

School of Health & Social Sciences

PSY 335: Psychology of Personality

3 Credits

Effective Date (01/01/2025)

*Access to the Internet is required.
All written assignments must be in Microsoft-Word-compatible formats.
See the library's APA Style Guide tutorial for a list of APA resources.*

Faculty & Contact Information

Primary Faculty: [Name, Highest Degree, & Registration]
Email: [CityU Email Address]

Secondary Faculty: [Name, Highest Degree, & Registration]
Email: [CityU Email Address]

Course Description

This course introduces the major theories of personality, which serve as a foundation for much research and practice in psychology. It explores key topics regarding the definition and development of personality, individual and cultural variations in personality, and the practical application of personality research findings.

Course Resources

Allen, B. P. (2005). *Personality theories: Development, growth, and diversity* (5th ed.). Taylor & Francis Group. (9780205439126). **Required.**

Course Outcomes

This course will prepare students to:

CO 1: Examine depth-oriented perspectives on personality (Depth Perspectives on Personality Paper).

CO 2: Analyze personality development across the lifespan (The Evolution of Personality Paper).

CO 3: Examine the evolutionary context of personality (The Evolving Self Presentation/Project).

CO 4: Critique cultural differences in personality traits (The Evolving Self Presentation/Project).

Course Assignments and Grading

The grades earned for the course will be derived using CityU's decimal grading system, based on the following:

Overview of Required Assignments	% of Final Grade
Depth Perspectives on Personality Paper	30%
The Evolution of Personality Paper	30%
The Evolving Self Presentation/Project	40%
Total	100%

Course Assignment Details

Depth Perspectives on Personality Paper

Students will write a research paper on one of the following topics: 1) *Defense Mechanisms*, investigating the effects of repression, denial, and projection, etc. on psychological health; 2)

Individuation, exploring individuation in Jungian psychology and its role in achieving personal wholeness; 3) *The Inferiority Complex*, examining the development of the inferiority complex in early childhood and its influence on self-esteem; or 4) an instructor-approved topic.

The paper should be 6 to 8 pages in length, double-spaced, and incorporate at least 4 to 5 academic sources. Two or more of these sources will be peer-reviewed articles from the past five years. All citations and references should adhere to APA format. Students must cite the sources of all ideas, facts, and information used that are not their own, even if they have paraphrased the content. Failure to do so is a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy even if the oversight is unintentional.

Grading Criteria	Grade %
Organization and Coherence	20 %
Evidence and Support	30 %
Analysis and use of Course Concepts	30 %
APA	20 %
Total	100 %

The Evolution of Personality Paper

Students will write a research paper on one of the following topics: 1) *Operant Conditioning and Personality Development*, investigating how operant conditioning influences personality through the reinforcement of behaviours in early childhood; 2) *Self-actualization in the Context of Personality*, examining how the drive toward self-actualization influences the development of personality traits; 3) *Stability and Change in Personality Traits Across the Lifespan*, exploring how personality traits change or remain stable throughout different stages of life; or 4) an instructor-approved topic.

The paper should be 6 to 8 pages in length, double-spaced, and incorporate at least 4 to 5 academic sources. Two or more of these sources will be peer-reviewed articles from the past five years. All citations and references should adhere to APA format. Students must cite the sources of all ideas, facts, and information used that are not their own, even if they have paraphrased the content. Failure to do so is a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy even if the oversight is unintentional.

Grading Criteria	Grade %
Organization and Coherence	20 %
Evidence and Support	30 %
Analysis and use of Course Concepts	30 %
APA	20 %
Total	100 %

The Evolving Self Presentation/Project

Working in small groups, students will research one of the following topics: 1) *Self-efficacy and Personality*, exploring how an individual's belief in their own abilities shapes their personality; 2) *Evolutionary Psychology and Personality Traits*, analyzing how personality traits may have evolved to enhance survival and reproduction; 3) *Cultural Differences and the Big Five*,

examining how the Big Five personality traits manifest differently across cultures; or 4) an instructor-approved topic.

Students are encouraged to immerse themselves deeply in this research, exploring a range of presentation modalities including PowerPoint slides, spoken word poetry, dramatic skits, animation, monologues, videos, storytelling, music, dance, improv, collage, scrapbooking, storyboarding, sculpture, quilting, papier-mâché, mandalas, painting, drawing, puppetry etc. A minimum of 5 academic or culturally appropriate sources should be used, 2 or more of which must be peer-reviewed articles from the past five years. An APA-formatted reference list should be submitted to the instructor as part of the assignment. Students may work on this project during class time at the instructor's discretion.

Grading Criteria	Grade %
Organization and Coherence	20 %
Evidence and Support	30 %
Analysis and use of Course Concepts	30 %
Presentation	20 %
Total	100 %

Course Policies

Late Assignments

Graduate students are expected to submit all assignments by the due dates stated in the syllabus. A late assignment is one that is submitted after the due date and time or after any extension has expired.

If circumstances prevent a student from meeting the due date, students should contact the instructor and request an extension at least 48 hours prior to the date the assignment is due. Emergency situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Being busy, pressured with outside work, or having competing academic commitments are not usually considered valid reasons to receive extensions.

A student who receives an extension in advance of the due date and abides by the agreement with the instructor is not subject to late penalties. The guideline for late penalties is a deduction of 1 percent per day from the overall grade for the first 10 days and 5 percent per day after 10 days. Instructors may vary these guidelines in response to the specific conditions and requirements of each course. In the absence of an alternative announced by the instructor, the default policy is the general guideline cited above. Assignments may be re-written only with the express consent of the Instructor and under exceptional circumstances.

Professional Writing

Assignments require error-free writing that uses standard English conventions and logical flow of organization to address topics clearly, completely, and concisely. CityU requires the use of APA style.

University Policies

Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to all of CityU's academic policies. The most current versions of these policies can be found in the [University Catalog](#) that is linked from the CityU Web site.

Non-Discrimination & Prohibition of Sexual Harassment

City University of Seattle, its staff and its faculty are deeply committed to supporting our students. We value equity, diversity, and inclusion as a way of life as well as for the educational opportunities it provides. CityU will not tolerate any form of discrimination based on race, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, socioeconomic status, or religious values. Any student who has experienced discrimination based on the above criteria is encouraged to report this to the University. Students may report an experience of discrimination to their course instructor. If they do not feel safe reporting to their instructor, students may report an experience of discrimination directly to the university Provost or the Vice President of Student Affairs.

CityU adheres to all federal, state, and local civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and education. The University is committed to ensuring that the education environment is bounded by standards of mutual respect and safety and is free from discriminatory practices.

In the U.S., the University is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that all of its education programs and activities do not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Sex include sex, sex stereotypes, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and pregnancy or parenting status. Sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking are forms of sex discrimination, which are prohibited under Title IX and by CityU policy. CityU also prohibits retaliation against any person opposing discrimination or participating in any discrimination investigation or complaint process internal or external to the institution. Questions regarding Title IX, including its application and/or concerns about noncompliance, should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator. For more information visit [Title IX Policy and Contact Information](#).

In Canada, in compliance with the British Columbia Human Rights Code, the Alberta Human Rights Act, WorksafeBC, and the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta, the University believes that its environment should at all times be supportive and respectful of the dignity and self-esteem of individuals. Discrimination, harassment and bullying conduct, whether through person-to-person behaviour or via electronic communications such as email or social media is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. As an educational institution, it is our responsibility to cultivate an environment of excellence, equity, mutual respect and to recognize the value and potential of every individual. The University will take all necessary steps to meet or exceed the requirements of the law to prevent discrimination, harassment and bullying. Information on the prevention of discrimination, harassment and bullying can be found at [Canada's Respectful Workplace Policy](#).

Religious Accommodations

CityU has a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The University's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available in the University Catalog and on the my.cityu.edu student portal. Accommodations must be requested by the 20% mark of this course (e.g. day 14 of a ten-week course, day 7 of a 5-week course) using the Religious Accommodations Request Form found on the student dashboard in the my.cityu.edu student portal.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity in students requires the pursuit of scholarly activity that is free from fraud, deception and unauthorized collaboration with other individuals. Students are responsible for understanding CityU's policy on academic integrity and adhering to its standards in meeting all course requirements. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Academic Integrity Policy*.

Attendance

Students taking courses in any format at the University are expected to be diligent in their studies and attend class regularly. Regular class attendance/contact is important in achieving learning outcomes in the course and correlates in many cases with participation. As such it may be a valid consideration in determining the final grade. At the beginning of each course, the instructor will inform students of the relevance of class attendance/contact to the final grade.

Attendance in this class is vital to learning the required course material and demonstrates professionalism and respect for fellow students and the instructor. All students are required to attend every class for the full duration of the class. Arriving late or leaving early will constitute an unexcused absence. It is expected that students who will not be attending or who will be arriving late notify the instructor before class starts.

Excused absences are limited to ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY. Absences related to illness may require verification from a medical doctor. All other absences will be considered unexcused.

In the event of inclement weather, students will be notified by a CityU representative and / or faculty of site closures. As student and faculty safety is a priority, students who feel that driving conditions are unsafe will be permitted an excused absence without penalty. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor before class starts that they will not be attending class due to inclement weather.

Students with more than 2 unexcused absences will be directed to meet with the local Program Director to discuss continued participation in the course. 3% of students' overall course grade will be deducted for each unexcused absence.

A complete copy of CityU's policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Attendance*.

Final Assignment Due Date

Final assignments for each class at CityU must be due on or before the final date of the course as indicated in the university's course information system. Due dates that extend beyond the final date of the course may negatively impact tuition funding for students.

Support Services

Disability Services Accommodations Statement

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Support Services at disability@cityu.edu or 206.239.4571 or visit [Academic Accommodation Services](#). Confidentiality will be observed in all

inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors.

Library Services

CityU librarians are available to help students find the resources and information they need to succeed in this course. Contact a CityU librarian through the [Ask a Librarian Services](#), or access library resources and services online 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Brainfuse Tutoring

All students receive free, unlimited tutoring through Brainfuse. To gain access, click on the **Help** button from within your Brightspace class and select the **Brainfuse** link. Resources include live tutoring, a Writing Lab, expert Q & A, and the ability to create flashcards, online quizzes/games, study groups, video notes, and record tutoring sessions.

PSY 335: Course Schedule

Modules	Topics	Readings
Module 1	Psychodynamic Theory	
Module 2	Analytical Psychology	
Module 3	Individual Psychology	
Module 4	Behaviourism	
Module 5	Humanistic Psychology	
Module 6	Trait Theory	
Module 7	Social-Cognitive Learning Theory	
Module 8	Biological Theories of Personality	
Module 9	Five-Factor Model	