

THEORIES OF PERSONALITY
PSYCH 429
FALL 2008

Professor:	Deirdre Radosevich, Ph.D.
Class Time:	Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.
Class Location:	SA 351
Office Location:	MAC C310
Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 – 11:00, 3:30-5:00
Email Address:	radosed@uwgb.edu
Phone :	465-2931

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an advanced undergraduate psychology course exposes students to major ideas about the organization, function, change and development of human personality. In addition, you will learn how to evaluate and compare personality constructs in different *zones* of interdisciplinary research.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Compare and contrast various theoretical models.
- Critically evaluate existing theories from a variety of perspectives.
- Understand different methods of personality research.
- Discuss how culture and history has shaped the field's conceptualization of personality

RESPONSIBILITY FOR LEARNING:

You are ultimately responsible for your learning in this course. As the professor, I will introduce you to new information, provide examples and demonstrations to facilitate understanding, and be available to help you with both the content and processes explored during the class. You must take responsibility for mastering the material and procedures through active participation, careful thought, and consistent practice. If you need any special accommodations due to a disability please see me and we can explore potential solutions.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

- Berecz, J. M. (2009). *Theories of Personality: A Zonal Perspective*. Allyn and Bacon. (ISBN: 0205439160).

COURSE POLICIES:

- **Attendance:** There will be formal attendance taken at class meetings; thus, it is highly recommended that you attend all class sessions. Some exam questions will come from material covered in lecture that is not covered in the book, so your attendance in class will likely increase your test performance. If for some reason you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain missed lecture materials from other students.
- **Syllabus:** While every attempt is made to include all course information on this syllabus, some changes may be necessary. Any changes will be announced in class. Students are responsible for abiding by the terms contained in this syllabus. It is recommended that you keep the syllabus with your class materials and bring it to each class.

- **Exams:** No notebooks, textbooks, calculators, phones, or computers of any kind are allowed during exams. The exams will not be cumulative.
- **Make-up Exams:** There will be no make-up exams unless the student notifies the professor before the exam is actually administered and the absence is excused for a valid reason (e.g., illness with a physician's note, death in the immediate family, religious observance). The format of the make-up exam is at the discretion of the instructor.
- **Cell Phones, Beepers, & Other Technology:** Please turn off all electronic devices before you come into class.
- **Email Accounts:** All students should check their UWGB email account before each class for announcements. If your UWGB email account is not active, get it activated and use it! Do not ask me questions if you fail to receive any course communication because your UWGB email bounced back to me.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

The highest ethical standards are expected in class. You are expected to conduct themselves not only in an ethical manner, but also as professional, mature individuals. Any form of disrespect whether it is among students or between students and faculty will not be tolerated. Any determined or suspected dishonesty will result in a "0" for the assignment or test and will be referred to the University for disciplinary action. ***Cheating includes both receiving and giving answers/help to questions on the test.*** For tests, there will be no electronic devices (i.e., cell phones, etc.) or any wandering eyes. Remember that whatever possible small gain you may get from cheating will not outweigh the potential harm from getting caught. Also, it is unethical to ask for any unfair advantage in grading, such as:

- Tell the instructor that you "need" a certain grade (you must earn it)
- Request extra assignments for the purpose of raising your grade
- Ask that the grade be raised because it is very close to the next higher grade
- Ask that the grade be raised because you did well on one part of the course
- Request a higher grade because you don't like the grading scheme
- Ask to turn in an assignment late – even a few minutes late
- Ask to be treated better than other students by making an exception to these rules
- Plagiarize any of your work.

GRADING AND EVALUATION:

GRADED ITEM	WEIGHT
Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4)	25%
Exam 2 (Chapters 5-8)	25%
Exam 3 (Chapters 9-13)	25%
Course Paper	25%

FINAL PERCENTAGE	FINAL GRADE
93.00% – 100%	A
90.00% – 92.99%	A–
87.00% – 89.99%	B+
83.00% – 86.99%	B
67.00% – 69.99%	D+
63.00% – 66.99%	D
60.00% – 62.99%	D–
0.00% – 59.99%	F

TESTS

Three exams will be given over the semester. The format of the tests will be multiple choice and short answer.

WRITING EMPHASIS: BECAUSE THIS IS A WRITING EMPHASIS COURSE, YOUR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE EVALUATED BOTH ON CONTENT AND QUALITY OF WRITING. IN ADDITION TO THE CONTENT, THEREFORE, YOUR GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF IDEAS, CLARITY OF EXPRESSION, COHERENCE BETWEEN SENTENCES AND PARAGRAPHS, AND PROPER USE OF ENGLISH. STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT THE WRITING CENTER.

COURSE PAPER

You may choose to write an autobiographic paper about yourself or someone that you admire. Describe your/person’s personality, including main traits, typical style of interpersonal interactions, genetic, and/or situational factors that may have influenced your/person’s personality development. Then choose two major theories from the text and discuss how they apply to your/person’s personality. Be sure to discuss the zonal approach used in your text. The paper is not to exceed 5 pages in length (not including reference section) and must use APA style (e.g., title page, double spaced, running head).

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE *(we will make adjustments as necessary):*

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	NOTE
WEEK 1	Tues, Sept. 2	Introductions & Ch. 1	
	Thurs, Sept. 4	Ch. 1	
WEEK 2	Tues, Sept. 9	Ch. 2	
	Thurs, Sept. 11	Ch. 2	
WEEK 3	Tues, Sept. 16	Ch. 3	
	Thurs, Sept. 18	Ch. 3	
WEEK 4	Tues, Sept. 23	Ch. 4	
	Thurs, Sept. 25	Ch. 4	
WEEK 5	Tues, Sept. 30	Test #1	
	Thurs, Oct. 2	Ch. 5	
WEEK 6	Tues, Oct. 7	Ch. 5	
	Thurs, Oct. 9	Ch. 6	
WEEK 7	Tues, Oct. 14	Ch. 7	
	Thurs, Oct. 16	Ch. 7	
WEEK 8	Tues, Oct. 21	TBA	
	Thurs, Oct. 23	TBA	
WEEK 9	Tues, Oct. 28	Ch. 8	
	Thurs, Oct. 30	Ch. 8	
WEEK 10	Tues, Nov. 4	TEST #2	

	Thurs, Nov. 6	Ch. 9	
WEEK 11	Tues, Nov. 11 Thurs, Nov. 13	Ch 9 & Ch. 10 No Class – Away at conference	
WEEK 12	Tues, Nov. 18 Thurs, Nov. 20	Ch. 10 Ch. 11	
WEEK 13	Tues, Nov. 25 Thurs, Nov. 27	Ch. 11 & 12 (COURSE PAPER DUE) Thanksgiving	
WEEK 14	Tues, Dec. 2 Thurs, Dec. 4	Ch. 12 Ch. 13	
WEEK 15	Tues, Dec. 9	Ch. 13 and review	
FINALS	TBA	Test #3	