

## Psychology 5321, Psychology of Personality

**Instructor:** Dr. William Ickes

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**Office Hours:** 2:00-2:50 MW

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**Lectures:** 9:30-10:50 MW in 420 LS

This is a graduate-level course on the psychology of personality. It covers a broad range of topics in the study of human personality and addresses epistemological issues, meta-theoretical issues, methodological issues, theoretical/content issues, and clinical/applied issues. The goal of the course is to provide a broad and reasonably up-to-date survey of contemporary work in personality psychology. As a graduate-level course, it is not open to undergraduates who wish to take it for course credit.

All of the readings for this course will be made available through an on-line archive. There are no textbooks to purchase for this course!

In contrast to previous semesters, this semester's section of Psychology 5321 will have more of a seminar format than a standard lecture format. Each student will be responsible for the presenting material to the class twice during the first half of the semester and twice during the second half. These classroom presentations, along with the student's scores on the midterm and final exams, will determine the student's overall course grade for the semester.

The two exams given this semester will also have a different format from the ones used in previous semesters. In this semester, the students will be provided in advance of each exam with a list of questions that they might be asked to answer in a short (one paragraph) essay format. Only questions that are selected from this list will be included on the exams.

If you are dropped for nonpayment of tuition, you can secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar's Office. If you have a disability, I will provide reasonable accommodation for it if you inform me at the beginning of the semester and provide appropriate documentation through the designated administrative channels. If you need information about how to access resources at the university library, contact Helen Hough by e-mail (hough@uta.edu). For internet research assistance, go to <http://www.uta.edu/library/research/rt-psyc.html>.

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be subject to discipline that may include suspension or expulsion from UTA. Such dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submitting another's work or material as one's own, taking an examination for another person, or any other act or intended act designed to give any student an unfair advantage.

### Important Dates:

February 3: Census date

April 2: Last day to drop courses

March 8: Midterm exam

May 12: Final exam

## Course Outline

### Part 2: Introduction to the study of personality

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|------|---------------|---|
| 1/25 | McAdams, 1995 | What do we know when we know a person?      |
| 1/25 | McAdams, 2000 | A brief history of the field of personality |

### Part 2: Genetic and environmental influences on personality

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|------|-------------------------|---|
| 1/27 | Turkheimer, 1998        | Heritability and biological explanation             |
| 1/27 | Bouchard, 2004          | Genetic influences on traits                        |
| 1/27 | South and Krueger, 2008 | Genetic and environmental influences on personality |

### Part 3: The study of personality in non-human animals

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|-----|--------------------------|---|
| 2/1 | Gosling and John, 1999   | Personality dimensions in non-human animals |
| 2/1 | Vazire et al., 2007      | Measuring personality in non-human animals  |
| 2/1 | Uher and Asendorpf, 2008 | Assessing personality in the Great Apes     |

### Part 4: Personality measurement

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|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2/3 | Briggs, 1991             | Personality measurement         |
| 2/3 | Paulhus and Vazire, 2007 | The self-report method          |
| 2/3 | Gallagher, 1992          | Individual differences in style |

### Part 5: The trait approach to personality

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|------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2/8  | Buss, 1989                   | Personality as traits              |
| 2/8  | Funder, 1991                 | Global traits: Neo-Allportian view |
| 2/8  | Goldberg, 1993               | The structure of traits (Big Five) |
| 2/10 | McCrae and Costa, 2008       | Five factor model of personality   |
| 2/10 | McCrae and Terracciano, 2005 | Universal features of traits       |

### Part 6: Beyond the Big Five view of traits

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|------|----------------------------|---|
| 2/15 | Paunonen and Jackson, 2000 | Beyond the Big Five                                   |
| 2/15 | Denissen and Penke, 2008   | Motivational individual reaction norms and the Big 5  |
| 2/17 | Simms, 2007                | Big 7 model and its relevance to personality disorder |
| 2/17 | Markon et al., 2005        | The structure of normal and abnormal personality      |

### **Part 7: Childhood antecedents of adult personality**

2/22	Caspi et al., 2003	Children's behavioral styles linked to their adult traits
2/22	De Clerq et al., 2008	Maladaptive personality traits and psychopathology
2/24	Hampson, 2008	Childhood traits influence adult well-being
2/24	Hazan and Shaver, 1987	Adult attachment
2/24	Fraley and Shaver, 2008	Attachment theory and personality

### **Part 8: Personality continuity and personality change**

3/1	Caspi, Roberts, and Shiner, 2004	Personality development: Stability and change
3/1	Fraley and Roberts, 2005	Personality continuity across the life course
3/3	Roberts et al., 2006	Mean level change in traits across the life course
3/3	Twenge, 2000	Birth cohort change in anxiety and neuroticism
<b>3/8</b>	<b>Midterm exam (short essay format)</b>	

### **Part 9: Personality in its social context**

3/22	Snyder and Ickes, 1985	Personality and social behavior
3/24	Fleeson, 2001	Traits as density distributions of states
3/24	Fleeson, 2004	Person X situation: Within-person variability
3/24	Michel and Shoda, 1995	Cognitive-affective system theory of personality
3/29	Michel, 2004	Personality coherence
3/29	Saucier et al., 2007	A taxonomy of personality-relevant situations

### **Part 10: Culture and personality**

3/31	Markus, 2004	Culture and personality
3/31	McCrae, 2004	Human nature and culture
3/31	Rozin, 2004	Culture and personality
3/31	Grouzet et al., 2005	The structure of goal contents across cultures

### **Part 11: Personality, goals, and self-regulation**

4/5	Cramer, 1998	Coping and defense mechanisms
4/5	Cramer, 2008	Defense Mechanism Theory
4/7	Winter et al., 1998	Traits and motives
4/7	Little, 2005	Personality and personal projects
4/7	Sutin and Robins, 2008	Personal strivings and personality
4/7	Hoyle, 2007	Personality and self-regulation

**Part 12: Personality and the life story**

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|------|---------------------|---|
| 4/12 | McAdams, 2001       | Life stories                            |
| 4/12 | McLean et al., 2007 | Selves creating stories creating selves |

**Part 13: The Big Five as predictors of consequential outcomes**

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|------|-------------------------------|--|
| 4/14 | Cuperman and Ickes, 2009      | The Big Five as predictors of initial interactions |
| 4/14 | Ozer and Benet-Martínez, 2006 | The Big Five and consequential outcomes            |
| 4/14 | Clarke and Robertson, 2005    | The Big Five and accident involvement              |

**Part 14: Personality and health**

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|------|--------------------------|---|
| 4/19 | Friedman, 2000           | Personality and health                              |
| 4/19 | Smith, 2006              | Personality and health                              |
| 4/19 | Scheier and Carver, 2003 | Self-regulation and responses to health threats     |
| 4/21 | Roberts et al., 2005     | Conscientiousness and health across the life course |
| 4/21 | Mroczek and Spiro, 2007  | Personality and mortality                           |
| 4/21 | Lyubomirsky et al., 2006 | Writing about significant life events               |

**Part 15: Personality in the workplace**

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|------|--------------------|---|
| 4/26 | Hogan et al., 1996 | Personality measurement and employment decisions    |
| 4/26 | Roberts, 2006      | Personality development and organizational behavior |
| 4/26 | TBA                |   |

**Part 16: The evolving field of personality psychology**

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|------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4/28 | Mayer, 2005           | The field of personality psychology |
| 4/28 | Swann and Seyle, 2005 | Personality and social psychology   |

**5/12 Final exam (short essay format)**