

“The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.”

Course	PERSONALITY THEORIES COUN 0674 1S
Date, Time, and Delivery Format	JANUARY 13 – APRIL 11, 2025 WEDNESDAYS 2:15 – 5:05PM SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE
Instructor	DR. HELEN NOH, Ph.D Email: hnoh@tyndale.ca
Class Information	The classes will be livestreamed on Wednesdays from 2:15-5:05 PM. Students may participate in live-streamed/in-person office hours as posted below. Office Hours: By appointment.
Course Material	Access course material at classes.tyndale.ca or other services at Tyndale One . Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Overview of major personality theories with regard to their development, philosophical assumptions, theoretical concepts and their clinical implications in work with individuals, couples and families. Students are encouraged to develop a reflective and critically interactive perspective to facilitate their therapeutic work.

Prerequisite: COUN majors only or by permission of program coordinator.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify, describe, and apply the major theories of personality, including Psychoanalytic, Psychosocial, Trait, Humanistic, Cognitive, Behavioral, and Social Learning approaches

- Examine the philosophical assumptions, historical and cultural factors that underlie the development of each personality theory
- Analyze, compare, and utilize the major personality theories to assess case studies of personality disorders
- Develop a deeper self-understanding of their own personality and personality development
- Integrate personality theories with a Christian framework of personhood
- Apply personality theories to the field of counselling and psychotherapy

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED READING

Carver, C.S. & Scheier, M. F. (2017). *Perspectives on personality (8th ed.)*. Boston, MA: Pearson; ISBN: 9780134415376 [*NOTE: Pearson eText for *Perspectives on personality* – Instant Access, 8th Edition also available; ISBN: 9780137524938]

B. SUPPLEMENTARY / RECOMMENDED READING AND TOOLS

Ashcraft, D. (2015). *Personality theories workbook, 6th ed.* Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thompson. (5th Edition AVAILABLE ON RESERVE AT THE LIBRARY)

Tyndale recommends www.stepbible.org – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other [online resources for Biblical Studies](#).

C. INTERACTIVE LIVESTREAM AND/OR HYBRID COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Livestream attendance for the entire duration of the class at announced times
- Headphones (preferred), built-in microphone, and web-camera
- Well-lit and quiet room
- Stable high-speed internet connection, preferably using an Ethernet cable over Wi-Fi
- Full name displayed on Zoom and Microsoft Teams for attendance purposes*
- A commitment to having the camera on to foster community building*

*exceptions with permission from professor

D. GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTIONS

Tyndale University prides itself in being a trans-denominational community. We anticipate our students to have varied viewpoints which will enrich the discussions in our learning community.

Therefore, we ask our students to be charitable and respectful in their interactions with each other, and to remain focused on the topic of discussion, out of respect to others who have committed to being a part of this learning community. Please refer to “Guidelines for Interactions” on your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca.

E. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. Case Study - 15% of final grade; DUE FEB 12

This assignment comes from the Personality Theories Workbook (recommended text, also found on reserve at the library). Students will be assigned a case study in which they will be required to apply the material from the textbook and lectures to demonstrate the ability to apply the theories of personality to a particular individual. The case study assignment must be typed, double-spaced, using 12-point font, and approximately 5-6 pages in length (excluding cover and reference pages). More details on the assignment will be handed out in class.

2. Midterm Examination – 30% of final grade; DUE MAR 5

Students will be given a midterm examination covering material from lectures and textbook. The test will be in various formats, including short answer and essay type questions, to assess the student’s ability to define, describe, compare, contrast, and apply the different personality theories and concepts. The exam will be 30% of final grade

3. Personality Disorder Research Paper & Presentation – 40% of final grade; Paper DUE MAR 26

Students will select a Personality Disorder as found in the DSM5-TR and write a 10–12-page paper that integrates lecture and textbook materials with current research on the symptoms, etiology, development, and treatment for counseling. Paper is worth 35% of final grade.

A three-page summary of your research will be presented to the class in a conference style setting (during one of the three final weeks of the semester). More details of the paper and the presentation will be given in class. **The presentation is worth 5% of final grade. DUE: TBD**

4. Personality and the Counselor – 15% of final grade; DUE APR 9

This assignment is a 6–8 page paper (typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, APA style). Each student will write a paper about his/her own personality and personality development, using the various theories discussed in class. **This assignment can be counted toward your SEUS hours.** In this paper, the following areas are to be addressed:

- a. Beginning with the Trait-Dispositional perspective of personality (Temperament, 16PF, Five Factor), identify and describe your **significant** personality traits, including any **Personality Signatures**.

- b. Drawing upon the various theories of personality (as covered in the text and lectures; **please ensure that at least 2 are from the theories covered AFTER midterm exam**), you will provide a critical analysis of how you understand these to integrate and apply to your own personality development (specific concepts, constructs, and principles from these theories must be critically applied to your own personality). Include tangible examples of how your personality is evidenced in your patterns of thinking, feeling, behaving, relating. Include a reflection on how your Christian faith and identity also integrates with your personality and spiritual formation.
- c. Discuss how your personality will influence and shape your role as a counselor. Include any strengths, limitations, biases, challenges, potential issues of countertransference that may be experienced in the counseling relationship.

F. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must contact the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to register and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. *Current students* must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

G. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Case Study	15%
Midterm Examination	30%
Personality Disorders Paper and Presentation	40%
Personality and the Counsellor Paper	15%
Total Grade	100 %

H. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Your work should demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Reports of psychological research should follow the rules set forth in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th ed.* (2020).
- All parts of the report are typed double-spaced, and without justifying the right hand margin. Use a 12 point font (“Times New Roman” or “Courier” is preferred).
- apastyle.apa.org is a helpful web site for all questions regarding APA style or consult APA [citation tip sheet](#) by Centre for Academic Excellence.

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism (including improper use of artificial intelligence programs). Tyndale University takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty. Please refer to the [Academic Integrity website](#) for further details.

Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#). Citation and other [tip sheets](#).

Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Dean's Office (aa@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

I. COURSE EVALUATION

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

DATE	CHP.	PERSONALITY THEORY	ASSIGNMENTS
Jan 15	1-3	INTRO TO PERSONALITY THEORIES Psychological Foundations of personality Theological framework of personality	
Jan 22	4	TRAIT PERSPECTIVE Types & Trait Theories Interactionism and Personality	
Jan 29	6	GENETIC PERSPECTIVES Temperament Cortical Arousal Theory	
Feb 5	7	BIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES Gray's Reinforcement Theory Environmental Influences on Biology	
Feb 12	5	MOTIVE/NEEDS PERSPECTIVE Horney Theory Murray's Theory	CASE STUDY DUE (11:55pm)
Feb 19	READING WEEK: NO CLASS		
Feb 26	8	PSYCHODYNAMIC PERSPECTIVE Freud's Psychoanalytic Theory Defense Mechanisms	
Mar 5	MIDTERM EXAM		MIDTERM EXAM Chps 1, 4-8 and Lecture Material
Mar 12	9	PSYCHOSOCIAL PERSPECTIVES Attachment Theory Erikson's Lifespan Theory	
Mar 19	10	LEARNING PERSPECTIVE Behavioral Theories	

Mar 26	12-13	COGNITIVE PERSPECTIVES Contemporary Cognitive Perspectives	PERSONALITY DISORDERS PAPERS DUE (11:55pm) PD Presentations
Apr 2	11	PHENOMENOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE Carl Roger's Self Theory	PD Presentations
Apr 9	14	NARRATIVE & SPIRITUAL IDENTITY Life Stories and Personality	FINAL PAPER DUE (11:55pm) PD Presentations

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

([Tyndale Library](#) supports this course with [e-journals](#), [e-books](#), and the [mail delivery of books](#) and circulating materials. See the [Library FAQ page](#).)

Cervone, D., & Pervin, L. A. (2022). *Personality: Theory and Research* (15th ed.). Wiley.

Cloninger, S.C. (2019). *Theories of personality: Understanding persons* (7th ed.). Sage.

Feldmeier, Peter. (2007). *The developing Christian*. Paulist Press.

Feist, G. Roberts, T. & Feist, J. (2021). *Theories of Personality* (10th ed.). McGraw Hill.

Fowler, J.W. (1995). *Stages of faith*. San Francisco: Harper & Row.

Friedman, H.S., & Schustack, M.W. (2016). *Personality: Classic theories and modern research* 6th ed.). Pearson

Gayle, G. (2001). *The growth of the person*. Belleville, ON: Essence.

Hergenhahn, B.R., Olson, M.H., & Cramer, K. (2010). *An introduction to theories of personality* (8th ed.). Toronto, ON: Prentice Hall.

McAdams, D. P. & Dunlop, W. L. (2022). *The Person: A new introduction to Personality Psychology* (6th ed.). Wiley.

Mischel, W., Shoda, Y., & Ayduk, O. (2008). *Introduction to personality: Toward an integrative science of the person* (8th ed.). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Montgomery, D. (2013). *God and your personality*. Boston: St. Paul Brooks & Media.

Schultz, D., & Schultz, S. E. (2024). *Theories of personality*, 12th ed. Cengage