

**UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY**  
**PYC 341- Psychology of Personality (Section 01)**  
**WINTER 2004**

**Instructor:**  
Douglas A. MacDonald, Ph.D.

**Office:**  
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Phone- (313) 578-0388  
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Hours: Tuesdays 11:30am-2:00pm, Thursdays 11:30am-3:30pm or by appointment

**Class Time and Location:**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:55-11:10am, McNichols Campus, Briggs Bldg, Room 210

**Credit hours:** 3

**Textbook:**

Ryckman, R. M. (2004). Theories of personality (8<sup>th</sup> Ed). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson.

NOTE: Any additional readings will be supplied by the instructor.

**Course Description:**

Survey course of the major theories of personality including psychoanalytic, socio-cultural, behavioristic, cognitive, and humanistic/transpersonal points of view. Emphasis is on the origin, structure, and dynamics of personality.

**Course Objectives:**

- 1) To familiarize students with some of the major theories of personality dominant in psychology.
- 2) To familiarize students with methods of scientifically investigating and critically evaluating conceptions of personality
- 3) To familiarize students with the issues and controversies surrounding the scientific study of personality
- 4) To familiarize students with the implications and relevance of personality theory for the broader understanding of human functioning.
- 5) To introduce students to the assessment and treatment of personality disorders.

**Grading System**

A	93.0-100	C	63.0-66.9
A	85.0-92.9	C-	60.0-62.9
B+	78.0-84.9	D+	57.0-59.9
B	74.0-77.9	D	53.0-56.9
B-	70.0-73.9	D-	50.0-52.9
C+	67.0-69.9	F	49.9 or below

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Attend and, where appropriate, participate in class (worth 5% of final grade)
- 2) Completion of two mid-term examinations (each worth 15% of final grade)
- 3) Completion of term paper (worth 20% of final grade)

- 4) Completion of Service Learning and Reflection paper (worth 15% of final grade)
- 5) Completion of final examination (30% of final grade)

### **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Five percent of the final mark is based upon attendance and participation in classroom discussions and/or exercises. Students are expected to come to class regularly and on time. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Since it is assumed that all students will be conscientious, all students will start the term with a perfect mark for attendance (i.e., 5/5) and marks will be deducted for excessive absences. In particular, unless there are legitimate and documented reasons for absences (e.g., medical emergency, life crisis, involvement with varsity sports), one mark (i.e., one percentage point) will be taken off for each class missed in excess of five absences (i.e., you can have up to five absences without being penalized) up to a maximum of five marks.

### **MID-TERM EXAMINATIONS**

Students are required to complete two mid-term examinations. Examinations will be comprised of both multiple-choice and short-answer questions and will cover material discussed in readings and lectures. Each examination is worth 15% of your final grade. The dates for the mid-terms are February 5 and March 18, respectively.

### **TERM PAPER**

Students are required to complete a 7-15 page term paper focusing on personality (either in general or a particular theory) and its relationship to another specific area of human functioning. Such areas include, but are not limited to, biology (e.g., functioning of body systems, physical health and well-being), psychology (e.g., cognitive/intellectual functioning, emotional functioning and/or well-being, stress and coping, pathology), and social functioning (e.g., interpersonal or occupational functioning). The instructor will discuss potential topics in the first week of class. Topics for papers must be instructor-approved. The deadline for selection of paper topics is January 29.

Papers should be double-spaced and written in a rigorous scholarly manner (i.e., the citation of literature is expected). At least five references should be used (in addition to required course readings). Use of information obtained from the internet is permissible as long as the website is credible and full reference information (including the correct web address) is provided. Papers are worth 20% of the final grade and are due at the beginning of class on April 15.

Late papers will be penalized 2% per each day past the established due date (i.e., 2% of your final mark is lost for each day an assignment is late; for example, if a student is one day late, the maximum mark the student can receive on the paper is 18/20; maximum mark in the course 98/100) unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor or if there is a legitimate reason for missing the deadline (e.g., medical emergency, significant life stressor). In the case of the latter, a doctor's note or other form of documentation will be required.

### **SERVICE LEARNING AND REFLECTION PAPER**

Students are required to complete a volunteer service learning placement and to write up a reflection paper describing their experiences and relating them to material taught in class. Students can go to the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) to obtain placement information. Specifics of the paper, including length and formatting, will be discussed in class by the instructor and a representative of LDI (LDI is presenting in class on January 13- please be sure to attend). The completion of the service learning and paper is worth 15% of the final grade. The paper is no later than the beginning of class on April 15.

Late papers will be penalized 2% per each day past the established due date (i.e., 2% of your final mark is lost for each day an assignment is late; for example, if a student is one day late, the maximum mark the student can receive on the paper is 13/15; maximum mark in the course 98/100) unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor or if there is a legitimate reason for missing the deadline (e.g., medical emergency, significant life stressor). In the case of the latter, a doctor's note or other form of documentation will be required.

### **FINAL EXAMINATION**

Students are required to complete a final examination worth 30% of the final grade. The examination is non-

cumulative (i.e., it will only include text and lecture material covered subsequent to the second mid-term) and will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions. The date, time, and location of the final examination is as follows: Thursday, April 22, 8:00-9:50am B 210

### **EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES**

Students are eligible to earn up to five extra credit points for engaging in instructor-approved extracurricular activities. These points are added directly to your final mark before calculation of letter grades. Such activities could take the form of voluntary research participation or completion of one or more extra credit assignments. Extra credit points for research participation are given at a rate of one point per hour (i.e., students will get one extra credit point for each hour of direct research involvement up to a maximum of five points). Extra credit assignments will be discussed and agreed upon by both student and instructor. Points for extra credit assignments will be given at a rate of one point per page (i.e., students get one extra credit point for each page written).

### **UDM POLICY ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Plagiarism (i.e., misrepresenting someone else's work as your own) and cheating (e.g., copying from another student's exam) will not be tolerated. Individuals determined to have deliberately cheated or misrepresented someone else's work as their own will automatically receive a failing grade on the assignment/examination. Further, the matter will be brought to the attention of university administration for possible additional sanctions (which could include the assignment of a failing grade in the course or even dismissal from the university).

### **ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

UDM has a range of resources available to facilitate student academic success. These include Library and Media services, Academic Learning/Writing Center, and Computing Services, among others. Students are encouraged to consult with the instructor and/or their University Student Handbook and Undergraduate catalog for information on how to access these services.

If you are a student who has been previously diagnosed as having a learning disorder or other condition which could interfere with your ability to meet course demands, please discuss this with the instructor within the first two weeks of class. All information shared with the instructor will be strictly confidential.

### **TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>General Topic</b>	<b>Weekly Reading</b>
1	January 6	Introduction to Course	Chapter 1
	January 8	Discussion- What is Personality? Research Methods and Personality Measurement	
2	January 13	Freudian theory	Chapter 2
	January 15	<b>LDI Presentation about Service Learning</b> Freudian theory	
3	January 20	Freudian theory	Chapter 2 and 3

	January 22	Jungian theory	
4	January 27 January 29	Adlerian theory Horney's theory	Chapter 4 and 5
		<b>Deadline for Selection of Term Paper Topic</b>	
5	February 3 February 5	Eriksonian theory and Review for Mid-term One <b>MID TERM ONE</b>	Chapter 6
6	February 10 February 12	Behaviorist theory Cognitive theory	Chapter 11, 15, and 17
7	February 17 February 19	Humanistic theories Humanistic theories	Chapter 12 and 13
8	February 24 February 26	Humanistic theories Transpersonal theories	Chapter 12 and 13
9	March 2 No Class- Break March 4 No Class- Break		
10	March 9 Transpersonal theories March 11 Transpersonal theories		No readings
11	March 16 March 18	Critical evaluation and Review for Mid-term Two <b>MID-TERM TWO</b>	
12	March 23 March 25	Trait theories Trait theories	Chapter 8, 9, and 10 and Additional Readings
13	March 30 April 1	Trait theories Trait theories	Chapter 8, 9, and 10 and Additional Readings
14	April 6 April 8	Type theories Type theories	No readings
15	April 13 Biology, Genetics, Evolution and Personality April 15 Biology, Genetics, Evolution, and Personality and review for final examination		Chapter 18 and Additional Readings
		<b>TERM PAPER and SERVICE LEARNING REFLECTION PAPER DUE</b>	

**FINAL EXAMINATION- Thursday, April 22, 8:00-9:50am B 210**