

PSY 431 Section 1: Personality (3 Credit Hours) Fall 2007

Location: Wynne Unit

Class Meeting Times: Wednesday 1:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Ronald Davis **Office Location:**

Instructor Contact Information: Phone: 936-294-3285 (office); 936- 294-1174 or 1-866-BEARKAT—ask for Psychology Dept; (fax) 936-294-3798 E-Mail: rld004@shsu.edu (I am most easily contacted by e-mail. I am often not in my office other than during office hours)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Course Description: In this course a study is made of major theories of Personality. The biological and social factors in the development and functioning of personality will be considered.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify and discuss the fundamental concepts of the major theories of personality
- Explain behavior by applying the fundamental concepts of the major theories of personality
- Compare the major theories of personality in terms of their being amenable to falsification through empirical research
- Identify methods used by the major theories of personality to assess and intervene in various forms of maladjustment

Required Text: Feist, J and Feist, G.J. (2002) Theories of Personality, 5th Edition, New York (as supplied by WISD in conjunction with Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice

Attendance Policy: Attendance will comply with SHSU policy, specifically: A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations or other assigned class work have not been missed; however, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences at the discretion of the instructor.

Exams and Grading Plan: Three 50 question exams and a 75 question final exam comprised of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions that will cover the text, lecture and any other materials assigned by the instructor for that particular exam. The final exam will be selectively comprehensive. Students who have either missed an exam or would like a chance to replace a grade on one of the three exams (excluding the final) will have the opportunity to take a selectively comprehensive make-up exam. This exam will be offered only once.

Social History: During the first two weeks of the semester each student will write a social history according to the format provided by the professor. This social history may be of a family member, friend, a well known person in the media. It must be anonymous unless the student is utilizing published biographical or autobiographical information. These must be posted to blackboard by the student and will be utilized through the remainder of the semester as a vehicle for application of personality theory concepts.

In Class Papers: Students will be asked to write several short papers in class either applying concepts from personality theory to a social history or some other topic presented by the professor during lecture. There is no pre-specified number of mini papers but each will be worth 10 points for their completion. Should the student be absent during a class in which the class wrote a mini paper, he/she will have a chance to make up ONE mini-paper during the final exam.

Exams = 300 points (100 points each)

Social History = 20 points

Final Exam = 150 points

In class papers (mini-papers) = 10 points each for completion

A = 90% of total possible points

B = 80-89% of total possible points

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10/10—Last day to drop without an F

Presentation schedule begins 10/1—only one presentation per class period (15 minutes in length)—No presentations on review or exam dates

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.