

PSYC 4010-E02 Theories of Psychology

Summer (June) 2020 / Online

General Information

Professor: John L. Roberts, Ph.D.

Office: Melson 203 (but I am out of town for the Summer)

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. An important emphasis will be appreciating the coherence of each perspective while also being able to move between them.

Required Texts:

Mick Cooper, *Existential Therapies*, SAGE, 1st Ed (2003) (provided)

Other readings as supplied by instructor on Course Den

Course Requirements:

Participation: Because the course is offered online, it is up to you to make the most of the materials: PowerPoint lectures, readings, videos, etc. Regular participation is required via weekly prompts on the Discussion Forums, which will require substantive and thoughtful address relevant to course material (in the form of original posts).

Examinations: There will be *three (3) regular examinations*, to cover each section of the short Summer term, and *two (2) comprehensive exams*, totaling five (5) equally weighted exams. Exams will cover the reading assignments, lectures, videos, and discussion. Regular exams will likely be comprised of multiple choice and short essay/long answer. One comprehensive exam will be in essay format, and the other comprehensive exam will be multiple choice. There is no possible make-up for exams but I will drop the lowest of the five (5) exam grades.

Extra Credit: *Up to 50 extra points* available for going “above and beyond” the regular participation on the Discussion Forum – engaging in conversation (replies/responses) with others in a way that is substantive, insightful, consistent, and related to the course material.

Course Evaluation

Grading follows the academic catalog, with the following breakdown:

Exams:	800 pts (Highest 4 of 5 @ 200 pts each)
	Exam 1 (Multiple Choice / Short Essay)
	Exam 2 (Multiple Choice /Short Essay)
	Exam 3 (Multiple Choice / Short Essay)
	Exam 4 (Comprehensive Multiple Choice)
	Exam 5 (Comprehensive Essay)

Participation: 200 pts

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

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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 Forums will be open on Course Den for discussion of administrative details of assignments, due dates, etc. as well for participation.

Academic Honesty: Students are responsible for upholding the honor code as set forth in the University's Student Handbook.

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: Though I am not on campus during the Summer session, 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

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 the week's readings. Exams will be made available during each section. 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 written 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

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

Course Schedule & Assignments

Section 1 (June 1 – June 7): 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 (School of Life)
Video: Freud Documentary
Reading: Preface & Chapter 1, from *Freud & Beyond*

Ego Psychology & Melanie Klein

PowerPoint: Ego Psychology
PowerPoint: Kleinian Theory
Mini-Lecture(s)
Video: Anna Freud (School of Life)
Video: Melanie Klein (School of Life)
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: Winnicott (School of Life)
Video: from the film, *Mommie Dearest*
Reading: Mitchell & Black, *Freud & Beyond*, Chapters 5 & 6

Jungian Psychology

PowerPoint: Jung
Mini-Lecture(s)
Video: The Hero's Journey
Video: The Hero's Journey: Star Wars, The Matrix, Hunger Games,
and Rango
Video: Dean Radin on Synchronicity
Video: Dodson on Zombies
Reading: Jung, "The Basic Postulates of Analytical Psychology"

Exam 1 Available on June 3 and Due on June 10 at 11:59pm

Section 2: (June 8 – June 14): Natural Science Perspectives

Behaviorism

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

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: Van der Kolk, *The Body Keeps the Score*, Chapter 11

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*, Chapter 1

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

Exam 2 Available on June 10 and Due on June 17 at 11:59pm

Section 3: (June 15 – June 21): Human Science Perspectives

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*

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: Dodson on Rollo May

Video: Yalom on Existential Therapy #1

Video: Yalom on Existential Therapy #1

Video: R. D. Laing on Kingsley House & Mental Illness
Reading: Cooper, *Existential Therapies* (entire book)

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

Social Constructionist Psychology

PowerPoint: Social Constructionism
Mini-Lecture(s)
Video: Ken Gergen on Social Construction
Video: Stuart Hall on "Race, the Floating Signifier"
Reading: Burr, from *Social Constructionism* ("What is Discourse,"
"Where do you get your Personality from?")

Exam 3 Available on June 15 and Due on June 25 at 11:59 pm

Exam 4 (comprehensive multiple choice) Available on June 15 and Due on June 25 at 11:59pm

Exam 5 (comprehensive essay) Available June 3 and Due on June 25 at 11:59pm

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