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PSYC 383 – LEC1

Personality Psychology

Fall 2019

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Kathleen Hughes	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	ST 141
<b>Phone:</b>	403-210-7954	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	TR 9:30am-10:45am
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	TBA		

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### Course Description

What is personality? Does personality change over time? How do biology, society, and our experiences impact our personality? How does our personality impact our choices in life, and our health and well-being? This course will attempt to address these questions and more through an examination of 6 domains of personality research: (1) genetics & biology, (2) psychodynamic motives, (3) traits, (4) the self, and (5) gender and culture. Finally, this course is an excellent learning opportunity to better understand your own personality and influential factors on your own life. Understanding how to connect the course content to yourself is key.

### Course Format

This course will largely be lecture based, but class time will also consist of discussions, demonstrations, and activities. Students are responsible for **all** material covered in lectures and in the textbook. Classes will include **some** (but not all) aspects of the textbook, as well as some additional material that does **not** appear in the textbook.

Content on midterms and the final exam will be largely drawn from the **lectures and class activities**. In addition, textbook readings have been assigned. Questions on tests will also be drawn from the textbook readings.

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.**

### Prerequisites

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

### Optional Textbook

Larsen, R. J. & Buss, D. M. (2018). Personality Psychology. (1st Canadian Edition). McGraw-Hill Ryerson. Available for purchase at the University of Calgary Bookstore.

## 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 [psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes](http://psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/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	1. 2. 7	C
Evaluate, decide, and apply terminology in psychology to specific, concrete examples	Multiple choice tests	1, 2, 5, 7	C, A
Recall and recognize key personality theories and concepts	Multiple choice tests, Presentations, Written Assignments	1, 4, 7	I, C
Reflect, organize, and apply theories and ideas in psychology in everyday life	Written Assignments	2. 4. 5. 7	I, C
Judge, evaluate, and ask questions about psychological issues	Written Assignments, Presentations	2, 4, 5, 7	I, C
Demonstrate positive classroom citizenship through participation and engagement	Multiple choice test with question pertaining to class activities	1, 7	I

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, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Assessment Methods	% of Final Grade
Group Contract: September 24 <sup>th</sup>	5%
Presentation Script: October 29 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Group Presentation: November 28 <sup>th</sup> , December 3-5 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Written Essay: November 19 <sup>th</sup>	25%
Midterm 1: October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	25%
Final Exam (Date TBA)	25%

## Assignments

Students will be required to complete a series of assignments pertaining to a psychobiography of a famous or notable person. Students must select a non-fictional person from a list prepared by Dr. Hughes, and all students must have a unique person. **All written assignments are due in hardcopy by the start of class times on the due date.**

## Group Contract

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. 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.**

Without approved documentation, late Written Assignments will be penalized **10% per day** including weekends and holidays).

### **Presentation Script**

After selecting topics and groups, students will conduct individual research on their famous or notable person and will meet regularly with their group to compare findings. Groups will prepare a Presentation Script, which will be a 5 page script of what will be spoken during their group presentation which will be submitted in hardcopy at the start of class time. As this is a script and not a research report, in-text citations are not necessary, but references should be attached at the end as an appendix. In addition, HEXACO scores of all famous persons should be attached as an appendix. Sentences do not need to be complete or in APA style. Students will be evaluated based on content (depth & breadth), clarity of expression, creativity, and logical analyses of their projects. A grading rubric will be provided in advance during the semester. Feedback will be given on the script which should be taken into account before the final Group Presentation is prepared. **All group members should contribute research from their respective persons, but depending on the group contract, different levels of commitment to writing the script are acceptable.**

Without approved documentation, late Written Assignments will be penalized **10% per day** including weekends and holidays).

### **Group Presentation**

Students will review feedback from the presentation script and revise accordingly to prepare a 10-minute group presentation. Presentations may be done either live in class or via video presentation. Presentations must include visualizations such as Powerpoint slides, posters, charts, graphs, animations, images, drawings, and other design elements. 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.**

There will be multiple scheduled dates of student presentations. Students will be assigned to a certain date. Without approved documentation, any team member who misses their presentation will receive a grade of 0.

**Written Essay**

Individually, each student will complete a written psychobiography of their famous or notable person. Students will research this person, take standardized personality questionnaires as this person, and write a report describing this person’s personality traits.

This will be a 5 page essay. The essay will need to be written in APA style, using appropriate APA tone, formatting, and grammar. Each assignment will be submitted in hardcopy in class. Detailed instructions for assignments will be posted on D2L and discussed in class.

The assignment will be evaluated based on students’ ability to 1) describe key aspects of their notable person’s life, behaviour, attitudes, and relationships, 2) apply personality theories and concepts and make judgements of this person’s personality, 3) to provide a critical voice regarding theories of personality in terms of their ability to accurately capture the idiosyncrasies of the human experience. Excellent papers will demonstrate superior organization, flow, and a strong conceptual argument which is evidenced by specific facts from their notable person’s life. Students will also be evaluated based on their ability to write clearly, concisely, and to apply APA writing standards.

Without approved documentation, late Written Assignments will be penalized **10% per day** including weekends and holidays).

**Midterm & Final Exam**

This course will include 2 multiple choice tests. Each test will be worth 25% of the final grade. Content on tests will be based on lecture content and textbook readings. The Final Exam is non-cumulative and will be scheduled by the Registrar’s Office at a later date. Calculators, cell phones, computers, books, and notes are not permitted during tests.

**Extra Research Participation Course Credit is Not Offered for this Course.**

**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

Date	Topic	Notes
R Sep 5	Introduction	University Lectures begin.
T Sep 10	Unit 1: Personality Research Methods	Readings: Chapter 2 & 4
R Sep 12	Unit 2: Personality Traits	Readings: Chapter 3 Last day to drop a class without financial penalty
F Sep 13		Last day to add or swap a course
T Sep 17	Unit 2: Personality Traits	<b>Famous Person Selection Day</b>
R Sep 19	Unit 2: Personality Traits	<b>Group Project Selection Day</b>
F Sep 20		Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
T Sep 24	Unit 3: Personality Development	Readings: Chapter 5: <b>Group Contract (Worth 5%)</b>
R Sep 26	Unit 3: Personality Development	

T Oct 1	Unit 4: Biological Theories	Readings: Chapters 6, 7, & 8
R Oct 3	Unit 4: Biological Theories	
T Oct 8	Unit 4: Biological Theories	
R Oct 10	Unit 5: Psychoanalytic Theories	Readings: Chapters 9 & 10
M Oct 14		Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
T Oct 15	Unit 6: Motivation & Emotions	Readings: Chapters 11 & 13
R Oct 17	Unit 6: Motivation & Emotions	
T Oct 22	<b>Midterm (Units 1, 2, 3, 4, &amp; 5) (Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, &amp; 10) Worth 25%</b>	
R Oct 24	Unit 7: Cognitions & Beliefs	Readings: Chapter 12
T Oct 29	Unit 7: Cognitions & Beliefs	<b>Presentation Script (Worth 10%)</b>
R Oct 31	Unit 8: The Self	Reading: Chapter 14
T Nov 5	Unit 8: The Self	
R Nov 7	Unit 9: Social Interactions	Reading: Chapter 15
R Nov 10-16		Term break no classes
M Nov 11		Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
T Nov 19	Unit 9: Social Interactions	<b>Written Essay (Worth 25%)</b>
R Nov 21	Unit 10: Gender & Sexuality	Reading: Chapter 16
T Nov 26	Unit 10: Gender & Sexuality	
R Nov 28	<b>Student Presentations (Worth 10%)</b>	
T Dec 3	<b>Student Presentations (Worth 10%)</b>	
R Dec 5	<b>Student Presentations (Worth 10%)</b>	
F Dec 6		Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.
Dec 9-19	<b>Final Exam Units 6, 7, 8, 9, &amp; 10 (Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, &amp; 16) Worth 25%</b>	Fall Final Exam Period

### Dr. Hughes' Class Policies

**Class Attendance:** Class attendance is strongly advised. Students should always plan to attend class unless for documented medical, compassionate, and extra-curricular reasons. All tests are dependent upon attending the lectures.

**Email Policy:** Dr. Hughes will make every effort to respond to student emails within 48 hours. If an email does not receive a response within 48 hours, please send it again. Do not email the Instructor concerning assignments or exams within 12 hours of the deadline for said assignment or exam. Please include the course number somewhere in the email (subject header, your signature, etc.). **The instructor cannot respond to emails asking to repeat information presented in class or on the syllabus.**

**PowerPoint Policy:** The PowerPoint slides will be posted within 24 of the completion of each Unit. PowerPoint slides will be posted in full, with the exception of any personal photos or videos. External links used in class will be embedded in the PowerPoint file.

**Laptop/Cell Phone Policy:** Student may bring laptops, cell phones, and electronics to class for the purpose of taking notes and recording lectures. Please sit in the back of the classroom if you will be multi-tasking with a large screen which may distract those behind you.

**Audio Recordings:** Students are permitted to make audio recordings of the lectures with their personal devices. However, students are not permitted to post recordings of class online or share publicly.

**Exam Questions:** Exam questions will be designed to be fair, clear, and valid measures of your knowledge of the course material. Exams will be designed to distinguish between students who actively “took” the course, and students who did not attend or study. Questions on the exam will NOT include “all of the above,” “none of the above,” or obvious trick questions. After completion of the final exam, Dr. Hughes will conduct a critical item-analysis of each exam question. Any questions that were deemed unclear or unfair will be dropped or considered bonus items.

#### **Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades**

Psychology professors 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%

As stated in the University Calendar, 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-).

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

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work reappraised as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor **within ten business days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall take the matter to the head of the department offering the course **within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor**, who will arrange for a reappraisal of the work **within the next ten business days**. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected. Students in faculties without a departmental structure should take the matter to the dean, or designate, of the faculty offering the course. The result of that reappraisal will be given to the student in writing along with information about appealing the reappraisal.

*The reappraisal of graded term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered or to remain the same. There is no limit to the number of pieces of graded work that a student may request be reappraised, however a single piece of work may only be reappraised once.*

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

In the reappraisal of a final grade, the only element that will be considered is the grading of the final assessment that makes up the final mark (e.g., final examination, final project, final paper). An exception may occur when the Instructor of Record evaluates a piece of graded term work at the end of the term; that grade may also be considered in a reappraisal of final grade.

A student seeking a reappraisal of a final grade should first attempt to review the final assessment with the department or faculty offering the course. After which, the student shall obtain a Reappraisal of Final Grade form from [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar) (under Student Forms). The student must indicate exactly what error was made in marking the final assessment and/or in computing the final grade. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.

Students requesting a reappraisal of a final grade must submit their request by the following dates:

Fall Term – March 1

Winter Term – June 30

Spring Intersession – August 15

Summer Term – October 15

Supplemental Examinations: 30 calendar days from the date the examination was written

For information relating to Law, Veterinary Medicine and the Cumming School of Medicine (MD) courses, please refer to the faculty section.

The reappraisal form shall be submitted to Enrolment Services who will forward it to the department head or dean of the faculty offering the course. Reappraisals of final grades are dealt with by the head of the academic unit in consultation with members of academic staff. Normally, the department/faculty will respond to a reappraisal request within thirty calendar days of its initiation. After the reappraisal is completed, the department shall return the form to the Registrar's Office who shall inform the student in writing of the decision.

Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. A student may request a reappraisal of final for a maximum of two courses in one academic year (September 1 – August 31).

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

### **Academic Accommodations**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy). Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy). Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor.

### **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 A Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. A student may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request for a make-up exam

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html>. . Students who miss a test/exam have up to

**48 hours** to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. **Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam.**

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 during exam make-up hours provided by the department

<http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>.

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**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. **Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).**

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

### **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.

### **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>  
Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 403-220-3911 [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)  
**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Student Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)  
(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.  
Call 403-220-5333.

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund is Thursday, September 12, 2019.** Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, September 13, 2019.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **Friday, December 6, 2019.**