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Competence Statement:

Understand, analyze, and apply the concepts of personality. Know and apply theories and methods which explain or account for the development and assessment of personality and changes in personality.

Textbooks:


Overview

This course approaches Personality from a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches. Each chapter in the textbook outlines a particular theoretical perspective and associates that perspective with one or more theorists. Your reading of the textbook is one of the primary learning mechanisms in this independent study course. A number of workbook assignments will focus on the application of some of these theories. In addition, your personality project will also focus on applications of some personality theories.

This is an Independent Study course. As such, it is up to you to establish your own work schedule and make sure that you complete your work in a timely manner. The self-paced schedule is flexible, you can tailor your work schedule within the context of other life events. On the other hand, some people find it challenging to set a self-paced schedule but it is something that really helps one to finish the course on time. There is a suggested course schedule in this syllabus, feel free to follow the schedule provided or set your own.

Note on Grade Deadline: Student’s have up to 20 weeks to complete all work for this course. However, in order to receive a regular grade at the end of the term, all work must be received by the instructor by 4:00 PM on May 2, 2005. Students who are graduating in May or on “financial aid probation” should finish by May 2!! If your work is not received by this deadline, you will receive a grade of “I” (incomplete) until you finish, at which time the “I” grade will be replaced by the one you earned in the course. In order to complete the course all work must be submitted with 20 weeks of your starting date (which is Jan. 10, or date of registration if you registered after Jan. 10). May 30, 2005 is 20 weeks after January 10.
Assignments

Textbooks: Read the entire Ryckman textbook.

Exams: Multiple choice format, taken at the Testing Center on the Metropolitan State University’s St. Paul Campus. Students should make an appointment one week before the desired testing date. Call the Testing Center at 651-793-1533 to make an appointment (for more information, you can also check www.metrostate.edu/testingcenter).

Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions taken from the chapters covered for each exam (Ryckman textbook only). The exams are closed book (no notes are permitted). The numbers of points on each exam is related to the number of chapters covered.

Section 1 Exam: Covers Chapters 2-7 and is worth 100 points toward your grade.
Section 2 Exam: Covers Chapters 8-14 and is worth 100 points toward your grade.
Section 3 Exam: Covers Chapters 15-18 and is worth 70 points toward your grade.

Workbook Case Studies: The Ashcraft book provides a large number of case studies which can be analyzed from the perspective on one or more theories. Each case presents information about a particular individual and then asks questions which require you to apply theoretical concepts to the case. Each student should complete eight (8) of these case study applications. Because this is an independent study course, students can choose different cases for analysis. You may pick the cases or theories that seem most interesting to you. The only restriction is that students must choose 8 different theorists/categories. More specifically, if you choose to do case study 3, which is based on Jung’s theory, you could not do case study 4 because that one is also based on Jung’s theory.

For each case you select, you should read the case and answer all of the “application questions.” You do NOT have to do the “theory comparison questions.” Each case analysis will be worth 10 points toward your final course grade.

You do NOT have to do cases in section 2 of this book (pp. 85-97), but you may find these to be very interesting and helpful in summarizing and integrating the course (even though you do not earn points for these). Also, while you only have to turn in eight case analyses, you might learn a lot by reading and thinking about the others as well. By the way, the exam questions do NOT cover the workbook cases.

Personality Self-Analysis Paper: This assignment has you apply course material to your own personal experiences. This assignment is worth a total of 50 points: 10 points for timely completion of the first part or preliminary section (due before the end of the second week of the term) and 40 points for the final paper due at the end of the course.

Part 1: Preliminary Section. Write a 2-page summary of your own personality. Use any format or terminology that you want, this summary does not need to be based on the course material (actually, it is probably better if it is not). Anything goes in this section. I would like for you to record a “baseline” of how you view your own personality before taking this course (sort of a “pretest”). I will later ask you to compare this preliminary view of your personality to one formulated after you have completed the course. KEEP a COPY (on disk, if possible)!!!!
Part 2: Systematic Analysis. This should be a 5-10 page summary of your personality, based on theories, measures, and methods of Personality covered in this course and below. This section should summarize an analysis of your own personality which is based on both:
(A) at least three theoretical approaches outlined in the textbook (e.g., 3 different chapters) and
(B) at least 2-3 formal measures of Personality (see below).

In addition to analyzing your own personality using the theories and methods of Personality Psychology, I would like for you to compare this systematic analysis to the preliminary “layperson” description of yourself that you provided at the start of the course. Your systematic analysis, followed by this comparison, should be submitted in a 5-10 page paper due by the end of the course. Please make sure you clearly state which theories and measures are being used to satisfy requirements (A) and (B) above.

Measures of Personality: These can be found in books or online. Some fairly easy-to-use online sources appear below. You can use those or any others that you find. Just make sure that you provide enough reference information that I could find the same sources if I were to look for them. I will post links to these measures on the course web page (http://psyc332.stasson.org), and I may update the list periodically if I find new measures. If you have problems finding measures inform the course instructor.

Complete a measure of Values based on Allport’s work (Chapter 8)
http://www.ship.edu/%7Ecgboeree/valuestest.html

A more contemporary look at Values, within the framework of positive psychology (chapter 18) Attempts to integrate humanistic approaches. http://www.positivepsychology.org/strengths/

Complete a Measure Based on the Eysenck typology (Chapter 10):
http://www.trans4mind.com/personality/questionnaire1.htm

Big-Five Personality Measures (Chapter 18): do both, compare results. Look for a pattern
http://test.personality-project.org/

http://www.personalitytest.org.uk/

**Evaluation/Final Grade**

The TOTAL number of points that can be earned is 400, as follows. Exam 1, 100 points. Exam 2, 100 points. Exam 3, 70 points. Case Studies, 80 points. Self Analysis, 50 points.

Course grades will be determined by the number of points earned according to the scale below. “Shaded” Grades (+ or -) are used only very sparingly, or not at all.

“A” grade: 360-400 points (at least 90%)
“B” grade: 320-359 points (at least 80%)
“C” grade: 280-319 points (at least 70%)
“D” grade: 240-279 points (at least 60%)
“F” grade: 0 - 239 points (less than 60%)
Suggested Schedule, Readings, and Assignments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapter/Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (Jan 10)</td>
<td>1/Personality and Science</td>
<td>Complete and submit first part of Personality Self-Analysis project (Keep a COPY for yourself)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 (Jan 17)</td>
<td>2/Frued’s Psychoanalysis</td>
<td>Case Studies 1 and 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 (Jan 24)</td>
<td>3/Jung’s Analytical Psych</td>
<td>Case Studies 3 and 4</td>
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<td>4 (Jan 31)</td>
<td>4-5/Adler &amp; Horney</td>
<td>Case Studies 7, 8, 9, and 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 (Feb 7)</td>
<td>6/Erickson</td>
<td>Case Studies 5 and 6</td>
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<td>6 (Feb 14)</td>
<td>7/Kohut’s Self Psych</td>
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Take First Exam (Chapters 2-7): Suggested Schedule dates Feb 16-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapter/Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 (Feb 21)</td>
<td>8/Allport’s Trait Theory</td>
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<td>8 (Feb 28)</td>
<td>9/Cattell’s System</td>
<td>Case Study 25</td>
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<td>9 (Mar 7)</td>
<td>10/Eysenck’s Bio Typology</td>
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<td>10 (Mar 14)</td>
<td>11/Kelly’s Personal Construct</td>
<td>Case Studies 19 and 20 (Case 19: skip #3)</td>
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<td>11 (Mar 21)</td>
<td>12-13/Maslow and Rogers</td>
<td>Case Studies 15, 16, 17, and 18</td>
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<td>12 (Mar 28)</td>
<td>14/May’s Existentialism</td>
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Take Second Exam (Chapters 8-14): Suggested Schedule Dates March 30-April 1

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapter/Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 (Apr 4)</td>
<td>15/Skinner’s Operant Process</td>
<td>Case Studies 21 and 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 (Apr 11)</td>
<td>16/Rotter’s Model</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 (Apr 18)</td>
<td>17/Bandura’s S-C Theory</td>
<td>Case Studies 23 and 24</td>
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<td>16 (Apr 25)</td>
<td>18/Contemporary Approach</td>
<td>Case Study 26 (integrates several chapters) Submit second part of Personality Self-Analysis Project</td>
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Take Third Exam (Chapters 15-18): Suggested Schedule Dates April 27-May 2

This is a suggested schedule, students may follow any self-set schedule. Please refer to the Overview section on the first page of the syllabus for grade information on grade deadlines. Students graduating THIS TERM must get all work to me by May 2nd!!