PSYC 363. Theories of Personality

Credit Hours: 3

Scheduled hours per week Lecture: 3 Lab: N/A Other: N/A

Catalog Course Description: Theoretical and empirical readings in a discussion of the major perspectives in personality theory and methodological problems in personality and research.

Pre-requisites: PSYC 101 plus 60 hrs.

Co-requisites: N/A

Course Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of Psychology 363 students should be able to:

- Explain and distinguish among the major theoretical approaches to understanding personality in at least three of these areas of psychology: biological, psychoanalytic, cognitive, behavioral, humanistic, social, and developmental.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theory and research in personality and social processes.
- Demonstrate interpersonal awareness and sensitivity to differences and similarities in the way people are treated due to gender, race, ethnicity, culture, class, and sexual orientation.
- Demonstrate and appreciate the value of a scientific psychological understanding of personality to society.
- Locate relevant research, theory, and information about personality psychology necessary to plan, conduct, and interpret results of research studies.

Topics to be studied:

- The history and definition of personality
- Assessment of personality
- Various theoretical perspectives on personality
- Research methods employed in the study of personality
- Current approaches to research and theory of personality

Relationship of Course to Discipline Learning Outcomes	
Compare the various research methods used by psychologists and develop the ability to	V
construct research designs.	X
Trace the history of psychological thought leading to the development of major	<
psychological perspectives and specialties.	^
Compare and apply the various theories of learning, memory, states of consciousness,	
and intelligence.	
Identify and explain psychological disorders and associated therapies and treatment.	
Explore current theories of gender, personality and sexuality, and their relationship to	V
current behavior patterns.	^
Overview major constructs related to stress, motivation, attraction (love),	
communication, prejudice, and discrimination.	
Identify differences between environmental, genetic, and epigenetic theories of behavior.	Χ

Use basic statistics for describing scores, norms for interpreting scores, and psychometric	
properties of scale, such as reliability and validity.	
Encourage personal growth and self-awareness.	Х
Integration of cross cultural, ethical, and gender issues related to personality development.	Х

Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes:	
Composition and Rhetoric Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	Х
Science & Technology Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	
Mathematics & Quantitative Skills Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
Society, Diversity, & Connections Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	Х
Human Inquiry & the Past Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	Х
The Arts & Creativity Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	

Special requirements of the course: N/A

Additional information: N/A

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