

**PSYCH 429-01 & 02**  
**Theories of Personality**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Spring, 2008**

**Instructor:** Ryan C. Martin, Ph.D.

**Office:** MAC C318

**Office Hours:**

Monday: 9:00 – 11:00

Tuesday: 9:00 – 11:00

Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:00

\*I will be happy to schedule time to meet with students if the above times don't work.

**Phone:** 465-2322

**E-mail:** martinr@uwgb.edu

**Website:** [www.uwgb.edu/martinr/index.htm](http://www.uwgb.edu/martinr/index.htm)

**Description of the Course:**

This is an advanced undergraduate psychology course designed to expose students to the most prominent theories of personality within the field of psychology. Students will review various theoretical models, the historical context in which they were developed, and how empirical research has informed these theories and been informed by these theories.

**Course Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

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

**Required Readings:**

Funder, D. C., & Ozer, D. J. (2004). *Pieces of the personality puzzle: Readings in theory and research* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed). New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company.

\*Some additional readings may be assigned throughout the semester.

**Course Requirements:**

Assignments: Although I do not keep attendance records, it is in your best interest to come to all classes. You will be required to know all the material presented in class, including class lectures, guest lectures, and movies. Additionally, there will be several assignments (some in-class and some take-home; 50 points total). Although they are not listed on the schedule, I'll let you know when they are going to occur. Students who are not in class will only be able to make them up if their absence is excused. To earn an excused absence, you must let me know you will not be there before the class begins. If something happens on your way to class that prevents you from getting there (car trouble, etc.), I expect you to call me as soon as possible. Make up assignments will be a take home version of the same assignment that was done in class.

In-class Exams: There will be three in-class exams (50 points each). They will not be specifically cumulative, though you will need to understand certain early terms to understand the latter material. Please note that each exam will contain information from lectures that cannot be found in the text and material from the text that is not covered in class. Make-up exams will be administered only under the most extraordinary circumstances. Barring a natural disaster or death in the family, the only excuse that I will accept for missing an exam is a written physician's note. Make-up exams must be taken within one week of the missed exam and missed exams without a valid excuse will receive a zero.

Take-Home Exams: There will be two take-home exams (25 points each). These exam will be cumulative and you will have two weeks to work on them. Take-home exams turned in late without my approval in advance will lose 5 points per day. Extra time will only be granted in extraordinary circumstances.

Class Expectations: My goal is to create a comfortable learning atmosphere for all students. Thus, you are expected to be polite, attentive, and not be a distraction to the instructor or any other students. This includes visiting with other students, reading, sleeping, etc. You are also asked to please turn off cell phones and pagers during this class. Additionally, I ask you to note the following class expectations.

- All assignments or take-home exams are due at the time of class on the day they are due and will be considered late if turned in after this.
- I will not accept any assignment or take-home exam that is E-mailed to me for any reason. If you cannot make it to class on the day something is due, you should either turn it in ahead of time, have someone else bring it to class, or make sure your absence from class the day it is due is excused so you can turn it in at the next class without a penalty.
- Please take care in putting together your assignments and take-home exams. They should be typed, stapled, printed in black ink, and printed on a printer that isn't running out of ink.

**Grading:**

Grading will be based on percentages out of 500 total points (see below).

Assignment	Due Date	Total Points	Grading Scale	
In-class Exam 1	2/20/08	50	A	92%-100%
In-class Exam 2	4/2/08	50	AB	88%-92%
In-class Exam 3	Finals Week	50	B	82%-88%
Take-home Exam 1	3/12/08	25	BC	78%-82%
Take-home Exam 2	5/12/08	25	C	70%-78%
In-Class Assignments	--	50	D	60%-70%
Extra Credit	--	--	F	less than 60%
Total		250		

**Tentative Semester Schedule**

Date	Topic	Readings Due
Week 1		
1/23/08	Intro to Personality	

<u>Week 2</u>		
1/28/08 1/30/08	Intro to Personality Dispositional Domain --Gordon Allport	Allport, 1931
<u>Week 3</u>		
2/4/08 2/6/08	--Trait Classification Systems --Theoretical Questions about Traits	
<u>Week 4</u>		
2/11/08 2/13/08	--Personality Assessment	
<u>Week 5</u>		
2/18/08 2/20/08 ( <b>Exam 1</b> )	Biological Domain --Genetics	Borkenau et al., 2001
<u>Week 6</u>		
2/25/08 2/27/08 ( <b>Take Home 1 given</b> )	--Physiology --Evolution	
<u>Week 7</u>		
3/3/08 3/5/08	Intrapsychic Domain --Psychoanalytic Perspective	Freud, 1933
<u>Week 8</u>		
3/10/08 3/12/08 ( <b>Take Home 1 due</b> )	--Neopsychoanalytic Perspective	Steinem, 1994 Horney, 1967
<u>Week 9</u>		
3/24/08 3/26/08	--Neopsychoanalytic Perspective	
<u>Week 10</u>		
3/31/08 4/2/08 ( <b>Exam 2</b> )	Experiential Domain --Behaviors	Skinner, 1953
<u>Week 11</u>		
4/7/08 4/9/08	--Cognitions	
<u>Week 12</u>		
4/14/08 4/16/08	--Emotions	
<u>Week 13</u>		
4/21/08 4/23/08	--Approaches to the Self	Maslow, 1954
<u>Week 14</u>		
4/28/08 ( <b>Take Home 2 given</b> ) 4/30/08	Social/Cultural Domain --Personality and Social Interactions	
<u>Week 15</u>		
5/5/08 5/7/08 5/12/08 ( <b>Take Home 2 due</b> )	--Culture and Personality	
<u>Final Exams Week</u>		
<b>Section 1: 5/16: 3:30 – 5:30</b> <b>Section 2: 5/19: 3:30 – 5:30</b>		

**Final Notes:**

- Consistent with the federal law and the policies of the University of Wisconsin, it is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to provide appropriate and necessary accommodations to students with documented physical and learning disabilities. If you anticipate requiring any auxiliary aids or services, you should contact me or the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 465-2849 as soon as possible to discuss your needs and arrange for the provision of services.
- Using someone else's ideas or phrasing and representing those ideas or phrasing as our own, either on purpose or through carelessness, is a serious offense known as plagiarism. "Ideas of phrasing" includes written or spoken material, of course – from whole papers and paragraphs to sentences, and, indeed, phrases – but it also includes statistics, lab results, art work, etc. "Someone else" can mean a professional source, such as a published writer or critic in a book, magazine, encyclopedia, or journal; an electronic resource such as material we discover on the World Wide Web; another student at our school or anywhere else; a paper-writing "service" (online or otherwise) which offers to sell written papers for a fee.