

PSY259e Personality and Individual Differences

Level: 2

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY SEMESTER

E-Learning: BLENDED - Learning is done MAINLY online using interactive study materials in Canvas. Students receive guidance and support from online instructors via discussion forums and emails. This is supplemented with SOME face-to-face sessions. If the course has an exam component, this will be administered on-campus.

Synopsis:

This module surveys six different approaches to the psychology of personality: the psychoanalytic approach, the trait approach, the biological approach, the humanistic approach, the behavioral/social learning approach, and the cognitive approach. While the major theories of each approach will be covered in some details, the knowledge gained in this module ought to serve as a foundation for further study into the subject.

The learning journey will include pre-recorded lectures, interactive and instructive online resources, discussion forums and quizzes. These materials are designed to enhance one's understanding of the key theories covered in the module. It is also meant to stimulate thought and ability to apply newfound knowledge to real-life cases and ongoing research on personality.

Topics:

- SU1(1) – An Overview of Personality & Its Research Methods
- SU1(2) – The Psychoanalytic Approach: Freudian Theory
- SU1(3) – The Psychoanalytic Approach: Neo-Freudian Theory
- SU2(4) – The Trait Approach
- SU2(5) – The Biological Approach
- SU2(6) – The Humanistic Approach
- SU3(7) – The Behavioural/ Social Learning Approach
- SU3(8) – The Cognitive Approach

Textbooks:

Burger, J. M.: Personality (eText) (10th Edition). (2018). Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
ISBN-13: 9789814844970

Learning Outcome:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the six perspectives in personality psychology
- Discuss the major theories and relevant research findings.
- Compare the strengths and limitations of the major theories.
- Differentiate among the different perspectives and evaluate how key assumptions in each approach differentially account for individual differences.
- Examine how new insights gleaned from the various approaches contribute to an understanding of human behaviour and mental processes.
- Recognise the extent to which traditions and major theories in personality direct trends in current research.
- Apply theoretical concepts from personality to case studies.

Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

| Components | Description | Weightage Allocation (%) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Overall Continuous Assessment | PRE-CLASS QUIZ 1 | 5 |
| | PRE-CLASS QUIZ 2 | 5 |
| | TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1 | 20 |
| | GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1 | 20 |
| Overall Examinable Components | Written Exam | 50 |
| Total | | 100 |