The George Mason University Department of Psychology

Personality Theory

PSYC324-B01 Enterprise Hall 174

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CLASS MEETS: MW 7:20-10:00 PM
OFFICE HOURS: after class, or daily, by appointment

PURPOSE:

To provide an overview of various views of personality including psychoanalytic, life-span, trait, humanistic, cognitive, behavioral, and social-learning approaches; critically examine the development of psychological views of personality within specific social and cultural contexts; to discuss the influence of specific events and circumstances that have influenced the development of these theories and their applications.

REQUIREMENTS:

• The final grade will be based on five exams. The exams—June 14, June 21, June 28, July 12, and July 19—will consist of short-answer and multiple-choice questions. The number of question in each test is between 26 and 30. The text and the lectures are covered about equally in the exams. Under special circumstances, if you cannot take a test during the scheduled time, a make-up exam will be administered. Dates: June 28th or July 19th. Last day to drop: June 21st.

GRADING:

The exams: 100 points (20 points each)

To receive an:	Your total score must be at least:	To receive an:	Your total score must be at least:
A+	98	B-	80
Α	93	C+	77
A-	90	С	73
B+	87	C-	70
В	83	D	60



Book: Theories of Personality by Duane P. Schultz & Sydney E. Schultz. 8th ed. Publisher: Wadsworth. **ISBN:** 0534624022

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Schedule and contents

Session 1. Chapters: 1-2. Test: June 14. Topics to study: The Study of Personality. Definitions of Personality. Ethnic and Gender Issues in Personality. Assessment in the Study of Personality. Standardization. Reliability. Validity. The self-report inventory approach. Projective techniques. Research in the Study of Personality. The ideographic research. The clinical method. The case studies. The correlational method. Theory in the Study of Personality. Formal theories. Personal theories. Questions About Human Nature. Historical determinism. Sigmund Freud. The Life of Freud. Instincts: The Propelling Forces of the Personality. The Levels of Personality. The Structure of Personality: Id, Ego, and Superego. The pleasure principal. Reality principal. Anxiety: A threat to the Ego. Defense Mechanisms Against Anxiety. Psychosexual Stages of Personality Development. Research in Freud's Theory. Extensions of Freudian Theory. Anna Freud Object relations theories. Heinz Kohut's views. Margaret Mahler' views. Other topics discussed in class.

Session 2. Chapters: 3-7. Test: June 21. Topics to study: Analytical Psychology. The Life of Jung. Psychic Energy: Opposites, Equivalence, and Entropy. The principal of opposites the principal of equivalence. The principle of entropy. The Systems of Personality. Introversion and extraversion. The personal unconscious complexes. The collective unconscious. Archetypes. The Development of the Personality. Individuation, Assessment in Jung's Theory: Word Association, Symptom Analysis, and Dream Analysis. Life-history reconstruction. The Life of Adler. Individual Psychology. Inferiority Feelings: The Source of Human Striving. Compensation. Inferiority complex. The superiority complex. Striving for superiority. Fictional finalism. The Style of Life. The concept of the creative power of self. Social Interest Birth Order. The Social Interest Scale (SIS). The background of Horney's theory of personality. The basic elements of Horney's Feminine Psychology. Womb envy. Self-analysis. The Life of Fromm. Freedom or Security: The Basic Human Dilemma. Three psychic mechanisms of escape. Personality Development in Childhood. The Basic Psychological Needs. The Productive and Nonproductive Character Types. The Life of Murray. The Thematic Apperception Test (TAT), Personology. The Divisions of Personality. Needs: The Motivators of Behavior. The concept of subsidization. Personality Development in Childhood. Other topics discussed in class.

Session 3. Chapters: 8-10. Test: June 28. Topics to study: The Life of Erik Erikson. Psychosocial States of Personality Development (names and functions). Basic Weaknesses of Erikson's theory. The Life of Allport. The Nature of Personality. Traitspersonal dispositions: three categories. Motivation: The Functional Autonomy of Motives. Propriate functional autonomy and perseverative functional autonomy. Personality Development in Childhood. The Healthy Adult Personality. Six criteria for the normal, mature, emotionally healthy, adult personality. The Study of Values. The Life of Cattell. Cattell's Approach to Personality Traits. Source Traits: The Basic Factors of Personality. Dynamic Traits: The Motivating Forces. Attitudes. Subsidiation. Stages of Personality Development. Hans Eysenck. The Dimensions of Personality: Extraversion, Neuroticism, and Psychoticism. Robert McCrae and Paul Costa: The Five-Factor Model. Arnold Buss and Robert Plomin: The Temperament Theory. Other topics discussed in class.

Session 4. Chapters: 11-13. Test: July 12. Topics to study: The Life of Maslow. Personality Development: The Hierarchy of Needs. The Study of Self-Actualizers. Metamotivation (B-motivation of Being). The Jonah complex. The Personal Orientation Inventory. Self-Determination Theory. The Life of Carl Rogers. The Self and the Tendency Toward Actualization. The Larger actualization tendency. The Development of the Self in Childhood. Positive regard. Unconditional positive regard. Positive self-regard. Conditions of worth. Characteristics of Fully Functioning Persons. The technique of person-centered therapy. Encounter groups. The Life of Kelly. Personal Construct Theory. Construct system. Constructive alternativism. Kelly's fundamental postulate. Construction Corollary. Self-characterization sketch. Role Construct Repertory Test (REP). Other topics discussed in class.

Session 5. Chapters: 14-17. Test: July 19. Topics to study: The Life of Skinner. Book: Walden Two. Reinforcement: The Basis of Behavior. Reinforcement and extinction. Operant-conditioning. Schedules of Reinforcement. Successive Approximation: The Shaping of Behavior. Superstitious Behavior. The Self-Control of Behavior. Applications of Operant Conditioning. Behavior modification token economy. Skinner's approach to assessing behavior: functional analysis. The sign-versus-sample approach. The reversal experimental design. The Life of Bandura. Modeling: The Basis of Observational Learning. Disinhibition. Three factors influencing modeling. The Process of Observational Learning. Self-Reinforcement and Self-Efficacy. Developmental Stages of Modeling and Self-Efficacy. Behavior Modification. Guided participation. Covert modeling. Collective efficacy. Julian Rotter: Locus of Control. Marvin Zuckerman: Sensation Seeking. Martin E. P. Seligman: Learned Helplessness. Martin E. P. Seligman: Positive Psychology. McAdams three levels of personality. Other topics discussed in class.