

Psychological Themes and Theories in Modern Film

01:830:220:01

Fall 2018 Mondays/Thursdays 9:50-11:10am

Scott 123

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

Instructor and TAs



Instructor:

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UNDERGRADUATE ASSISTANTS:

Feel free to contact your TA for tutoring or help with your analyses. Please locate your TA by your last name.

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Course Description and Objectives

Advanced analysis and critical investigation of psychological themes in modern cinema including depiction of lifespan development, personality, memory, learning processes, 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.

- You will enjoy really great films
- 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.

Instructional Resources

1) There is no required textbook. You will watch 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+)

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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 explore great films and relate them to psychological material. I will encourage class participation because I want to hear what YOU think!

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

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Register your clicker on your Sakai **Workspace** page-the tab can be found on the left menu.

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 200-220 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 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.

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

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

You do not need to bring me a note if you miss 8 or less classes as there are more than enough chances to get clicker points (even with missing 7-8 classes). If you have an extended absence for more than 8 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>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

<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.

The Camden Plagiarism Tutorial (INTERACTIVE): <http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModules/Plagiarism/>

Consult *Don't Plagiarize: Document Your Research!* For tips about how to take notes so that you don't plagiarize by accident. http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/avoid_plagiarism

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/resources-for-students>

ASSESSMENTS



There will be 7 quizzes which will consist of 20 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.**

I will drop the lowest score quiz,

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. Please do not leave the class without permission during the exam. *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)

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>

Film Analyses

If I cannot open your assignment or you submit the wrong assignment, you will receive a 0.

Please see the end of the syllabus for all due dates

You will be required to complete two film analyses (40 points each)-one by October 29th and one after October 29

Only submit in Word or pdf format

Due dates can be found under the “assignments” tab and at the end of the syllabus.

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. The paper should be 2-3 double spaced pages in 12 pt font.

The assigned reading for the movie should be included in your analysis. The readings can be found in the Sakai folder under the resources tab.

Please label the following sections

- 1) Describe the psychological principle(s) illustrated in the film from the reading and PowerPoint. Be sure to include citations for the definitions of the concepts (even if taken from the PowerPoint). If the concept is a psychological disorder, be sure to include the symptoms. **10pts**
- 2) Describe the relevant scenes which illustrate the psychological principle(s). If this is a psychological disorder, this should be an illustration of the symptoms. **10pts**
- 3) Analyze your concept using the assigned article. You should include information from the article (with citations) which relate to your concept. **5 pts.**
- 4) Critically analyze the strengths and weakness of the movie’s portrayal based on the readings/PowerPoint **10pts**
- 5) In-text citations and a reference page **5pts**

Be sure to include references to the assigned reading and PowerPoint.

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.

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

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 how to reference your paper.

ADDITIONAL CREDIT

For every 10 clicker points above 100, you will be given an extra credit point
You may only complete 2 extra credit assignments listed below



Option 1: Hand in the regular film analyses for 2 (max of 2) movies available on the site that we did not cover in class (Ex: American Sniper, Black Swan, Crash, Boys Don't Cry) (5 points for each analysis)

Due 12/6

Hand in 2 of the above movie analyses using the same format as the film analyses, no articles required, however you should reference relevant material for the psychological concepts illustrated in the movies.

Option 2: Create your own video of a psychological concept (5 points) Due 12/6

Create and record your own scene which depicts a psychological concept. Include a description of the concept and how it is illustrated. Make sure the video is at least 2 minutes long.

Option 3: Crazy Ex-Girlfriend Analysis (5 points) Due 12/6

The first season of Crazy Ex-Girlfriend is available on reserve in Alexander Library. Write a 3-page, double spaced paper explaining any 5 psychological concepts illustrated in the series. **These concepts should be from 5 *different* lectures/topics covered in the class.**

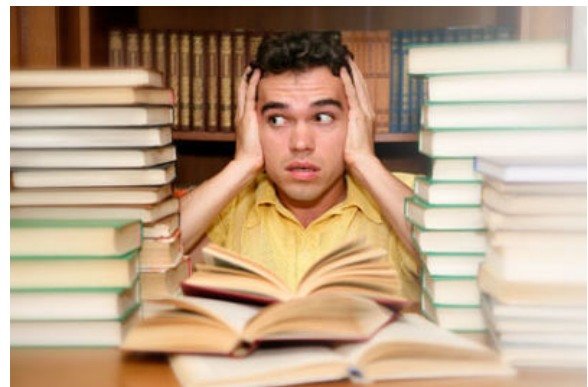
Extra Credit Movies

You can only attend 2 movies

During the semester I will be offering extra credit Twitter movie nights (5 points per movie). These will be held on selected afternoons/evenings- 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 when you leave and tweet (at least twice) relevant information during the movie relating to theories of abnormality. 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 (original information-do not copy previous tweets) related to abnormal psychology. If you post inappropriate material, you will not receive credit, nor will you be able to participate in the future. **Please create a twitter account now as it takes a while for new accounts to become searchable and make sure the account is set to public.**

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 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! Go through the lecture notes fill out the study guide defining the concepts and illustrations in the films. 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.
- Access the materials on Sakai
- At least a week before the exam, begin studying your notes from class. Get more information about concepts you do not understand by contacting me or working with your undergraduate TA.
- Use the study guides to explain the course concepts in your own words, draw models of the concepts;
- Contact me or your undergraduate TA 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 material.

EVALUATION

Evaluations are based on:

Quizzes	120 points (6 x 20)
Two hourly exams (50 questions)	200 points (2 x 100)
Final examination worth (75 questions)	150 points
Film Analyses	80 points (2 X 40)
Clicker points	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points possible	650

A: 585-650 points, B+: 553-584 points, B: 520-552 points, C+ 488-519 points, C: 455-487 points, D: 390-454 points, F: 0-389 points

LECTURE TOPICS AND READING:

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

Date	Topic	Film(s)	Assignments Due (9:50am)
Th 9/6	Class Introduction		
M 9/10	Development	Stand by Me	
Th 9/13		Good Will Hunting	
M 9/17	Personality	The Dark Knight	
Th 9/20	Learning, Conditioning, Motivation	The Shawshank Redemption	
M 9/24	Emotion	Inside Out	Quiz 1 due
Th 9/27	Memory	Memento	
M 10/1	Exam 1-In Class		Due date for first 6 Films Quiz 2 due
Th 10/4	Alzheimers Disease	Still Alice	
M 10/8, Th 10/11,	Social Psychology	The Breakfast Club Mean Girls	
M 10/15	Autism	Temple Grandin	Quiz 3 Due
Th 10/18	NO CLASS		

M 10/22 Th 10/25	Mental Health and Therapy	One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest	
M 10/29	Exam 2-ONLINE		Due date for movies covered since the first exam Quiz 4 Due
Th 11/1, M 11/5	Mood Disorders	Ordinary People, Silver Linings Playbook	
Th 11/8	Anxiety/Obsessive Convulsive Disorder	What About Bob	
M 11/12	Substance Use	Basketball Diaries	
Th 11/15 M 11/19	Personality Disorders. Psychopathy	Girl Interrupted Gone Girl	Quiz 5 Due 11/15
T 11/20	Schizophrenia	The Soloist	
Th 11/22	NO CLASS-HOLIDAY		
M 11/26	Exam 3-In Class		Due date for movies covered since second exam Quiz 6 Due
Th 11/29 M 12/3	Trauma	Antwone Fisher, The Perks of Being a Wallflower	
Th 12/6 M 12/10	Dissociation	Shutter Island, Fight Club Split	Extra Credit due on 12/6
Th 12/13			Due date for films covered since the third exam
12/18 12-3pm	Final-cumulative emphasis on last part of course <i>common hour exams can be found under the "exam" tab at https://scheduling.rutgers.edu/scheduling/exam-scheduling</i>		Quiz 7 Due

READINGS FOR FILM ANALYSES AND DUE DATES (you only have to read the two assigned for your two analyses)

Stand by Me -Due 10/1

Muuss RE. (1996) Theories of adolescence. Erik Erikson's theory of identity development. New York: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

Good Will Hunting Due 10/1

Ainsworth, M. S. (1979). Infant-mother attachment. American psychologist, 34(10), 932.

The Dark Knight Due 10/1

Chang, H. M., Ivonin, L., Díaz, M., Català, A., Chen, W., & Rauterberg, M. (2013). From mythology to psychology: Identifying archetypal symbols in movies. *Technoetic arts*, 11(2), 99-113.

The Shawshank Redemption Due 10/1

Baum, W. M. (2006). *What is Behaviorism? Understanding behaviorism: Behavior, culture, and evolution*. John Wiley & Sons.

Inside Out Due 10/1

Keltner, D., & Ekman, P. (2015). The Science of 'Inside Out. *New York Times*, 3.

Memento Due 10/1

Seamon, J. (2015). *Memory and Movies: What Films Can Teach Us about Memory*. MIT Press.

Still Alice Due 10/29

Tellechea, P., Pujol, N., Esteve-Belloch, P., Echeveste, B., Garcia-Eulate, M. R., Arbizu, J., & Riverol, M. (2017).

The Breakfast Club Due 10/29

Eccles, J. S., Barber, B. L., Stone, M., & Hunt, J. (2003). Extracurricular activities and adolescent development. *Journal of social issues*, 59(4), 865-889.

Mean Girls Due 10/29

Pollastri, A. R., Cardemil, E. V., & O'Donnell, E. H. (2010). Self-esteem in pure bullies and bully/victims: A longitudinal analysis. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 25(8), 1489-1502.

Temple Grandin Due 10/29

Grandin, T. (2006). *Autism and Relationships. Thinking in pictures: And other reports from my life with autism*. Vintage.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest Due 10/29

Rosenhan, D. L. (1974). On being sane in insane places. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 2(4), 237-256.

Ordinary People Due 11/26

Miller, F. C. (1999). Using the movie *Ordinary People* to teach psychodynamic psychotherapy with adolescents. *Academic psychiatry*, 23(3), 174-179.

Silver Linings Playbook Due 11/26

Proudfoot, J. G., Parker, G. B., Benoit, M., Manicavasagar, V., Smith, M., & Gayed, A. (2009). What happens after diagnosis? Understanding the experiences of patients with newly -diagnosed
12(2), 120-129.

What About Bob Due 11/26

Abramowitz, J. S. (2006). The Psychological Treatment of Obsessive—Compulsive Disorder. *The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 51(7), 407-416.

Basketball Diaries Due 11/26

Berridge, K. C. (2017). Is Addiction a Brain Disease?. *Neuroethics*, 1-5.

Girl Interrupted Due 11/26

O'connell, B., & Dowling, M. (2014). Dialectical behaviour therapy (DBT) in the treatment of borderline personality disorder. *Journal of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing*, 21(6), 518-525.

Gone Girl Due 11/26

Swart J. 4. Psychopaths in Film: Are Portrayals Realistic and Does It Matter?.

The Soloist Due 11/26

Latha, K. S. (2010). The noncompliant patient in psychiatry: the case for and against covert/surreptitious medication. *Mens sana monographs*, 8(1), 96.

Antwone Fisher Due 12/13

Putnam, F. W. (2006). The impact of trauma on child development. *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*, 57(1), 1-11.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower Due 12/13

Putnam, F. W. (2006). The impact of trauma on child development. *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*, 57(1), 1-11.

Shutter Island Due 12/13

Freeman, D., & Garety, P. (2014). Advances in understanding and treating persecutory delusions: a review. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol*, 49, 1179-1189.

Fight Club Due 12/13

Gold, S. N. (2004). *Fight Club: A depiction of contemporary society as dissociogenic*. *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*, 5(2), 13-34.

Split Due 12/13

Gillig, P. M. (2009). Dissociative identity disorder: A controversial diagnosis. *Psychiatry (Edgmont)*, 6(3), 24.

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.