

PSYCHOLOGICAL THEMES AND THEORIES IN MODERN FILMS

01:830:220

CLASS INFORMATION:

Spring 2017

Day and Time: T/Th 1:40-3:00

Room: LSH-AUD

On line schedule of classes <http://www.acs.rutgers.edu/soc>

INSTRUCTOR:

Lyra Stein, Ph.D.

Email: Lyra@rci.rutgers.edu

Office: Tillet 223 <http://rumaps.rutgers.edu/location/tillet-hall>

Office Hours: Wednesdays 12-1, Thursdays 10:30-11:30, by appt.

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Maribel Plasencia

Email: maribel.plasencia@rutgers.edu

Office: Tillet

Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Advanced analysis and critical investigation of psychological themes in modern cinema including depiction of lifespan development, stereotypes, personality, memory, learning processes, gender identity, personality disorders, trauma, autism, and clinical practice.

NOTE: Some of the movies you will be required to view may contain instances of violence, sexual content, trauma and/or foul language as would be consistent with an R rating. If this is offensive, or if you are otherwise unable to view such movies, please discuss this with me.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- You will develop an understanding of basic psychological principles across the major fields of psychology
- You will be able to define and apply key psychological concepts, terms, and theories.
- You will develop critical thinking and analysis skills by evaluating the accuracy of the portrayal of psychological concepts in film.
- You will develop an awareness of the impact of popular film in society

CURRENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Current Academic Integrity Policy:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/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>

The Camden Plagiarism Tutorial (INTERACTIVE):

<http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModules/Plagiarism/>

Cheating and Plagiarism

Short version: Don't cheat. Don't plagiarize.

Longer version: Cheating on tests or plagiarizing materials in your papers deprives you of the educational benefits of preparing these materials appropriately. It is personally dishonest to cheat on a test or to hand in a paper based on unacknowledged words or ideas that someone else originated. It is also unfair, since it gives you an undeserved advantage over your fellow students who are graded on the basis of their own work. In this class we will take cheating very seriously. All suspected cases of cheating and plagiarism will be automatically referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs, and we will recommend penalties appropriate to the gravity of the infraction. The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>¹ I strongly advise you to familiarize yourself with this document, both for this class and for your other classes and future work. To help protect you, and future students, from plagiarism, we require all papers to be submitted through Turnitin.com.

Since what counts as plagiarism is not always clear, I quote the definition given in Rutgers' policy:

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course. Some common examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one's own words another person's written words or ideas as if they were one's own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one's work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other nontextual material from other sources without proper attribution.²

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 citations.

¹ This web link was corrected on Sept. 13, 2015. S. Lawrence

² <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/> Updated with the University's current language on July 13, 2012 and web link was corrected on Sept. 13, 2015. S. Lawrence.

LEARNING RESOURCES:

1) There is no required textbook. You will, however, be required to watch a total of 13 movies across the semester and read assigned material. PowerPoint slides and readings will be available on Sakai.

Main Sakai portal <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

2) . iclicker (or iclicker2 or iclicker+)

ISBN-10: 1464120153

ISBN-13: 9781464120152



Recommended:

A textbook in general psychology

DEPARTMENTAL LEARNING GOALS MET BY THE COURSE:

SAS departmental learning goals are compiled at <http://sasoue.rutgers.edu/assessment/sas-department-and-program-assessment>

1. Content in Psychology

Students should know the terms, concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

3. Higher-Order Cognitive Skills

Students should be able to use critical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to ask, answer and understand questions related to behavior and mental processes. These skills are tested in different ways in different courses, from conceptual questions on standard tests to critiques of cases to presentation of research or programs or cases.

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.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

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 class, please go to the Deans Office <http://deanofstudents.rutgers.edu/> and present your evidence of absence and bring the Dean's note to me.

Self-Reporting Absence Application: Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. 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>

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

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ACCOMMODATIONS:

Appropriate accommodations will be made for students with disabilities.

Full disability policies and procedures are at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/>

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STUDENT-WELLNESS SERVICES:

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)**(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/**

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)**(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/**

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services**(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

Scarlet Listeners**(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>**

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

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 100 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 10 points received above 100 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.

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

ASSESSMENTS:

There will be a midterm and a final. 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.*

The midterm will consist of 50 multiple choice items (75 for the final)

There will be 6 quizzes which will consist of 15 questions each. You will have 1 hour to complete each quiz and will only have one chance to take the assessment.

FILM ANALYSES:

You will be required to complete two film analyses (50 points each)

Only submit in Word or pdf format

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

Due dates can be found under the “assignments” tab

The film analyses will involve viewing and critically analyzing a movie that we will discuss in class. Choose at least one phenomenon from a topic we discussed in class.

Please use subtitles to divide the following sections of your paper.

- 1) Briefly describe the relevant scene (1/2 page) **10 pts**
- 2) Describe the psychological principle that is relevant from the assigned reading(s)/ PowerPoint (1/2 page) **10 pts**
- 3) Elaborate on how the selected scene conforms and/or fails to conform to the psychological principle you have identified using the assigned readings as your guide. This section will reference the assigned readings/PowerPoint and specific content of the film. (1 page) **15pts**
- 4) Your discussion will conclude with a brief, critical assessment of the strengths and weakness of the movie’s portrayal of the particular concept covered based on the readings/PowerPoint. You should take note of any inaccuracies, omissions, or creative liberties in the portrayal. (1 page) **10pts**
- 5) In-text citations and a reference page **5pts**

Be sure to include references to the readings/PowerPoints. You must include in-text citations and a reference page.

EXTRA CREDIT

Option 1: Erikson’s 8 stages in film (5 points) Due Thurs. 4/20 11:59pm

Find film clips that address each of Erikson’s 8 stages. Write a 3 page, double spaced paper that describes how these film segments relate to each stage. Remember to include in-text citations and a reference page. You can either send links for the film clips or upload them to Sakai.

Option 2: Debunking Myths (4 points) Due Thurs. 4/20 11:59pm

You may find 2 ads in any popular media (web, magazine, etc.) that use claims from psychology to sell a product or service and write a 3 page, double spaced paper explaining the scientific evidence for AND against the claims.

Option 3: Film Analyses (total 15 points) Due Thurs. 4/20 11:59pm

There are 3 movies available that we will not be discussing in depth this semester: Crash, The Conjuring and Sybil. You can hand in a movie analysis for each of these (5 points each) using the criteria for your assigned movie analysis. Relate a psychological concept (can be a concept that we do not specifically cover) and analyze the film in terms of the concept as you did for your required analysis.

ASSESSMENTS

There will be three midterms (the best two of these will be averaged into your grade-one 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.**

There will be 6 quizzes which will consist of 15 questions each. You will have 1 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.**

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Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html>

EVALUATION:

Evaluations are based on:

Quizzes	90 points (6 x 15)
Two hourly exams (50 questions)	200 points (2 x 100)
Final examination worth (75 questions)	150 points
2 film analyses	100 points (2 x 50)
Clicker points	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points possible	640

A: 576-640 points, B+: 544-575 points, B: 512-543 points, C+ 480-511 points, C: 448-479 points, D: 384-447

points, F: 0-383 points

LECTURE TOPICS AND READINGS:

Day	Topic	Reading	Film	Due
T 1/17	Class introduction; History of Film			
Th 1/19	Themes in film, critical thinking	Stadler; Lillienfeld		
T 1/24	Developmental Psychology			
Th 1/26	Developmental Psychology		Stand by Me	
T 1/31	Developmental Psychology	Katz	American Beauty	
Th 2/2	Social Psychology			
T 2/7	Social Psychology	Barber	Breakfast Club	Quiz 1- Introduction/ Development
Th 2/9	Learning Processes			
T 2/14	Learning Processes	Cecil, Pollastri, et al.,	Mean Girls	
Th 2/16	Exam 1			Quiz 2- Social Learning
T 2/21	Personality-Typology, media archetypes	Chang		Class activity Come to class with Jung Typology Test (MBTI) results for activity http://www.humanmetrics.com/win/JTypes2.asp
Th 2/23	Personality		The Dark Knight	
T 2/28	Memory and Amnesia	Seaman, Heckman,	Memento	
Th 3/2	Personality Disorders			Quiz 3- Personality Memory
Th 3/7	Personality Disorders	Swart	Gone Girl	
Th 3/9	Homosexuality/ Gender Identity	Wilcox	Boys Don't Cry	
T 3/14	NO CLASS			
Th 3/16	NO CLASS			

T 3/21	Exam 2- ONLINE			Quiz 4- Personality disorders Gender Identity
Th 3/23	Depression, Suicide			
T 3/28	Depression, Suicide	Cannon, Miller	Ordinary People	
Th 3/30	Dissociative Disorders			
T 4/4	Dissociative Disorders	Butler, Gold	Fight Club	
Th 4/6	Trauma	Greenberg	Prince of Tides	
T 4/11	No Class			
Th 4/13	Exam 3			Quiz 5- depression dissociation trauma
T 4/18	Autism			
Th 4/20	Autism	Conn, Draaisma	Rainman	Extra Credit Due 11:55
T 4/25	Portrayal of mental health and treatment			
Th 4/27	Portrayal of mental health and treatment	Wedding	Analyze This	
Final TBA				Quiz 6- autism Mental health