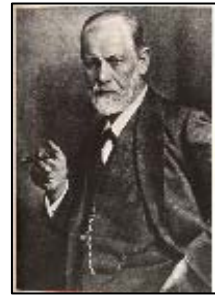




# Personality

## PSYU400



Northeastern University  
Spring 2005

420 Shillman Hall  
Mon, Wed, Thur 9:15-10:20

**Prof. Richard Gramzow**  
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**Office:** 207 Nightingale  
**Office hours:** Wed 10:30-11:30  
(or by appointment)

### Course Overview

This course focuses on the scientific exploration of human personality. Personality psychologists study the ways in which individuals differ from one another. They identify important personality dimensions (e.g., extraversion or achievement motivation), and they develop theories about why people differ on these dimensions. This course will cover a wide variety of theories, and will emphasize normal human personality, rather than abnormal behavior (which is the focus of the Abnormal Psychology course).

### Textbook

Carver, C. S., & Scheier, M. F. (2004). *Perspectives on personality* (5th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

The textbook is not required, but is highly recommended. Lectures contain information that is not in the text, but is relevant to the theoretical perspective being covered. Exams will be based exclusively on the lectures. Lecture slides will be posted on a regular basis on Blackboard (blackboard.neu.edu).

### Evaluation

Your final grade will be based on the average of two exams: one mid-term and the final. There will be two mid-terms during the semester, but I will drop the lower of your two mid-term exam scores. A by-product of this “two-out-of-three” policy is that I will not provide make-up exams. If you miss one of the mid-terms, your grade will be based on your performance on the other one (combined with the final exam). Note that **everyone must take the final exam**.

### Grading Scale

93-100 = A	87-89 = B+	77-79 = C+	67-69 = D+
90-92 = A-	83-86 = B	73-76 = C	60-66 = D
	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	< 60 = F

### Course Calendar

Day	Date	Topic	Reading
W	5 Jan	Introduction	Chapter 1
R	6 Jan	Introduction	
		<u>Dispositional Perspective</u>	
M	10 Jan	Personality Traits	Chapter 4
W	12 Jan	Needs and Motives	Chapter 5
R	13 Jan	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	17 Jan	No Class - MLK, Jr. Observance	

		<u>Research Methods</u>	
W	19 Jan	Research Design	Chapter 2
R	20 Jan	No Class - Professional Conference	
M	24 Jan	Data Analysis	
W	26 Jan	Reliability and Validity	Chapter 3
R	27 Jan	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
		<u>Biological Approach</u>	
M	31 Jan	Genetics and Evolution	Chapter 6
W	2 Feb	Psychobiology I	Chapter 7
R	3 Feb	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	7 Feb	Psychobiology II	Chapter 7
W	9 Feb	Review	
<b>R</b>	<b>10 Feb</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>Chapters 1-7</b>
		<u>Psychodynamic Approach</u>	
M	14 Feb	Structure and Process	Chapter 8
W	16 Feb	Anxiety and Defense	Chapter 9
R	17 Feb	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	21 Feb	No Class - Presidents' Day	
W	23 Feb	Ego Psychology	Chapter 10
R	24 Feb	Psychosocial Theories	Chapter 11
M	28 Feb	No Class - Spring Break	
W	2 Mar	No Class - Spring Break	
R	3 Mar	No Class - Spring Break	
		<u>Learning Approach</u>	
M	7 Mar	Classical Conditioning	Chapter 12
W	9 Mar	Instrumental Conditioning	Chapter 12
R	10 Mar	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	14 Mar	Social-Cognitive Learning I	Chapter 13
W	16 Mar	Review	
<b>R</b>	<b>17 Mar</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>Chapters 8-13</b>
		<u>Phenomenological Approach</u>	
M	21 Mar	Phenomenology	Chapter 14
W	23 Mar	Personal Constructs	Chapter 15
R	24 Mar	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	28 Mar	Social Cognition I	Chapter 16
W	30 Mar	Social Cognition II	Chapter 16
R	31 Mar	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	4 Apr	Self-Regulation I	Chapter 17
W	6 Apr	Self-Regulation II	Chapter 17
R	7 Apr	<i>Practical Exercise</i>	
M	11 Apr	Integration	Chapter 18
W	13 Apr	Review	
<b>W</b>	<b>20 April</b>	<b>1:00 - Final Exam - Cumulative</b>	<b>Chapters 1-18</b>