

**Faculty of Health  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 2130 3.0 Section C: Personality  
Mondays 2:30-5:30 PM  
F-2022**

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**This is an in-person course. Classes will be held every Monday 2:30-5:30PM in SLH-D. All lectures, exams and course activities will be delivered in person. Students are expected to attend all classes. Lectures are not recorded, hence lecture recordings will NOT be available.**

**Instructor and T.A. Information**

**Instructor:** Dr. Sadia Zafar

**Classroom:** SLH-D

**Office Hours:** Mondays 11:30-12:30. Please email me for appointment (Office BSB 263)

**Office:** BSB 263

**Email:** [zafars@yorku.ca](mailto:zafars@yorku.ca)

**Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced**

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.

**Course Credit Exclusions**

Please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

**Course website:** [eClass](#)

Course website is a very important resource. All lecture slides will be posted on course website on the evening before the lecture, for example, slides for lecture on Sep 12 will be posted on eclass on the evening of Sep 11. Similarly additional readings, assignment details and classroom activities' materials will be posted on the course website. Eclass announcement is used to convey important information to class, you should receive the announcements in your email, however, announcements are also available under the course announcements tab in course resources folder. Grades are posted under the grades tab. Course outline with detailed information about exams, assignment, deadlines, and course material is also posted on eclass in the course resources folder. Make sure to refer to it if you have any questions about the course structure, expectations, and dates.

**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to theories of personality. The development, structure, and correlates of personality are presented from the viewpoint of major classical and current theories. Theories may include trait, biological, learning, and cognitive perspectives, as well as psychodynamic, humanistic, and existential perspectives. Through the examination of specific studies and the discussion of general methodological principles of personality research, emphasis is placed on the role of research in shaping and validating theories of personality.

## Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of psychological determinants of personality.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in personality psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of personality psychology in everyday life.
4. Define causes of human personality from different perspectives.

## Specific Learning Objectives

The primary purpose of personality psychology is to understand human uniqueness; how and why one person differs from others, in their thinking, feelings, and behaviors. By the completion of this course, you should be able to

1. Compare, contrast, and evaluate different personality theories.
2. Be able to apply these theories to understand an individual's personality and to be able to apply the concepts of these theories to your own life and the world.
3. Evaluate methodological principles and issues in personality psychology research.

## Required Text

Funder, D. C. (2012). *The Personality Puzzle (8th ed.)* New York: W. W. Norton and Co.

- Previous editions do not contain the same material. Assessment will be based on 8<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Please see the York University Bookstore webpage (<https://bookstore.yorku.ca>) for ordering e-books and for the information about free shipping of course books to students with a Canadian address.

**Your Responsibilities:** I will do all that I can to make this course a positive educational experience. Please don't be afraid to ask questions or to ask for clarification or to ask me to repeat information. It's highly likely that you will not be the only person encountering difficulty. Don't accept everything that I say uncritically. Everyone has biases and you should not be afraid to question my assumptions. I will try as much as possible to make them explicit, but I encourage you to think about what I say in a critical fashion. In class, I expect that all cell phones and pagers be placed in a non-ringing mode (vibrate or off). If your phone goes off during lecture, I expect you to leave the lecture hall to answer it. If you are using a laptop during the lecture and you are using it for purposes other than note-taking, I may ask that you shut it off as it may disturb other students around you. Conversations that take place when I am lecturing are disruptive to me and to the students around you. I expect that this will not be a problem, but should it be, I will take action to deal with it.

**My Responsibilities:** My responsibilities lie in three areas. First, as course instructor, I will respond to your inquiries as quickly as possible. I encourage you to set up an appointment and meet with me if you have any questions or difficulties in the course. I will do my best to help so that the course is an effective learning experience for you. See page 1 of the syllabus

for contact information. Also, see the next section on e-mail. Second, I will return graded material as quickly as possible. Marks will be posted on the eclass course site. If you wish to see your exam, please make an appointment to do so. Reviewing exams is always very helpful and I will encourage you to do that. Third, I come to lectures prepared and enthusiastic. I hope to encourage you to think about the material and engage with it as fully as possible.

**E-mail:** I will endeavor to answer all e-mail within 24 hours on weekdays. An e-mail sent on the weekend is unlikely to be answered until the following Monday. Please, make sure when you send e-mail that you include your name and student number. Please also include either the course number (i.e., PSYC2130C) or course title (Personality) in the subject line of the e-mail. Check the course materials (e.g., the syllabus, course website), to see if the answer to your question is already provided.

**Course Requirements and Assessment:**

You will have three exams over the semester. The exams will cover material from both the textbook and the lectures. They will NOT be cumulative. They may be a combination of multiple-choice and/or short-answer questions and/or long answer. You will also write a Psychobiography. The break-up of the grade is as follows:

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Midterm 1	Oct 17	25
Midtterm 2	Nov 14	30
Final exam	During final exam period	30
Psychobiography	December 4, 11:59PM	15
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

**Psychobiography paper:** has three purposes. It will allow you to: (a) practice the application of personality psychology, (b) analyze the personality of an interesting individual, and (c) think insightfully and critically about the course material.

For this paper, you will conduct a psychobiography. You will use any one of the theories (e.g., Skinner’s learning theory, or five factor model, or Psychoanalytic theory, you can use multiple theories if you want but it is recommended not to use more than 2 theories) to describe and analyze the personality of a famous individual of your choice. You may choose any famous person (a political leader, an athlete, an actor, an academic, notorious criminals etc.). Provide a brief biography of the chosen person and then analyze their personality development across the lifespan (using the information that is available about their life) and their achievements by applying anyone (or more) of the theories that were discussed in the course. The paper should be maximum **5 pages** (double spaced) using 12 size font. Do not exceed the page limit as anything beyond 5 pages will NOT be read. Tittle page and Bibliography page is **NOT** included in the five-page limit. Abstract is **NOT** required. APA format is expected for the paper.

**Note on late papers:**

**Late penalties.** If an assignment is handed after 11:59pm on 4<sup>th</sup> Dec, 5% of the total possible

points will be deducted from your grade. Deductions will increase by 5% for every 24 hours. For example, if the paper is handed in on Dec 6, 10% of the total points available will be deducted. Paper will NOT be accepted after 5 days of the due date and the student will be awarded a zero.

**Paper Deadline:** The deadline for submission of Psychobiography is Dec 4, 11:59pm (Est) but extension may be provided till Dec 9, 11:59 pm (Est). Please email your TA to request for this extension. This five- day extension time frame has been calculated for students with accommodations and following the universal learning design is being offered to all students. Thus, the extended Dec 9, 11:59 pm (Est) submission date (if requested) applies to all students including students with accommodations. The TA's and I need these fixed deadlines to plan our own work schedules, and to ensure that you received timely feedback. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the assignment is uploaded in uncorrupted file before the deadline. If the uploaded file is unreadable student will be awarded a zero.

**Exam Policy:** There are **no make-up exams** for this course. Exceptions will only be considered on the grounds of serious illness (or compassionate reasons (supporting letter and documents required. Please contact me within **48 hours** if you miss the exam with required documentation Each case will be considered individually. Please note that conflict with another course, travel plans and having to work are not considered valid reasons for missing an exam. If a make-up exam is offered for a missed midterm, please note that it will be offered only once and failure to write it on the time assigned by the instructor will result in a grade of zero. If a makeup test cannot be properly scheduled, alternative arrangements will be decided by the instructor. Also note that the date of the final exam is set by the university, and it cannot be changed. Make sure to wait till the announcement of the date of the final exam before making any plans. If you have a question or complaint about the grading of any test or assignment, you must contact the instructor within **7 days** of receiving the grade for that element. No complaints will be entertained after 7 days.

### **Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment**

For any missed quiz or late assignment, students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office. At this time, due to COVID-19 an Attending Physician's Statement (APS) is not required, however, a reason for missing an evaluated component in the course must be provided. [HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form](#). Failure to complete the form within 48 hours of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the missed quiz or late assignment.

### **Class Format and Attendance Policy**

This is an in-person course and students are expected to attend all lectures. Attendance is not recorded, however, everything discussed in lecture is included in exams. If you miss a class, it is strongly advised that you get class notes from your classmates. Please note that lectures are not recorded and hence lecture recordings can NOT be provided.

### **Grading as per Senate Policy**

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests\* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – [Grading Scheme for 2022-23](#)

### Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2022-23 Important Dates](#)

	Fall (Term F)	Year (Term Y)	Winter (Term W)
Last date to add a course <b>without permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 20	Sept. 20	Jan. 22
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 4	Oct. 25	Feb. 6
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 11	Feb. 10	Mar. 17
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 12 - Dec. 7	Feb. 11 - April 11	March 18 - April 11

### Add and Drop Deadline Information

There are deadlines for adding and dropping courses, both academic and financial. Since, for the most part, the dates are **different**, be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the differences between the sessional dates below and the [Refund Tables](#).

You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the "Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor" deadlines. These deadlines represent the last date students have unrestricted access to the registration and enrolment system.

After that date, you must contact the professor/department offering the course to arrange permission.

You can drop courses using the registration and enrolment system up until the last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (drop deadline).

You may [withdraw from a course](#) using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as 'W'. The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

## **Information on Plagiarism Detection**

### **Turnitin**

The university has subscribed to the Turnitin service which helps professors identify plagiarism and helps students maintain academic integrity. All assignments will be submitted online through the course website; **no assignments will be accepted through email**. Students will submit their assignments to Turnitin.com (via the course website) for review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. You are allowed to see your similarity score on Turnitin when you submit your assignment. If your score is higher than 35, please review your assignment to ensure that your score is below 35. Please note you can only remove and re-submit your assignment **BEFORE** the submission deadline. No assignment will be accepted after the submission deadline. You will not be able to remove your assignment once it is submitted after the submission deadline. It is your responsibility to ensure that the assignments are uploaded in uncorrupted files. If the uploaded assignment is unreadable student will be awarded a zero.

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Use of electronic devices such as tablets and laptops are permitted during class for course-related purposes only.

### **Academic Integrity for Students**

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#)

### **Test Banks**

The offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

### **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The university encourages students with disabilities to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic

accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.

<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

### **Excerpt from Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses. Accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. For further information please refer to: [York University Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy](#).

### **Course Materials Copyright Information**

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC2130C course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g., uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#).

### Lecture Outline and Required Reading

Sep 12	Introduction to Personality Theories and Methods	Ch 1(pp5-8), Ch 2 (pp23-45) Ch3 (pp 69-78)
Sep 19	Trait Perspectives	Chapters 4 & 6
Sep 26	Biological Approaches to Personality	Chapters 8 & 9
Oct 3	Biological Approaches to Personality	Chapters 8 & 9
Oct 17	<b>Midterm 1</b>	
Oct 24	Psychodynamic Perspectives	Chapter 10
Oct 31	Neo-psychoanalytic Perspectives	Chapter 11
Nov 7	Humanistic and Positive Psychology	Chapters 12
Nov 14	<b>Midterm 2</b>	
Nov 21	Cultural variations in Personality	Chapter 13
Nov 28	Behaviorism & Cognitive theories	Chapter 14
Dec 5	Self	Chapter 16

**This is a tentative schedule and subject to change.** Lectures will reflect content from the textbook, but I will give additional information to provide added value in the class. You are responsible for all the material presented in lectures, in your text and assigned readings. Additional readings may be posted on eclass.