

Psychology 324  
Syllabus Spring 2006  
TR 12-1:15

Instructor: Vanessa Olson, M.A.  
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Office Hours: M 12- 1 pm (or by appointment)  
Location: DK 1029 (enter through 1021)

Course goals: To examine the theories, research, and concepts of personality from a historical, contemporary, and applied perspective.

Required text: Funder, D.C. (2004). *The Personality Puzzle*(3<sup>rd</sup> edition).

Optional text: Funder, D.C., & Ozer, D.J. (2004). *Pieces of the Personality Puzzle: Readings in Theory and Research* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition).

### **GRADES**

Exams: (100 points each) There will be three exams. These exams may consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, or essay questions. Exams may only be made up for substantial, documented reasons. Please contact me if there is anything that may interfere with your ability to take an exam immediately

In-Class Assignments: (25 points total) There will be random in class activities designed to reinforce the material learned in class. The in-class activities can not be made up for any reason. There will be additional in-class opportunities above the initial 25 points.

Article Review: (25 points) An important skill in psychology is to be able to read and properly analyze journal articles. You will be responsible for locating an article related to personality psychology and have it approved by March 30. You will need to summarize the article, note it's strengths and weaknesses, and relate the article to the material covered in the class. The article review should be 1-2 pages in length (must be at least 1 full page in length) The article review is due April 25.

Extra Credit: You may do a second article review to be turned in by the last day of class (May 4) for an additional 25 points. This article must also be approved.

<b><u>Points</u></b>		<b><u>Grading Scale</u></b>		
Exams	300	325-350 <b>A</b>	312-324 <b>A-</b>	
In-class	25	304-311 <b>B+</b>	292-303 <b>B</b>	278-291 <b>B-</b>
Article Review:	<u>25</u>	271-277 <b>C+</b>	257-270 <b>C</b>	243-256 <b>C-</b>
	350	208-242 <b>D</b>	Less than 207 <b>F</b>	

## WEB-CT

This course will be taking advantage of WebCT. This program will allow me to post course material that you will be able to access at any time. This program will also allow you to check your grades, check class e-mail, and participate in online class discussions. To log onto WebCT visit [webct41.gmu.edu](http://webct41.gmu.edu) . Your login name is the same as your GMU username (ex. volson1). Your initial password is your birth date (instructions are provided on the site). If you have any problems let me know right away.

## SCHEDULE

This is a tentative schedule.

LAST DAY TO ADD: February 7, LAST DAY TO DROP: February 24

Date	Topic	Reading	Extra Info
1/24	Introduction		
1/26	Personality Psychology	Chapter 1	
1/31	Sources of Data	Chapter 2	
2/2	Research Methods	Chapter 3	
2/7	Trait Approach: Personality Traits	Chapter 4	Last Day To ADD
2/9	Personality Testing I	Chapter 5	
2/14	Personality Testing II	Chapter 6	
2/16	Using Personality Traits	Chapter 7	
2/21	Catch up and Review		
2/23	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-7)		FEB 24, Last day to DROP
2/28	Biology of Personality	Chapter 8	
3/2	Biology Cont.		
3/7	Inheritance of Personality	Chapter 9	
3/9	Inheritance cont.		
3/14 , 3/16	Spring Break No Class		

3/21	Psychoanalysis	Chapter 10	
3/23	Psychoanalysis	Chapter 11	
3/28	NeoFreudians	Chapter 12	
3/30	Catch up and Review		Article must be approved.
4/4	Exam 2 (Chapters 8-12)		
4/6	Humanistic Psychology	Chapter 13	
4/11	Cultural Variations in Personality	Chapter 14	
4/13	Behaviorism and Social Learning Theory	Chapter 15	
4/18	Behaviorism Cont.		
4/20	Cognition and Personality	Chapter 16	
4/25	Cognition cont.	Chapter 17	ARTICLE REVIEW DUE
4/27	TBA		
5/2	Critique of Theories	Chapter 18	
5/4	Catch up and Review		EXTRA CREDIT DUE
5/16	Final Exam (Chapters 13-18) 10:30-1:15		

#### HONOR CODE

Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

#### Students with Disabilities

"If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office."