

Common Course Outline
Psy 217
Theories of Personality
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Theories of Personality

Introduces major personality theories, their historical and social origins, and their contributions to psychotherapy; investigates Psychoanalysis, Neo-Freudian, Humanistic, Behavioral, Transactional Analysis, Gestalt, Radical Psychology, Cognitive, and other contemporary theories; explores the role of culture in personality development.

Prerequisite: PSYC 101

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of historical and current views of human personality
2. Critically assess current personality theories
3. Demonstrate a knowledge of current findings and the latest research related to understandings of personality development
4. Assess current views of personality in contrast to classical theories
5. Critically analyze the research methodology used to demonstrate the validity of classical and modern approaches to personality
6. Explain the relationship between personality theories and observable behavior
7. Apply knowledge of personality development and traits to current practical issues such as neurosis, authoritarianism, bigotry etc.
8. Give examples of the impact of culture on personality development

Major Topics

1. Introduction to personality - definition and history
2. Strategies for studying personality characteristics
3. Trait and type theory
4. Cognitive theories
5. Motivation theories
6. Learning theories
7. Psychoanalytic and psychodynamic theories
8. Experimental studies of personality characteristics

9. Contemporary approaches to personality problems
10. Application to current issues

Course Requirements

Evaluation and student feedback in this course will combine several of the following formats:

1. Tests/Quizzes
2. Research papers
3. Oral presentations
4. Cooperative learning group assignments
5. Analysis of case studies
6. Classroom participation
7. Service learning

Other Course Information

This course is a elective course within the psychology department, and recommended for students in the transfer program

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