



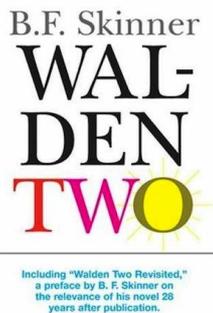
Required:

- 1) Larsen, R. J., & Buss, D. M. (2013). *Personality psychology: Domains of knowledge about human nature (5th edition)*. Boston: McGraw Hill.
- 2) iclicker (or iclicker2 or iclicker+)



Recommended:

- 3) Skinner, B. F. (1976). *Walden two revisited. BF Skinner, Walden Two (reissued)*.



TEACHING PHILOSOPHY:

My bias is to explore content areas in depth, as opposed to giving superficial coverage to many areas. If time becomes a limiting factor, changes in the schedule will reflect that bias. Thus, topic areas and readings may be dropped or added, depending upon time constraints. I believe education is a cooperative enterprise in which you have an active role. Therefore, I want to encourage an active participation on your part during the course. Please don't hesitate to respond, question, and challenge. To facilitate this process, I will occasionally ask you to take part in experiential exercises or discussion groups. I hope these experiences will allow you to apply the material we cover to your own lives.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

During our scheduled class meetings you can expect to listen to lectures, work in small-groups, engage in class discussions, and view relevant online and audio-visual materials. Class lectures and activities highlight, supplement, reinforce and clarify knowledge you have acquired from a thorough and careful reading of the textbooks. Lectures are not a substitute for reading and studying the course material on your own.

Do not leave lecture early: Besides distracting your fellow students, when I hear people leaving or packing their bag, I become very distracted. I lose my train of thought and will have to stop the lecture until the noise ceases. [P.S.: I understand that occasionally people must miss part of a class. **If you intend to do so, please sit in the back** so you won't distract everyone

Syllabus & Sakai Site: This contains everything you need to know about the course; keep this in your notebook and refer to it often. I will not remind you

CLASS PARTICIPATION

The clicker system will allow for interactive class participation which is difficult in large classes. When a question is presented on the PowerPoint during lecture, you will answer and receive 1 point for each question answered, and 2 points for each question answered correctly. This will be out of 150 points (I will present about 190-200 points worth of questions, therefore I am accounting for missed days). I will give you an extra credit point for every 5 points received above 150 points.



The 2nd and 3rd lectures will count as practice. It is important that you purchase your clicker as soon as possible after the first class session. If I do not have a clicker ID from you by the 6th class, I will list your name on the PowerPoint at the beginning of lecture and will email/message you until I get one. Starting with the 4th lecture of the semester, responses will count toward your grade. There will be, on average, 5-10 questions per class.

Make sure to any address clicker issues within a week after the class in question. It is your responsibility to make sure your clicker points show up on Sakai within a week of each class period. Please do not contact me with clicker concerns more than a week old.

In addition, you will not be allowed to use more than one clicker during the class period. If you are found using more than one clicker, your transmitter will be taken for the remainder of the class period and you will receive a 0 for participation.

Please register your clicker on the **Sakai site** (tab iclicker), not the iclicker website.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

You do not need to bring me a note if you miss 6 or less classes as there are more than enough chances to get clicker points even with missing 5-6 classes. If you have an extended absence for more than 6 class periods, please talk with me.

Legitimate reasons for absence include, but are not limited to, death in the immediate family, religious observance, academic field trips, participation in an approved concert or athletic event, direct participation in university disciplinary hearings, and jury duty.

Nevertheless, the student bears the responsibility for fulfilling all course expectations in a timely and responsible manner. If you miss an exam or are absent from more than 6 classes, please go to the Deans Office <http://deanofstudents.rutgers.edu/> and present your evidence of absence and bring the Dean's note

University religious holiday policy is at <http://scheduling.rutgers.edu/religious.shtml>

University attendance policy is at <http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/academics/courses/registration-and-course-policies/attendance-and-cancellation-of-class>



COMMUNICATION

I created a Facebook group for this class called Personality Psychology at Rutgers <https://www.facebook.com/groups/443362335791207/> Please to join this group or friend me (Lyra Stein-Teaching) and I will add you. I will be posting articles and psychology related issues to enhance your knowledge of the area. Feel free to use this site to communicate with me and other students in the class. I find that many students have the same questions and this is a place for you to clarify any topics which are confusing.

If you have a private concern, please email myself or Sarah. In your email, please include your full name (as it

ASSESSMENTS



There will be 19 quizzes which will consist of 10 questions each and will cover 1 chapter. You will have 1/2 hour to complete each quiz and will only have one chance to take the assessment. **Please make sure not to miss the closing date as I will not be able to open the quiz once it has closed.**

I will drop the lowest score quiz, therefore your grade will be out of 18 quizzes.

There will be three midterms (the best two of these will be averaged into your grade-two will be online) and one cumulative final exam. I will drop the lowest of the three midterms (the final is mandatory). You will need a #2 pencil for the in-class exams. Test dates noted on the course outline may be changed if needed; changes will be announced in class and on Sakai. *If for some reason class is cancelled on a scheduled test day, the exam will be given during the next regular class period.* **Students caught cheating on any exam will get an F for the entire course.**

Each midterm will consist of 50 multiple choice items (75 for the final) **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR THE MIDTERMS UNLESS THEY ARE ARRANGED IN ADVANCE OF THE EXAM.**

ACCOMMODATIONS

Appropriate accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Full disability policies and procedures are at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/> Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html>

WRITING ASSIGNMENT

If I cannot open your assignment, you will receive a 0.

The required assignment and all extra credit assignments must be uploaded to assignments tab (not emailed) by **November 30, 2015! No assignments nor extra credit will be accepted by email.**

This project is a movie/TV analysis. The project will involve viewing and critically the personality of a character in a movie or tv show.

- 1) You will use information gleaned from a film to assess a characters personality from at least 2 domains that we covered in class.
- 2) Describe the character from the theoretical perspective.
- 3) Summarize and present evidence for your analysis.
- 4) In you analysis, include the benefits and drawbacks of the theoretical perspectives. We know that an individual cannot be fully described by one theoretical perspective and they each have benefits and limitations.
- 5) Include reasons for why your character developed their personality (genetics, family, environment, etc.)
- 6)

Be sure to include references to the book and course materials. You must use APA style for in text citations and a reference page (you do not need a title page nor abstract).

ADDITIONAL CREDIT

For every 5 clicker points above 150, you will be given an extra credit point

You may complete any of the options below for 5 extra credit points each (maximum of 15 extra credit points for the writing assignments). For extra credit you may not submit more than one assignment for



Option 2: Trait Psychology

Here are the steps required to complete the exercise.

1. Go to <http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/j/5/j5j/IPIP/>
2. Click "Follow this link if you wish to complete the original IPIP-NEO"
3. Go to the 4th "bulleted" line on the page and click "take the shorter version"
4. Click "yes" to both queries on the page that comes up, go to the bottom of the page and click SEND. That will activate the first 60 items of the test.
5. Look over your results and write brief paper (3 pages) about how accurately you think the results describe your personality. Include your impressions of the system's primary strengths and weaknesses in terms of describing you and as a research tool in personality psychology. You should also address comparisons to your MBTI results.

Due Wednesday 9/30

Option 1: Article Summaries-make sure to include information from the course (use the book as the reference) to expand on the concepts presented in the articles. YOU MUST REFERENCE COURSE MATERIAL.

- 1) Find 2 articles relating to one of the topics we are studying in the popular press (Psychology Today, Scientific American Mind, New York Times, Time magazine, etc.-I will be posting interesting articles on the FB site)
- 2) Summarize (about 1.5 pages each) the article and **be sure to include how it relates to the topic covered in class.**
- 3) Make sure that you include in-text references along with a reference page -in proper APA style.
- 4) The articles do not have to be related to each other.

Due Monday 11/30

Option 3: Engage in a class debate. I have included 6 debate issues on Sakai along with time slots under the "sign up" tab.

- 1) Read the issue and decide if you would like to participate in the "yes" or "no" arguments.
- 2) Sign up for a time slot under the debate in which you wish to engage. There is a maximum of 3 people for each time slot.
- 3) Read the essay and prepare for a debate on stage with students presenting the other side of the issue.
- 4) You do not need to submit your arguments, but they should be well-thought out and logical.

For option 1 you will need to present information from the course and use the book as the reference. I will be running the assignments through Turnitin-please be sure not to plagiarize.

All options should be written in essay format with the length filling 3 full pages or almost 3 full pages. **For option 1 the in-text citations and a reference page must be included in APA style (you do not need a title page nor an abstract).** Here are some links for APA Style:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/03/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/05/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/06/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/07/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/08/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/09/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/10/>
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/11/>

Please contact a TA with any specific questions about APA style.

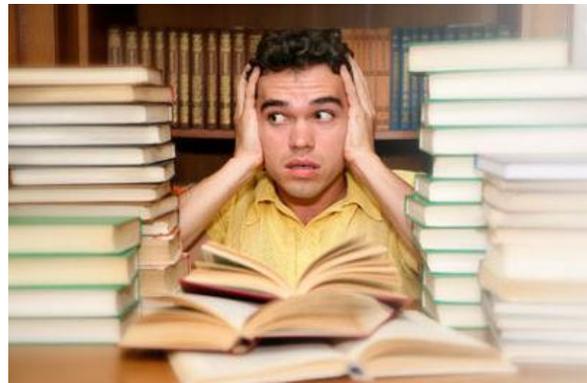
Extra Credit Movies



During the semester I will be offering extra credit Twitter movie nights (5 points per movie). These will be held on Thursday evenings and the location will be announced in class. This is a program set up for students in the medical school and we have been invited to participate. To receive credit, you must sign out and tweet (at least twice) relevant information during the movie relating to theories of personality. The twitter account that you use must include your name as it appears on the roster and you must post at least twice with substantive information related to personality psychology. If you post inappropriate material, you will not receive credit, nor be able to participate in the future. **Please create a twitter account now as it takes a while for new accounts to become searchable.**

Inevitably every semester there are students who are not happy with their grades and seem to not be concerned until the day before the final. Please do not put yourself in that position and make sure that you keep up with the class throughout the semester. The following are some tips on how you should study for the exams:

If you want to learn the subject matter well, read the assigned material before the lecture, review the power points after the lecture, quickly go over it again a day or two later, and then re-read the notes and the chapter for a few days before the exam. Memory researchers have established that you will understand and remember something better by studying it several times spread out over days than by studying the same amount of time all at once. Also, of course, the more total time you spend studying, the better.



When you study, don't just read the text and lecture notes but stop and think about the material. The more actively you use the material, the better you will remember it. Also test yourself using flashcards. Go through the lecture notes and write the name of the concept on the front and the definition on the back. Don't worry about memorizing the definition word for word as it would be better to try to use each word in a sentence or think of examples for each term.

HOW TO DO WELL IN THIS CLASS:

- Attend class and answer the clicker questions.
- Complete every quiz on time.

- Read the assigned material carefully and closely, taking notes in your own words. Stop after each paragraph or two and make sure you understand the important points. You should end up with many pages of notes for each chapter, which are now your study materials.
- Access the materials on Sakai
- At least a week before the exam, begin studying your notes on the readings and your notes from class. Get more information about concepts you do not understand by contacting me or working with your classmates.
- Work actively with the course material: develop your own examples of concepts; explain in your own words how certain topics in psychology are studied; draw models of the concepts; organize the material in each chapter in ways that make sense for you; compare your class notes to the textbook; etc.
- Contact me or the TA's to ask questions or just to talk about the material. I would be happy to look at your notes and study materials to see if I have any advice for you.
- Work productively during class. During class we will actively analyze, apply, and evaluate the text material.
- Use the Facebook page to communicate with me and other students in the course.

EVALUATION

Evaluations are based on:

Quizzes	180 points (18 x 10)
Two hourly exams (50 questions)	200 points (2 x 100)
Final examination worth (75 questions)	150 points
Writing Assignment	70 points
Clicker points	<u>150 points</u>
Total Points possible	750

A: 675-750 points, B+: 638-674 points, B: 600-637 points, C+ 563-599 points, C: 525-562 points, D: 450-524 points, F: 0-449 points

LECTURE TOPICS AND READING:

(All dates are approximate and changes will be announced in class)

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments Due (12:00 pm)
W 9/2	Introduction to Personality	Ch. 1	
M 9/7	NO CLASS-LABOR DAY		
T 9/8	Personality Assessment	Ch. 2	
W 9/9	Traits	Ch. 3	
M 9/14	Traits	Ch. 3	Chapter 1 quiz due
W 9/16	Trait measurement	Ch. 4	Chapter 2 quiz due Come to class with Jung Typology Test (MBTI) results http://www.humanmetrics.c

			om/cgi-win/JTypes2.asp
M 9/21	Personality Dispositions over Time	Ch. 5	Chapter 3 quiz due
W 9/23	NO CLASS		Chapter 4 quiz due
M 9/28	Genetics and Personality	Ch. 6	Chapter 5 quiz due
W 9/30	EXAM 1 –IN CLASS (Chapters 1-6)		Chapter 6 quiz due Five-Factor Extra Credit Due in Dropbox
M 10/5	Physiological Approaches	Ch. 7	
W 10/7	Evolutionary Perspectives	Ch. 8	Chapter 7 quiz due
M 10/12	Psychoanalytic Perspective	Ch. 9	Chapter 8 quiz due
W 10/14	Psychoanalytic Perspective	Ch. 9	
M 10/19	Psychoanalytic-Contemporary Issues	Ch. 10	Chapter 9 quiz due
W 10/21	Motives and Personality	Ch. 11	Chapter 10 quiz due
M 10/26	Behavioral Topics	Walden Too	
W 10/28	EXAM 2-ONLINE (Chapters 7-11)		Chapter 11 quiz due
M 11/2	Cognitive Topics	Ch. 12	
W 11/4	Emotions and Personality	Ch. 13	Chapter 12 quiz due
M 11/9	Approaches to the Self	Ch. 14	Chapter 13 quiz due
W 11/11	Approaches to the Self	Ch. 14	
M 11/16	Personality and Social Interaction	Ch. 15	Chapter 14 quiz due
W 11/18	Sex, Gender and Personality	Ch. 16	Chapter 15 quiz due
M 11/23	Exam 3-In Class (chapters 12-16)		Chapter 16 quiz due
W 11/25	NO CLASS-FRIDAY CLASSES		
M 11/30	Culture and Personality	Ch. 17	Writing assignment and all extra credit due
W 12/2	Stress, Coping and Health	Ch. 18	Chapter 17 quiz due
M 12/7	Disorders of Personality	Ch. 19	Chapter 18 quiz due
W 12/9	Disorders of Personality	Ch. 19	

F 12/18 8-11am	Final-cumulative emphasis on last chapters		Chapter 19 quiz due