

V89.0030: PERSONALITY
Fall, 2009

Dr. Susan Andersen
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Office Hours: Mon., 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Meetings: Monday & Wednesday
Time: 12:30-1:45 p.m.
Room: Meyer 121
4 Units

Teaching Assistants:

TA: Nicholas (Nick) Kenna
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Off. Hrs.: Wed., 2:30-3:30 p.m.

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Off. Hrs.: Fri., 12:30-1:30 p.m.

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Off. Hrs.: Mon., 5:30-6:30

INTENT

This course is designed as an introduction to personality by means of empirical research conducted to understand basic aspects of personality functioning and social behavior. Hence, the course focuses on personality psychology as a scientific enterprise rather than as a collection of broad theories about the nature of the mind and behavior. Although the course will begin with a review of some of the overarching theories of personality in part for historical context, the central aim will be to examine the interactive relationship between individual human qualities and societal/situational forces as this emerges in personal experience, such as motivation, emotion, and social behavior. We will do this by focusing on a number of specific research topics in personality psychology, such as the nature of consciousness, moods and emotions, the development of the self-concept, psychological defensiveness, competence, anxiety, stress and coping, depression and hope, empathy and aggression.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Introduction
Overview of Theories: Freudian, Neo Freudian,
Behavioral, Cognitive-Behavioral
Phenomenological/Existential and Trait
Research Strategies in Personality Psychology
The Interaction between Person and Situation
Social Cognition
Mood and Emotion
The Self
Competence, Control and Mastery
Conscious and Unconscious Experience
Psychological Defensiveness
Stress, Anxiety, and Coping
Depression
Altruism/Empathy and Aggression
Authoritarianism and Social Influence

RECITATION SECTIONS

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>TA</u>	<u>Room</u>
Mon	3:30-4:45	Kristina	Silver 711
Tues	9:30-10:45	Nick	Silver 411
Wed	3:30-4:45	Kristina	Waverly 570
Thur	9:30-9:45	Nick	Silver 710
Fri	9:30-10:45	Ayse	Waverly 570
Fri	11:00-12:15	Ayse	Meyer 261

Recitations are required and involve assignments that contribute to grade.

REQUIREMENTS

Each Exam (in class and take-home) will constitute approx. 30% of course grade

MIDTERM: Monday, 11/2/09 **FINAL:** TBA

Both exams will be entirely objective. The midterm will cover the first half of the course and the final the second half and the entire course.

TAKE-HOME ESSAY EXAM: Due on Wednesday, 11/25/09

The content of this exam will be discussed in depth after the first few weeks of the semester.

RECITATION SECTIONS (approx. 10% of grade)

Attendance at recitation is required, as is participation and completion of an experiential learning assignment every two weeks, which is then written-up in journal-entry format that focuses on substantive course content. In short, you will apply definitions of and evidence about relevant psychological phenomena to real or fictional life situations. (The specifics of this assignment are described in a separate handout.)

READINGS

Mischel, W., Shoda, Y., & Ayduk, O. (2008). Introduction to Personality, Eighth Edition. (WM)
New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Andersen, S.M. Selected readings. Each individual reading is on reserve at the library and on blackboard. (SA)
(See table of contents attached.)

Day-by-Day Course Outline

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Wed 9/9	Introduction and Research Strategies	WM Chs. 1, 2
Mon 9/14 & Wed 9/16	Freudian and Neo-Freudian approaches	WM Chs. 7, 9, & WM Ch. 8, pgs. 177-195
Mon 9/21 & Wed 9/23	Behavioral and Cognitive-Behavioral approaches	WM Chs. 10, 11, & WM Ch. 14, pgs. 352-357, 371-375
Mon 9/28 & Wed 9/30	Phenomenological and Existential approaches	WM Chs. 12, 13
Mon 10/5 & Wed 10/7	Trait Approaches	WM Chs. 3, 5, & WM Ch. 6, pgs. 124-128
Mon 10/12 & Wed 10/14	The Interaction between Person and Situation	WM Ch. 4 & WM Ch. 14, pgs. 366-371
Mon 10/19 & Wed 10/21	Social Cognition	WM Ch. 14, pgs. 349-352, 357-365, & 375-378. And, SA #1, #2, #3
Mon 10/26 &	Mood and Emotion	WM Ch. 6, pgs. 128-end, WM Ch. 18

Wed 10/28	Mood and Emo. (cont'd) + Pers. And Culture	SA #4, #5, #15
Mon 11/2	MIDTERM	
Wed 11/4 & Mon 11/9	The Self	WM Ch. 15, pgs. 379-391 SA #6, #7
Wed 11/11 & Mon 11/16	Depression	WM Ch. 15, pgs. 391-395 SA #12, #13
Wed 11/18 & Mon 11/23	Stress, Anxiety, and Coping	WM Ch. 17, pgs. 454-459 SA #10, #11
Wed 11/25	TAKE-HOME EXAM DUE IN CLASS (or by 5 pm)	
Wed 11/25 & Mon 11/30	Competence, Control, and Mastery	WM Ch. 17, pgs. 437-454, 459-end WM Ch. 15, pgs. 395-end SA #8
Wed 12/2	Psychological Defensiveness and the Unconscious	WM Ch. 8, pgs. 195-end SA #9
Mon 12/7 & Wed 12/9	Altruism/Empathy and Aggression	WM. Ch. 16 SA #17, #18
Mon 12/14	Authoritarianism and Social Influence	SA #14
12/17 - 12/23	FINAL EXAM WEEK	
	FINAL EXAM: TBA	

RESEARCH IN PERSONALITY: READINGS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Reading #1 Mischel, W. Personality and cognition: Something borrowed, something new? In N. Cantor & J. Kihlstrom (Eds.), Personality, Cognition and Social Interaction. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Reading #2 Cantor, N. A cognitive-social approach to personality. In N. Cantor & J. Kihlstrom (Eds.), Personality, Cognition and Social Interaction. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Reading #3 Higgins, E. T. & King, G. Accessibility of social constructs: Information-processing consequences of individual and contextual variability. In N. Cantor & J. Kihlstrom (Eds.), Personality, Cognition and Social Interaction. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Reading #4 Clark, M. S. & Isen, A. M. Toward understanding the relationship between feeling states and social behavior. In A. H. Hastorf & A. M. Isen (Eds.), Cognitive social psychology. New York: Elsevier/North Holland.
- Reading #5 Fiske, S. T. Schema-triggered affect: Applications to social perception. In M. S. Clarke & S. T. Fiske (Eds.), Affect and Cognition. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Reading #6 Greenwald, A. G. The totalitarian ego: Fabrication and revision of personal history, American Psychologist, 35, 603-618.
- Reading #7 Andersen, S. M. Self-knowledge and social inference: II. The diagnosticity of cognitive/affective and behavioral data. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 46, 294-307
- Reading #8 Langer, E. J. Mindfulness. New York: Addison-Wesley. Pp. 9-60
- Reading #9 Brewin, C. R. Cognitive foundations of clinical psychology. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum. Pp. 13-30.
- Reading #10 Miller, S. M. Why having control reduces stress: If I can stop the roller coaster, I don't want to get off. In J. Garber & M. E. P. Seligman (Eds.), Human Helplessness: Theory and Applications. New York: Academic Press.
- Reading #11 Silver, L., & Wortman, C. B. Coping with undesirable life events. In J. Garber & M. E. P. Seligman (Eds.), Human Helplessness: Theory and Applications. New York: Academic Press.
- Reading #12 Hollon, S. D., & Garber, J. A cognitive-expectancy theory for helplessness and depression. In J. Garber & M. E. P. Seligman (Eds.), Human Helplessness: Theory and Applications. New York: Academic Press.
- Reading #13 Beck, A. T. & Young, J. E. Depression. In D. H. Barlow (Ed.), Clinical handbook of psychological disorders. New York: Guilford Press.
- Reading #14 Zimbardo, P. G., Ebbesen, E. G., & Maslach. C. Influencing attitudes and changing behavior. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company. Pp. 1-48.
- Reading #15 Friedman, H. S. & Schustack, M. W. Personality: Classic Theories and Modern Research, Ch. 13: Cultural and Ethnic Differences: Needham Heights, MS: Allyn & Bacon, Pp. 417-447.
- Reading #16 Friedman, H. S. & Schustack, M. W. Personality: Classic Theories and Modern Research, Ch. 11: Male-Female Differences: Needham Heights, MS: Allyn & Bacon, Pp. 351-383.
- Reading #17 Phares, E. J. Introduction to Personality. Third edition, Ch. 17: Aggression: New York: HarperCollins. Pp. 500-530.
- Reading #18 Phares, E. J. Introduction to Personality, Third edition, Ch. 18: Altruism, Empathy, and Moral Judgment. New York: Pp. 531-556.