

# PSYC 4010-E01 Theories of Psychology

Spring 2019 / Online

## General Information

Professor: John L. Roberts, Ph.D.

Office Hours: 9am-Noon Monday/Wednesday, and by appointment

Email: Please use the email interface on Course Den on all course related matters; however, if the request is urgent you may email me also at: jroberts@westga.edu

## Course description & Objectives

A comparative examination of several of the major theoretical perspectives alive in psychology today (psychodynamic, natural science, human science, transpersonal, and social-critical). These perspectives will be taken up as both providing comprehensive models for living as well as establishing divergent foundations for research and practice.

## Required Texts:

Readings as supplied by instructor on Course Den.

## Course Requirements:

Engagement: Because the course is offered online, it is up to you to make the most of the materials: PowerPoint lectures, readings, videos, etc.

Examinations: There will be *four (4) regular examinations*, to cover each section of course content over the term, and *one (1) comprehensive final exam*, totaling five (5) equally weighted exams. Exams will cover the reading assignments, lectures, videos, and discussion. Exams will likely be written, comprising short answer, long answer/short essay, and/or long essay questions. These will be made available at the end of every section. Exams may be turned in late with a 10% penalty; however, after the final deadline for all work no work will be accepted.

Book Review – Each student will complete a written seven to nine (7-9) page, including reference page (double-spaced, one (1) inch margin, APA style, etc.) book review (requirements/grading & possible books TBA), which will be due on April 25. The paper may be turned in late with a penalty of 10%; however, after the final deadline for all work no work will be accepted.

Extra Credit: *Up to 50 extra points* available for regular, consistent, and engaged participation on the Discussion Board on Course Den on issues that are substantive for course content (i.e., not administrative or procedural). To participate, students may engage in ongoing discussion or start their own threads. At the end of every section, the discussion forum for that section may close.

## Course Evaluation

Grading follows the academic catalog, with the following breakdown for emphasis:

Exams (5):	750 pts (150 pts each)
Book Review:	<u>250 pts</u>
Total	1000 pts

Extra Credit: Up to 50 pts (see above)

Final Grades:

A	900-1000 pts
B	800-899 pts
C	700-799 pts
D	600-699 pts
F	0-599 pts

## Course Expectations

### Course Expectations

**Preparation & Discussion:** This is an upper-level course. Please prepare by doing all the assigned work, taking time to reflect on what you have read or viewed. The discussion board will be open on Course Den for discussion of administrative details of assignments, due dates, etc. as well as the content of the course to further understanding. Participation in these forums is purely discretionary on your part but could give you valuable extra credit, and makes the course much more interesting.

**Academic Honesty:** Students are responsible for upholding the honor code as set forth in the University's Student Handbook. By submitting work for this course, students certify that it is their own individual effort. Students found cheating on any assignment will receive an "F" for the course.

**Disability:** If you have a registered disability that will require accommodation from me, please contact me at the beginning of the semester.

**Open Door & Grades:** I have an "open door" policy and encourage students to communicate their understanding of course content, as well as discuss direction of their academic interests, education/career, or other concerns they may have. Please do not ask for your grade at any point during the term. You are responsible for keeping track of your grades and estimating your performance.

Students should carefully review information here:

[http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)

It contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

### **Course Announcements, Assignments, & Readings**

Announcements concerning the course – including changes in readings, policies, instructions for papers, exam times/content, etc. – will occur via Course Den.

### **Online Delivery & Pacing**

Though this course is offered online, efforts will be made to mirror live delivery of material. Consequently, you will need to devote your efforts to addressing the materials for each section of content. Near the end of each section, material will become available for the next section. Exams will be made available for a period of time at the end of each section of instruction. Online instruction requires a much higher degree of discipline, self-reflection, and self-study because there will not be opportunity for live discussion and dialogue. Please submit online work in a Word or PDF format. Students are responsible for the successful uploading/submission of work to Course Den.

### **Online Technical Support**

For technical support for the online interface, please contact:

678-839-6248 or 1-855-933-UWGO (8946) or [online@westga.edu](mailto:online@westga.edu)

You may access live chat support directly from your Course Den course webpage.

## **Tentative Course Schedule & Assignments**

### ***Section 1(Jan 5 – Jan 31): Introduction & Psychodynamic Perspectives***

#### Introduction & History

PowerPoint: Theories of Psychology – Introduction & History

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: James Hillman on Archetypal Psychology

Video: Daniel Dennett on Consciousness and Free Will

Reading: “The Idea of Human Science,” Amedeo Giorgi

#### Classical Psychoanalysis & Theoretical Foundations

PowerPoint: Classical Psychoanalysis

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Freud Documentary

Reading: Preface & Chapter 1, from *Freud & Beyond*  
Reading: "On Dreams" (pp. 142-172), from *The Freud Reader*

#### Ego Psychology & Melanie Klein

PowerPoint: Ego Psychology  
PowerPoint: Kleinian Theory  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Century of the Self, Pt. 2, "The Engineering of Consent"  
Video: Melanie Klein  
Reading: Mitchell & Black, *Freud & Beyond*, Chapter 2 (pp. 23-38),  
Chapter 4 (pp. 85-102)

#### Object Relations & Kohut

PowerPoint: Object Relations  
PowerPoint: Kohut  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: from the film, *Mommie Dearest*  
Reading: Mitchell & Black, *Freud & Beyond*, Chapters 5 & 6

#### Jungian Psychology

PowerPoint: Jung  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: "I am your father!"  
Video: The Hero's Journey  
Video: Jung's Archetypes  
Video: Dean Radin on Synchronicity  
Video: Dodson on Zombies  
Reading: Jung, "The Basic Postulates of Analytical Psychology"

Exam 1 Available on January 26 and Due on February 1 at 11:59pm

### **Section 2 (Feb 1 – Feb 28): Natural Science Perspectives**

#### Behaviorism

PowerPoint: Behaviorism  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: "The Big Bang Theory" on Behaviorism  
Video: Operant Conditioning and Video Games  
Video: Applied Behavior Analysis & Autism  
Reading: Skinner, *About Behaviorism*, Chapters 4 & 12

#### Cognitive Psychology: Memory

PowerPoint: Cognitive Psychology  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Hubert Dreyfus on the AI Theory of Mind  
Video: Elizabeth Loftus on the Frailty of Memory

Video: PTSD & Exposure Therapy  
Video: PTSD & Cognitive Processing Therapy  
Video: PTSD & Modern Life  
Reading: from *The Story of Psychology* ("The Cognitivists"), Hunt, 511-532 (on memory).  
Reading: from Van der Kolk's *The Body Keeps the Score*, Chapters 4 & 11, 12

#### Cognitive Psychology: Consciousness

PowerPoint: Consciousness  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Daniel Dennett on the Illusion of Consciousness  
Video: Patricia Churchland on The Colbert Report  
Video: David Chalmers on Consciousness  
Video: Kenneth Ring on Near Death Experience  
Reading: Searle, *The Mystery of Consciousness*, Chapters 1 & 5

#### Evolutionary Psychology

PowerPoint: Evolutionary Psychology  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Steven Pinker on EP  
Video: Consumer Behavior and EP  
Video: Dawkins on Religion and EP  
Reading: Buss, from *The Evolution of Desire*, Chapters 2 & 3  
Reading: Hauser, from *Moral Minds*

Exam 2 Available on February 24 and Due on March 2 at 11:59pm

### ***Section 3 (Mar 1 - Mar 31): Human Science Perspectives - Existential-Phenomenological Psychology***

#### Existential-Phenomenological Psychology

PowerPoint: Existential-Phenomenological Psychology  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Dodson on Husserl  
Video: Dodson on Heidegger  
Video: BBC Documentary on Heidegger  
Reading: Spinelli, from *The Interpreted World*  
Reading: Steiner on Heidegger

#### Existential-Phenomenological Approaches to Therapy

PowerPoint: Existential-Phenomenological Psychology, Part II  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Victor Frankl on Finding Meaning in Difficult Times  
Video: Rollo May in Swedish Documentary  
Video: Yalom on Existential Therapy #1

Video: Yalom on Existential Therapy #2  
Video: R. D. Laing on Kingsley House & Mental Illness  
Video: Scene from R. D. Laing's *Asylum*  
Reading: Cooper, *Existential Therapies* (entire book)

Exam 3 Available on March 27 and Due on April 2 at 11:59pm

***Section 4 (Apr 1 – Apr 30): Human Science Perspectives – Transpersonal Psychology and Social Constructionist Approaches***

Transpersonal Psychology

PowerPoint: Transpersonal Psychology  
Mini-Lecture(s)  
Video: Wilber on Subject/Object  
Video: Wilber on Psychedelic Experience  
Reading: Wilber, *No Boundary*, Chapters 1 & 2  
Reading: Hart, "Inspiration as Transpersonal Knowing"  
Reading: Washburn, "Transpersonal Cognition in Developmental Perspective"

Social Constructionist Psychology

PowerPoint: Social Constructionism  
Mini-Lecture(s) / PowerPoint Audio  
Video: Ken Gergen on Social Construction  
Video: Stuart Hall – Race, the Floating Signifier  
Reading: Burr, from *Social Constructionism* ("The Role of Language in Social Constructionism," "What is Discourse," "Where do you get your Personality from?")  
Reading: Marecek & Hare-Mustin, "The Politics of Madness"

Exam 4 Available on April 23 and Due on April 29 at 11:59pm

Book Reviews due on April 25 at 11:59pm

Final Exam available on April 23 and Due on May 5 at 11:59pm

**ALL FINAL WORK (LATE EXAMS WITH PENALTY, LATE BOOK REVIEWS, & Honors Paper, if applicable) – DUE ON May 7 AT 11:59PM. NO WORK ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE.**

*Syllabus is subject to change at any time, like people.*