

## Personality 3280.03

Dalhousie University: Fall 2023

**Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.**

### COURSE OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce you to major contemporary theories of personality. In addition to describing each theoretical orientation, we will also critically evaluate them with reference to the relevant research literature, and discuss important conceptual issues and controversies. There will be some overlap between the material presented in the text and in the lectures. However, there will also be a lot of unique material presented only in the lectures. It is thus strongly recommended that you attend every lecture. It is also suggested that you complete the assigned readings before attending lectures.

### COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Simon B. Sherry, Ph.D., Registered Psychologist
Office Hours:	by appointment
Contact Information:	simon.sherry@dal.ca
Lecture Times and Location:	Wednesday and Friday: 10:05 am to 11:25 am (LSC-COMMON AREA C242)
Teaching Assistant:	Mr. Andy Kim, Ph.D. Student in Clinical Psychology
Office Hours:	by appointment
Contact Information:	andy.kim@dal.ca

### How to reach your instructor:

If the required contact is very minimal, email exchanges may suffice. Otherwise, I welcome you to attend my office hours. To assist me in providing you with a helpful response to your emails, all your emails should include your name, your B00 number, and your course information (Personality 3280.03). I also welcome you to speak with me after class.

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Larsen, R. J., Buss, D. M., King, D., & Ensley, E. (2020). *Personality psychology: Domains of knowledge about human nature* (2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Purchase your required textbook here: <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/s-sherry-fall-2023>

## CLASS FORMAT AND EVALUATION

The course will consist of lectures, assigned readings, and three tests. For the tests, you will be responsible for all material covered in the lectures as well as all the assigned readings up to the point of the test. To ensure your success in the course, you are encouraged to complete the assigned readings, attend lectures, ask questions, and participate in the class discussion.

<b>Evaluation:</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Value</b>
Test 1:	Sept. 29	30%
Test 2:	Oct. 27	30%
Test 3:	TBD	40%

- Test 1 is based on Chapters 1, 3, 5, and 2; Lecture 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7
- Test 2 is based on Chapters 15 and 8; Lecture 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14
- Test 3 is based on Chapters 19, 18, and 14; Lecture 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23

The above course requirements and weights are final and will not be adjusted. Final marks are final and will not be adjusted to “boost” students into the next letter grade. Partial final percentage points will be rounded up when .500 or greater; partial final percentage points will be rounded down when .499 or less. To illustrate, a score of 89.499 will be rounded down and then assigned a grade of "A," whereas a score of 89.500 will be rounded up and then assigned a grade of "A+."

Requests for special consideration should be directed to the course instructor, not the teaching assistant. Exceptions may be made in extenuating circumstances provided the student presents legitimate and documented reasons for failing to complete stated course requirements.

## TESTS

All tests will be multiple-choice in format. You are required to write all tests on the scheduled dates. Tests will not be returned to students; however, you can view your tests during office hours. Cheating will not be tolerated; please see the note on the avoidance of academic offences near the end of this syllabus.

A general rule of thumb for what might be on a test is this: Anything presented in lectures or in readings may be on the test. The more it was discussed in class, or the more prominent it was in the readings, the more likely it is to appear on the test.

## LECTURE SCHEDULE

<b>Date (Lecture Type)</b>	<b>General Topics</b>	<b>Assigned Readings</b>	<b>Relevant Lectures</b>
Sept. 6 (in-person)	introduction to personality	chapter 1	lecture 1
Sept. 8 (in-person)	traits and trait taxonomies	chapter 3	lecture 2
Sept. 13 (in-person)	traits and trait taxonomies	none	lecture 3
Sept. 15 (in-person)	stability	chapter 5	lecture 4
Sept. 20 (in-person)	behaviorism	none	lecture 5
Sept. 22 (in-person)	behaviorism	none	lecture 6
Sept. 27 (in-person)	research design	chapter 2	lecture 7
<b>test on Sept. 29 (in-person)</b>			
Oct. 4 (in-person)	personality and social interaction	chapter 15	lecture 8
Oct. 6 (in-person)	Machiavellianism and narcissism	none	lecture 9
Oct. 11 (in-person)	Machiavellianism and narcissism	none	lecture 10
Oct. 13 <i>(online)</i>	antisocial personality disorder	none	lecture 11
Oct. 18 (in-person)	borderline personality disorder	none	lecture 12
Oct. 20 (in-person)	evolutionary perspectives	chapter 8	lecture 13
Oct. 25 (in-person)	evolutionary perspectives	none	lecture 14
<b>test on Oct. 27 (in-person)</b>			
Nov. 1 (in-person)	personality disorders	chapter 19	lecture 15
Nov. 3 (in-person)	perfectionism	none	lecture 16
Nov. 8 (in-person)	perfectionism	none	lecture 17
Nov. 10 <i>(online)</i>	dependency	none	lecture 18
Nov. 22 (in-person)	career development	none	lecture 19
Nov. 24 (in-person)	stress, coping, adjustment, and health	chapter 18	lecture 20
Nov. 29 (in-person)	somatic complaints	none	lecture 21
Dec. 1 (in-person)	the self	chapter 14	lecture 22
Dec. 6 (in-person)	self-esteem	none	lecture 23

*Note. Some dates and some topics may change.*

Conversion of numerical grades to final letter grades follows the Dalhousie University common grade scale:

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D	(50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F	(<50)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)		

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, with its embodied values, is seen as a foundation of Dalhousie University. It is the responsibility of all students to be familiar with behaviours and practices associated with academic integrity. Instructors are required to forward any suspected cases of plagiarism or other forms of academic cheating to the Academic Integrity Officer for their Faculty.

The Academic Integrity website ([https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html)) provides students and faculty with information on plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, and has resources to help students succeed honestly. The full text of Dalhousie's Policy on Intellectual Honesty and Faculty Discipline Procedures is available here:

[http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html)

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence could include refusal of a passing grade in the test, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the university, or expulsion from the university.

All students registered in courses at Dalhousie University are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Dalhousie University's policies and procedures regarding academic offenses. If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance.

## POLICY REGARDING RESCHEDULING

Students are entitled to a rescheduling of tests for legitimate reasons. Special test times may be granted on religious, medical, or compassionate grounds with supporting documentation provided *before the test date*. However, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor **prior** to the test date, to arrange a timely makeup, and to provide acceptable documentation.

If you believe that you have a problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. In general, retroactive requests for rescheduling of tests will not be considered.

## **PREPARING FOR AND WRITING MULTIPLE-CHOICE TESTS**

1. Keep up with your reading. You will find it difficult to cram all the reading in the week (or the night!) before the test, and will likely remember the information better if you study it repeatedly over time.
2. Review your lecture notes each week between classes. This will help to consolidate what you learned and will give you an opportunity to notice points or ideas that you do not fully understand. In reviewing your notes while the material is still fresh in your mind, you might also notice errors made when note-taking.

## **ACCOMMODATION POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian Human Rights legislation. The full text of Dalhousie's Student Accommodation Policy can be accessed here:

[https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/accessibility.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html)

Students who require accommodation for classroom participation or the writing of tests should make their request to the Accessibility Centre prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. More information and the request for accommodation form are available at [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/accessibility.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html)

## Student Resources and Support

### Advising

**General Advising:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html)

**Science Program Advisors:** <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/academic-advising.html>

**Indigenous Student Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)

**Black Students Advising Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/black-student-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html)

**International Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/international-centre/current-students.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre/current-students.html)

### Academic supports

**Library:** <https://libraries.dal.ca/>

**Writing Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html)

**Studying for Success:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html)

**Copyright Office:** <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

**Fair Dealing Guidelines** <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/fair-dealing.html>

### Other supports and services

**Student Health & Wellness Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html)

**Student Advocacy:** <https://dsu.ca/dsas>

**Ombudsperson:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html)

### Safety

**Biosafety:** <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

**Chemical Safety:** <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>

**Radiation Safety:** <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>

**Scent-Free Program:** <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

**Dalhousie COVID-19 information and updates:** <https://www.dal.ca/covid-19-information-and-updates.html>

## University Policies and Statements

**This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and by Senate**

### Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

**Information:** [https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html)

### Accessibility

The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (Canada and Nova Scotia).

**Information:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/accessibility.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html)

### Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.

**Code:** [https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html)

### Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness

**Statement:** <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

### Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre (1321 Edward St) ([elders@dal.ca](mailto:elders@dal.ca)).

**Information:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)

**Important Dates** in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)

[https://www.dal.ca/academics/important\\_dates.html](https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html)

### University Grading Practices

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html)