



University of Waterloo

## **Personality Theory** Psychology322R, Fall 2013

**Instructor:** Emiko Yoshida, PhD

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**Class Times/Location:** 4:00 – 5:20 Tuesdays and Thursdays REN 0104

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 2:30-3:30

Individual assistance is always available by appointment. I look forward to seeing you during my office hours.

**Course Overview:** This course is designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of the study of personality as a behavioural science. You will study the theories, principles, and methods of personality with the goal of understanding how to measure personality, how research into personality is conducted, and the extent to which personality can predict thoughts, feelings, and behaviour.

### ***Course Objectives:***

1. To develop an in-depth knowledge of the psychological study of personality.
2. To be able to apply psychological research to assess peoples' personality for research purposes.
3. To understand the current issues, methods, and topics in personality psychology.
4. To develop the ability to relate the findings of personality research to your life and to important issues in our society and the world at large.

### **Required text:**

Larsen, R. J., & Buss, D. M. (2010). *Personality psychology: Domains of knowledge about human nature* (4<sup>th</sup> edition). McGraw-Hill.

### Course Requirements:

**1) Exams (2 midterm tests each worth 20% for a total of 40% of your grade; final exam worth 35% of your grade):**

You will take two midterm tests and a final exam during the semester. The midterm tests will cover material presented in lectures and the weekly readings. Midterm tests are not cumulative. The final exam will cover all lectures and the textbook after the second midterm. The final exam is not cumulative.

**2) Personality Trait Analysis (25 %)**

The purpose of the assignment is to give you experience in applying the theories you are learning about to your life experience. You will analyze ONE of your personality traits (extraversion, openness to experience, agreeableness, emotional stability or conscientiousness). Describe examples to make your case for what level you are in that trait, and then choose three psychological theories (e.g., genetic influences, cognitive perspectives, cultural influences etc...) to discuss your trait. Finally, you will discuss the implications this trait has in your life (e.g., career choice, academic endeavours, health, relationships etc...) using peer reviewed articles. **Submit the paper to the electronic drop box on D2L.** Please follow the guidelines of this assignment posted on the website (e.g., use of primary sources). Late submissions will be dealt on a case by case basis. In cases of severe illness or extreme circumstances, the student must contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Midterm Test #1 (October 3 <sup>rd</sup> , Thursday)	20%
Midterm Test # 2 (October 24 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday)	20%
Personality Analysis Paper (Deadline: November 28 <sup>th</sup> )	25%
Final Exam	35%

### Class Schedule

Week	Lecture Date	Topic	Required Reading Chapter
Week 1	September 10 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Course Overview	
	September 12 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Introduction to Personality Psychology	Chapter 1
Week 2	September 17 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Personality Assessment, Measurement, and Research Design	Chapter 2 & pp.117 -120
	September 19 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Traits and Trait Taxonomies	Read only pp. 63– 75 & pp.77-89 in Chapter 3
Week 3	September 24 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Theoretical and Measurement Issues in Trait Personality	Read only pp. 95 – 104 in Chapter 4
	September 26 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Personality Dispositions Over Time I	Chapter 5
Week 4	October 1 <sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)	Personality Dispositions Over Time II	Chapter 5
	October 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Thursday)	<b>Test # 1</b>	
Week 5	October 8 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Personality and Social Interaction I	Chapter 15
	October 10 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Personality and Social Interaction II	Chapter 15
Week 6	October 15 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Genetics and Personality I	Read only pp. 160-182 in Chapter 6 & pp.198-201 in Chapter 7
	October 17 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Genetics and Personality II	Read only pp. 201-208 in Chapter 7 & pp. 236-238 in Chapter 8
Week 7	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday)	Emotion and Personality	Chapter 13
	October 24 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	<b>Test # 2</b>	
Week 8	October 29 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Cognitive Topics in Personality	Chapter 12 & pp. 565-570
	October 31 <sup>st</sup> (Thursday)	Psychoanalytic Approaches to Personality	Chapter 9
Week 9	November 5 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Psychoanalytic Approaches: Contemporary Issues I	Chapter 10
	November 7 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Psychoanalytic Approaches: Contemporary Issues II	Chapter 10
Week 10	November 12 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Approaches to the Self I	Chapter 14
	November 14 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Approaches to the Self II	Chapter 14

Week 11	November 19 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Sex, Gender and Personality I	Chapter 16
	November 21 <sup>st</sup> (Thursday)	Sex, Gender and Personality II	Chapter 16
Week 12	November 26 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Stress, Coping, Adjustment and Health	Read only pp.553-564, 576-582 in Chapter 18
	November 28 <sup>th</sup> (Thursday)	Disorders of Personality <b>Personality Analysis Paper Due</b>	Chapter 19

### Final Examination Policy

For Fall 2013, the established examination period is Dec.5-20, 2013. The schedule will be available in October. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (see: <http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/finalexams.html>).

### Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing quizzes or exams. See [http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom\\_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

### Academic Integrity:

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>. In addition, consult <http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes> for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>.

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

### Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

**Note for students with disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

### Cross-listed course:

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.