

Psyc 383		Personality		Summer 2023	
<b>Instructor:</b>	Tiffany Bell	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	SA 106		
<b>Phone:</b>	403-955-5449	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	TR 13:00-15:45		
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	TBA				

### Course Description

The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the main theories, concepts and research strategies that characterize the field of personality. This course will attempt to address questions such as “What is personality?”, “Does personality change over time?”, “How do biology, society, and our experiences impact our personality?” and “How does our personality impact our choices in life” through an examination of several domains of personality research such as: personality traits, genetics & biology, psychodynamic theories, and social and cultural influences.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/about#program-learning-outcomes> ), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Identify, discriminate, and compare different trait taxonomies of personality.	Multiple choice tests Presentations	1,2,7	C
Recall and recognize key personality theories and concepts.	Multiple choice tests Presentations	1,4,7	I, C
Assess and critically evaluate information, ideas and assumptions comprehensively and from a variety of perspectives in personality.	Multiple choice tests	1,2	C
Evaluate, decide, and apply terminology in psychology to specific, concrete examples.	Multiple choice tests	1,2,5,7	C, A
Understand the practical importance and uses of concepts and methods in personality psychology.	Multiple choice tests	7	I
Judge, evaluate, and ask questions about psychological issues.	Presentations	2,4,5,7	I, C

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological

knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity,\* and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

### **Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity**

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

### **Course Format**

This is an in-person class held on campus. Class attendance is strongly advised. There will be announcements made in class regarding exams, course material, research participation, etc. If you are not in class, you will still be held responsible for being aware of these announcements. **The instructor cannot respond to emails asking to repeat information presented in class or on the syllabus.** Some class time will be allocated for students to work on their presentations and obtain feedback from the instructor. However, students are strongly advised to additionally work on their presentations outside of class time.

### **Prerequisites**

Psychology 200 and 201 (Principles of Psychology I and II)

### **Optional Textbooks**

Larsen, R. J. & Buss, D. M. (2018). *Personality Psychology*. (1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Edition). McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

Cervone, D. & Pervin, L. (2019). *Personality Theory and Research (14<sup>th</sup> ed.)*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

<b>Assessment Methods</b>	<b>% of Final Grade</b>
Presentation contract	2%
Midterm (July 20 <sup>th</sup> )	30%
Presentation (August 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	33%
Final Exam (Date TBA)	35%
Research Participation	Bonus 2%

The midterm will be multiple choice and will cover lectures 1-5. The final exam will be short answer questions drawing from all lectures. Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, online resources of any kind whether accessed by computer, smart phones, etc., is prohibited during the exams in this course. Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

## **Presentation**

Students will be required to complete a psychobiography of a non-fictional famous or notable person. Students who select famous or notable persons with similarities will work together as a group of 4-6 students. For instance, a group of students may all choose different serial killers, pop stars, authors, athletes, or historical figures. Students may be creative when defining the structure and similarities in their groups.

## **Group Contract**

For the Group Contract, students are required to 1) select their group, 2) discuss the hypothesized similarities and differences of their famous people, and 3) assign group tasks related to the group presentation. All group members must sign the group contract with duties of each member identified. This will be a 2-page contract which will be submitted in hardcopy at the start of class. Students will be evaluated based on 1) their hypotheses, 2) the detail of their assigned duties, and 3) the definition and introduction to their group.

Tasks can be divided amongst group members in many ways. One possibility is that all group members contribute equally to all group project elements. Another possibility is some members write the script, some deliver the oral presentation, some draw or create visualizations, etc. **It is not necessary for all group members to do all tasks (draw, write, talk in class, video edit, etc.) but this must be agreed on in the group contract.**

## **Group Presentation**

Students will review feedback from the presentation script and revise accordingly to prepare a 10-minute group presentation using Powerpoint slides. Presentations must be done live in class. At minimum, for each famous person in the group there must be an image of the person, graphical representation of their HEXACO scores, and applied interpretations of at least 2 of their scores. Excellent presentations will contain additional design elements, visualizations, and audio elements that help in representing the notable person's personality. Students may consider portraying their famous or notable person in their presentation. However, please avoid cultural appropriation. Presentations will be evaluated based on breadth and depth of research, clarity of expression, creativity, logical analyses, and presentation of the results. **Depending on the group contract, duties and roles of individual students may vary. Some students may choose to not present/talk orally, but may contribute to the visualizations, video editing, etc. depending on the group contract.**

Without instructor approval, any team member who misses their presentation will receive a grade of 0.

## **University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity.

Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf>

## Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology course instructors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

**A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.*** An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

**A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.*** Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

**B Range: *Good Performance.*** Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

**C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.*** Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

**D range: *Marginally meets standards.*** Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

**F grade: *Course standards not met.*** Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

### Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

It is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Notes
T Jun 27	Introduction to study of personality	<b>First day of classes,</b>
R Jun 29	Personality Research Methods	<b>Group project selection day</b>
F June 30		<b>Last day to drop classes without penalty and last day to add or swap classes.</b>
T Jul 4	Trait Theory	

R Jul 6	Biological Basis of Personality	<b>Group contract due</b>
T Jul 11	Psychoanalytic Approaches	Second half dedicated to working on presentations.
R Jul 13	Behaviorism & Cognitive Theories	
T Jul 18	Personality Stability, Development and Change	
R Jul 20	<b>MIDTERM</b>	
T Jul 25	Social and Cultural Influences	
R Jul 27	Personality in everyday life	Second half dedicated to working on presentations.
T Aug 1	Disorders of Personality	
R Aug 3	<b>STUDENT PRESENTATIONS</b>	
T Aug 8	<b>STUDENT PRESENTATIONS</b>	End of Summer Lectures and last day to withdraw from a course.
R Aug 10	Start of Exams	
M Aug 14	End of Exams	

### **Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)**

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **August 8, 2023**.

### **Seating During Exams**

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct.

### **Absence From Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html>. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. **Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

## **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. **If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [Deferred Final Exams | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#) Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology [psyugrd@ucalgary.ca](mailto:psyugrd@ucalgary.ca)**

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

## **Academic Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

## **Academic Misconduct**

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

## **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

([https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?\\_gl=1\\*bcjlpn\\*\\_ga\\*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.\\*\\_ga\\_X4GN9Y4W7D\\*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA](https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?_gl=1*bcjlpn*_ga*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.*_ga_X4GN9Y4W7D*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

### **Student Support and Resources**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.