PSYC 211  
PERSONALITY  

15 points, 0.125 EFTS  
16 July 2018 - 18 November 2018  

Course Coordinator:  
Dr. Andrew Vonasch. Room 209A  
Phone: +64 3 369 4363 (direct) 94363 (internal)  
Email: andrew.vonasch@canterbury.ac.nz  
Office hours by appointment  

Teaching Assistant Coordinator  
TBA  

Teaching Assistants:  
TBA  

Lectures and Labs:  

Lectures:  
- Monday 10:00 – 10:50am in C2 lecture theatre  
- Tuesday 1:00 – 1:50pm in K1 lecture theatre  

Labs:  
2 hours per week (seven 2 hour labs scheduled throughout course); see 'Allocation to Lab Streams’ further on in outline.  

NOTE: keep checking CIS (course web pages) and/or My Timetable for any possible changes to day/time/venue.)  

Description:  
The course provides an introduction to classic and contemporary theory and research in personality psychology. Lectures and readings will cover the following perspectives on personality: psychoanalytic, genetic and evolutionary, cultural, biological, humanistic, trait, and behavioural. In the laboratory sessions, students will take various personality assessment instruments and participate in experiments to gain first-hand insight into cutting-edge personality research. PSYC 211 is recommended preparation for PSYC 332 Social Psychology, PSYC 335 Abnormal Psychology, and PSYC 336 Industrial & Organisational Psychology.  

Learning Outcomes:  
On successful completion of the course, you will have:  
- an understanding of key theories in personality psychology, the differences between these theories; and ability to critically evaluate theories of personality;  
- an understanding of the research methods commonly used in personality psychology;  
- the ability to critically evaluate classic and contemporary research methods in personality psychology;  
- hands-on experience via participation in contemporary personality science;  
- the ability to write up a succinct research proposal.  

Required Textbook:  
The textbook is available at the University bookstore.
Assessment:

1. **Laboratory Assignments and Participation.** There are 7 two-hour labs scheduled. Most of these labs have small homework assignments associated with them. Labs will also involve the opportunity to participate in contemporary personality research that will directly relate to lecture material. You will also be given the opportunity to see where your personality scores stand in relation to those of the other students taking the course. I hope this will give you a more experiential and less abstract understanding of the course material. As an alternative to research participation, you may submit extra laboratory assignments, which will be made available in the class.
   
   = **10%** of the final grade.

2. **Research Proposal.** There is a research assignment that is due in lab the week beginning the 8th of October. Details about the research proposal are included in your Lab materials and will be provided by your Teaching Assistant during lab.
   
   = **15%** of the final grade.

3. **Mid-term Test.** The midterm, in class Tuesday, 21st of August 1:00-1:50. It will cover lectures, assigned readings, and labs from weeks 1–6.
   
   = **35%** of the final grade.

4. **End-of-Course Examination.** This is a two hour exam, time and location to be announced. It will cover lectures, assigned readings, and labs from weeks 7–12.
   
   = **40%** of the final grade.

**Midterm and final examination will be multiple-choice.**

The lectures, laboratories, and assigned textbook chapters largely complement each other (rather than duplicate each other); **all are testable.** Marks will likely be scaled.

Permission to take a test or turn in an assignment at other than the scheduled time will be given only rarely and in exceptional circumstance. If you have a lecture/lab that clashes with the Test and/or Exam date/time please contact the course coordinator.

**Cover Sheets:** Please attach cover sheets to the front of all your assignments. Hard copies can be found in the ground floor of the Psychology building where the assignment drop boxes are located, and electronic copies are available on LEARN.

**Allocation to Laboratory Streams:**

**There are no labs during the first week of term.**

You will be able to self-allocate a lab stream through My Timetable - [https://mytimetable.canterbury.ac.nz/aplus/student](https://mytimetable.canterbury.ac.nz/aplus/student) - from Friday 13th July through to noon Friday 20th July; you will be reminded of this in your first class.

If the only lab you can attend is full, or if you have problems signing up, or if you have difficulties selecting a lab stream, contact the department administrator Yifang Parker (Yifang.Parker@canterbury.ac.nz).

**Policy on Lecture Schedule Conflicts**

TBA
Estimated Schedule Overview (subject to change):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date (reading due)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 1: Methods of Personality Research</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1 (16 July)</td>
<td>Intro to Personality / Research Methods&lt;br&gt;<em>No lab</em> this week</td>
<td>Chapters 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2 (23 July) Lab</td>
<td>Research Methods / Assessment&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 1: Introducing Personality</em></td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3 (30 July) Lab</td>
<td>Traits / Judgment&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 2: Thematic Apperception Test</em></td>
<td>Chapters 4 and 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 (6 Aug) Lab</td>
<td>Traits and Behaviour&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 3: Barnum Effect</em></td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 (13 Aug) Lab</td>
<td>Development / Biological Approaches&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 4: Sensation Seeking and Physiology</em></td>
<td>Chapters 7 and 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6 (20 Aug) Test</td>
<td>Mental Health&lt;br&gt;<em>No Lab</em> this week&lt;br&gt;<em>MIDTERM TEST, in class Tuesday August 21 1:00-1:50</em></td>
<td>Chapter 17&lt;br&gt;<em>Test covers weeks 1-6</em></td>
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<td><strong>Break: 27 Aug - 7 Sept</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section 2: Theoretical Perspectives and Problems in Personality</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7 (10 Sep) Lab</td>
<td>Morality / Self Control&lt;br&gt;<em>No Lab</em> this week</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8 (17 Sep) Lab</td>
<td>Psychoanalytic / Behaviourism&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 5: Interviewing</em></td>
<td>Chapters 10 and 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9 (24 Sep) Lab</td>
<td>Automaticity and Thinking / Humanism&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 6: Birth Order/Walking</em></td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10 (1 Oct) Lab</td>
<td>Free Will and Robot Consciousness / Evolution and Behavioural Genetics&lt;br&gt;<em>Lab 7: Self Esteem</em></td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11 (8 Oct) Lab</td>
<td>Culture / Cultural Evolution and Interpersonal Processes&lt;br&gt;<em>Research Proposal due in Lab</em>&lt;br&gt;<em>No Lab</em> this week</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12 (15 Oct) Lab</td>
<td>Emotion / Motivation&lt;br&gt;<em>No lab</em> this week</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<td><strong>Final Exam – date &amp; venue to be announced</strong></td>
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**General Department of Psychology Information**

**IT Services:** [http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/its/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/its/)

**Learn (online learning):** [http://learn.canterbury.ac.nz/](http://learn.canterbury.ac.nz/)

**UC Library Subject Guide:** [http://canterbury.libguides.com/psyc](http://canterbury.libguides.com/psyc)

**Assessment Cover Sheets**
Please attach cover sheets to the front of all your assignments. Hard copies can be found in the ground floor of the Psychology building where the assignment drop boxes are located, and electronic copies are available on LEARN.

**Academic Liaison**
If you have any concerns about a course, please contact the Course Coordinator in the first instance. The Department of Psychology has a Staff/Student Liaison Committee and each Semester students voluntarily represent courses from each level. Postgraduate students are represented for both Part 1 paper years and Part 2 thesis years for the whole year. A request for volunteers is sent early in the first semester.

**Students with Disabilities**
Please refer to the Disability Resource Service for information on study support services: [http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/disability/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/disability/)

**Policy on Dishonest Practice**
Plagiarism, collusion, copying and ghost writing are unacceptable and dishonest practices.

- **Plagiarism** is the presentation of any material (text, data, figures or drawings, on any medium including computer files) from any other source without clear and adequate acknowledgement of the source.
- **Collusion** is the presentation of work performed in conjunction with another person or persons, but submitted as if it has been completed only by the named author(s).
- **Copying** is the use of material (in any medium, including computer files) produced by another person(s) with or without their knowledge and approval.
- **Ghost writing** is the use of another person(s) (with or without payment) to prepare all or part of an item submitted for assessment.

In cases where dishonest practice is involved in tests or other work submitted for credit, the student will be referred to the University Proctor. The instructor may choose to not mark the work.

The Department reserves the right to require work to be submitted in electronic format so that it can be submitted to plagiarism detection websites.

**Special Considerations**
Special Consideration for assessments is for students who have covered the work of a course but have been prevented from demonstrating their knowledge or skills at the time of the assessment due to unforeseen circumstances. Students should consult the Special Considerations website for information, and contact them directly with any queries. [http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/special-consideration/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/special-consideration/)

Also on the Examinations webpage is information about Results and Appeals for final grades. The Department of Psychology policy of “substantial part of assessment” for all courses is set at 50% of all coursework. Unless a minimum of 50% of coursework is completed, final special consideration will not be given.

**Marks and Grades**
You will get a mark and/or a grade for each piece of assessment during the course and a final grade at the end of the course. For more information on the University regulations for credit see: [http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/regulations/general-regulations/general-conditions-for-credit-regulations/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/regulations/general-regulations/general-conditions-for-credit-regulations/)

**Reconsideration of Grades**
Students can appeal any decision made on their final grade, and should, in the first instance, speak to the course coordinator about their grade. Students can apply through Student Services to appeal for up to four weeks after the release of results: [http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/examinations/result-dates-and-appeals/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/examinations/result-dates-and-appeals/)
For more information see General Course and Examination Regulations in the University Calendar: http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/publications/brochure-gallery/.

**Complaints and Grievances**
If a student encounters any problems regarding any aspect of the course, they should in the first instance approach the lecturer concerned. Failing that, they can approach the course coordinator. For more information, please see the Psychology Handbook.

**Missed Tests**
In rare cases a student will not be able to sit a test. In such cases, the student should consult with the course coordinator to discuss if alternative arrangements are available. **This must be done well in advance of the set date of the test.** The criteria used for approving a special sitting are the same as the UC policy used for end-of-semester examinations, which are outlined below:

- Clash with another test from other UC courses
- Religious (Conflicting religious day or event)
- Bereavement (family member or close friend)
- Study (overseas study, must be a tertiary institute)
- Sporting or cultural event (Representing NZ, Canterbury or the University of Canterbury)
- Wedding (immediate family member or part of a bridal party)
- Business (travel)

With the exception of the above criteria, tests will only be given at the regularly scheduled time and place. Missed tests will result in a score of 0% for that test.

**Emergency Assembly Area**
Please gather in the Psychology car park on the grassed area away from the cars and buildings.

**Health & Safety Information**
See the Department of Psychology webpage: http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/science/schools-and-departments/psychology/about-us/