Seminar in Social-Personality Psychology: Personality
SOP6409 §021A
Tuesdays 1:55–4:55 p.m. (Periods 7–9)
Rinker Hall (RNK) Room 215

Instructor: Gregory D. Webster, Ph.D.
Office: Psychology Building 088
Hours: Tuesdays, 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
E-mail: gdwebs@ufl.edu

Purpose, Description, and Policies

The purpose of this course is to expose you to a variety of current theoretical and applied research perspectives in personality psychology. The material you will learn in this survey course will (a) highlight the many ways in which personality science can inform social psychology and (b) give you the background knowledge necessary to generate and test your own theories and research hypotheses.

The format of the course will be a seminar that will rely on interactive discussion of the material. Each student will be responsible for leading one classroom discussion of the material. This does not need to be a formal presentation—just some questions, comments, or other talking points to help spark and maintain discussion. I would prefer to hold discussions without using presentation slides (e.g., Prezi, Keynote, PowerPoint).

Each student will e-mail the instructor one discussion question for each reading (i.e., 3–6 per week) by noon each Tuesday prior to class (write “SOP6409” in the subject line; use gdwebs@ufl.edu). The instructor or weekly discussant will select a few of these questions to facilitate classroom discussion on each reading.

You will each conduct an independent theoretical review on a topic of your choosing. I recommend that you chose a topic in which either you or your advisor—preferably both—are interested. It should be your expectation that this review serve as the basis for a manuscript, thesis, or grant proposal. The paper may either be a qualitative narrative review or a small-scale quantitative meta-analysis. In the past, nearly all students have preferred the former in favor of the latter. There is no page limit, but less is often more.

Students shall uphold the University of Florida Honor Code in all aspects of this course. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office, which will then provide documentation to the student, who will then give this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Book

**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly discussion questions</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom discussion/participation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Review Paper</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<td>Grand total</td>
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**Schedule and Readings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Discussant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Ch. 1: Personality History, Symbiosis, and Structure</td>
<td>Webster</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept. 4</td>
<td>Ch. 4: The Big Five (and Sometimes Six)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Ch. 5: Five-Factor Theory</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>Ch. 10: Heredity and Behavioral Genetics</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>Ch. 12: Animal Personality</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>Ch. 14: Personality Development</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td>Ch. 16: The Self</td>
<td>Webster</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>Ch. 20: Attachment</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct. 23</td>
<td>Ch. 21: Personality and Culture</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>Ch. 22: Person–Situation Interactions</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>Ch. 26: Self-Determination Theory</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>Ch. 27: Creativity and Genius; <strong>Outline Due</strong></td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Nov. 20</td>
<td>No Class: Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>Ch. 30: Personality and Psychopathology</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td>Ch. 31: Personality and Health</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td><strong>Paper Due:</strong> E-mail paper to instructor by 9:30 a.m.</td>
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**Week 1 (8/28): Personality History, Symbiosis, and Structure**


**Week 2 (9/4): The Big Five (and Sometimes Six)**


**Week 3 (9/11): Five-Factor Theory**


Week 4 (9/18): Heredity and Behavioral Genetics


Week 5 (9/25): Animal Personality


Week 6 (10/2): Personality Development


**Week 7 (10/9): The Self**


**Week 8 (10/16): Attachment**


**Week 9 (10/23): Personality and Culture**


**Week 10 (10/30): Person–Situation Interactions**


Week 11 (11/6): Self-Determination Theory


Week 12 (11/13): Creativity and Genius


Week 14 (11/27): Personality and Psychopathology


**Week 15 (12/4): Personality and Health**

