

Psychology 2B3: Personality

Course Outline, April - June 2018

Time: **Tues., Thurs., 9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Classroom: **BSB-B136**

Web site: <http://intropsych.mcmaster.ca/psych2b3>
and Avenue to Learn

Instructor: **Dick Day**

Office: Psych Bldg Room 404

Phone: 525-9140 ext. 23006

Email: dayrich@mcmaster.ca

Course Objectives

This course discusses theories of personality from Freud to the present. At the end of the course, you will be familiar with the common theoretical approaches to personality (type, trait, psychodynamic, humanistic, cognitive, learning, evolutionary), and will understand the concepts involved in one or more specific theories from most of these approaches and will appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of each.

In addition to the specifics of several theories, I hope that you will have a clearer understanding of the nature and purpose of theories in science, and an appreciation for the interesting relationship between theory and ‘reality’.

Required Text: David Funder. *The Personality Puzzle*, 7th Edition. W.W. Norton.

Recommended Text: Day, R.B. *Psych 2B03 Personality Handbook, Spring 2018*. McMaster Custom Courseware.

Course Outline:

The table below shows the topics we will be covering, and the order in which we will be covering them. The dates when each topic will be discussed are **approximate**.

Week of:	Topic	Text Readings
May 1	Introduction to Personality	Chapts. 1 and 2
May 3 May 8	The Psychodynamic Approach: Freud and Psychoanalysis	Chapts. 10, Chapt. 11 (pp. 391-396, and 399-416)
May 10 May 15	The Psychodynamic Approach: Jung and Analytic Psychology	Chapt. 11, (pp. 397-398)
* May 17 May 22	The Humanists: Abraham Maslow and Carl Rogers	Chapt. 12
May 24 May 29	The Cognitive/Behavioral Approach: Bandura and Mischel	Chapt. 14, 16
* May 31 June 5	The Trait Approach: Eysenck and Multi-Factor Theories	Chapt. 4; 6; 7
June 7 June 12 * June 14	Biological Bases of Personality	Chapt. 8; Chapt. 9
	Classes end Thursday, June 14 th	

Evaluation: There will be two in-class tests, worth 30% each, and a final exam worth 40%. Each in-class test will consist of approximately 40 multiple-choice questions. You will have the first 60 minutes of the class period to complete each test. The midterms are non-cumulative, and the second midterm will cover different material from midterm 1. Some questions on midterm 2 may assume knowledge tested on midterm 1.

The final exam will consist of 80 multiple-choice questions. You will have two hours for this test, which will take place during the last class period of the term. The final exam is cumulative with respect to lecture material, but **NOT** cumulative with respect to text readings.

The **tentative dates** for the in-class tests, and the date of the final exam, are as follows (and are marked on the course outline with an asterisk next to the date):

In-class Test #1: Thursday, May 17th

In-class Test #2: Thursday, May 31st

Final Exam: Thursday, June 14th

The **actual** dates of the in-class tests will be announced in class - and posted on the course website - **at least 10 days** prior to the actual test date. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU GET THIS INFORMATION.**

Missed Work: If you miss one of the in-class tests for documented medical or compassionate reasons, you should complete a Missed Work form in the office of the Associate Dean (Studies) of your Faculty. Once your Associate Dean has accepted your reason for absence, the remaining in-class test and the final exam will be reweighted (40%, 60%, respectively) to cover the missed in-class test.

Discretionary notes will generally not be accommodated. Note also that the online student absence form (MSAF) can only be used once per term, only for medical absences, and only for assignments worth less than 30%. That means that **an MSAF will not excuse you from either of the midterm tests in this course.** You must take any documentation to the office of your Associate Dean in order to obtain an authorized and accommodated absence from either midterm test.

Final Grade Calculation and Adjustment: The final mark in Psychology 2AP3 will be computed by applying the following formula to the percentage scores on Test1, Test2, and Final Exam:

$$(\text{Test1}\% \times .30) + (\text{Test2}\% \times .30) + (\text{Exam}\% \times .40) = \text{Final Course Percentage}$$

Apart from excused absences from an in-class test, every student will be assessed using the weighting formula shown above - with one exception:

In assigning final letter grades for the course I look at the pattern of performance over the two in-class tests and the final exam. If the overall average, as calculated by the formula above, is on the borderline of the next higher letter grade (e.g. 49%, 66%, or 84%) and if the marks on both the final exam and one in-class test are at the next higher level (e.g., D-, C+, A), then I will assign the next higher letter grade.

If the overall average, as calculated by the formula above, is 2 marks below the borderline of the next higher letter grade (e.g. 48%, 65%, or 83%) and if the marks on both the final exam and one in-class test are at least 2 grade levels higher, (e.g., D, B-, A+), then I will assign the next higher letter grade.

Apart from this one final adjustment, final course grades in this course will not be changed unless they have been calculated incorrectly. I do not respond to email or in-person requests to increase correctly-calculated grades in this course.

Note that although midterm and exam marks, and final course averages are posted on Avenue as well as on the intro psych Grades Lookup, **ONLY THE NUMERICAL POSTINGS ON THE GRADES LOOKUP REFLECT THE CORRECT CALCULATION OF YOUR MARKS AND FINAL AVERAGE.** The letter grades posted on Avenue and the Grades Lookup will be identical, and equally correct.

Some online applications provided for the use of students in this course reside on a server (intropsych.mcmaster.ca) that may not always be accessible. These applications include the **Grades Lookup**, and the **Online Sample Quiz**. While there is only a small chance that this server will fail, you should not assume that these applications will be available when you want to use them. Use of these applications is not required or necessary for excellent performance in this course.

Academic Integrity and Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of a academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. **Copying or using unauthorized aids on tests and examinations.**
2. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
3. Improper collaboration in group work.

The final mark in Psychology 2B03 will be computed by applying the following formula to the percentage scores on Test1, Test2, and Final Exam:

$$(\text{Test1\%} \times .30) + (\text{Test2\%} \times .30) + (\text{Exam\%} \times .40) = \text{Final Course Percentage}$$

Note that Test1%, Test2%, and Exam% values in the above equation are rounded numbers, while the value within each pair of parentheses is **NOT** rounded before being summed to calculate the Final Course percentage. So a Test1% score of 72.5% is rounded to 73% before being multiplied by .30. The resulting value (73 x .30 = 21.9) is **NOT** rounded before being added to the Test 2 and Exam scores to calculate the Final Course Percentage (FCP). The calculated FCP **IS** rounded, so a FCP of 69.5% would be recorded as 70%, equivalent to a letter grade of “B-“ in the course.

The rounded Final Course Percentage will be translated into a letter grade according to the following table of equivalence:

% Score	Letter	% Score	Letter	% Score	Letter
90 - 100	A+	70 - 72	B-	53 - 56	D
85 - 89	A	67 - 69	C+	50 - 52	D-
80 - 84	A-	63 - 66	C	0 - 49	F
77 - 79	B+	60 - 62	C-		
73 - 76	B	57 - 59	D+		