

**PSYC9405 Theories of Personality Development**  
**Ph.D. Seminar**  
**Spring Semester, 2005-2006**  
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**Mission Statement:**

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**Core Values:**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary highlights five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. While all five core values are emphasized, the primary focus for the 2005-2006 academic year is Mission Focus.

**Seminar Description:**

Students engage in an intensive study of the major theories of personality development. The work of theorists in numerous schools of psychology is explored and systematized. Students must demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the work of the major personality theorists and be able to apply this knowledge to assessment and treatment of individuals, couples, and families. Students will build on a theological foundation of human personality by addressing various personality theoretical orientations to include: biological, behavioral, psychoanalytic, phenomenological, and cognitive.

**Objectives:**

Seminar participants will be able to:

1. Identify and relate the five major theoretical orientations which seek to describe personality development;
2. Identify the major contributions of selected theories within these five major theoretical orientations to contemporary understanding of personality development;
3. View personality development within a broader systems context;
4. Gain an understanding of how the developmental experiences of the theorists influenced the formation of their personality models; and
5. Relate theorists and theories to ministry by integrating concepts that are compatible with a biblical view of people into their knowledge of human development.

**Required Textbooks:**

Adler, A. (1977). *The Individual Psychology of Alfred Adler*. HarperCollins Publishers.

Allport, G. W. (1976). *Becoming: Basic Considerations for a Psychology of Personality*. Yale University Press.

Bandura, A. (1977). *Social Learning Theory*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc.

Beck, J. R. (1999). *Jesus & Personality Theory: Exploring the Five-Factor Model*. Intersarsity Press.

Erikson, E. (1963). *Childhood and Society*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company

Freud, S. (1966). *Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Hergenhahn, B.R., & Olson, M. H. (2002). *An Introduction to Theories of Personality* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Prentice Hall.

Horney, K. (1945). *Our Inner Conflicts: A Constructive Theory of Neurosis*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Jung, C. G. (1961). *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*. New York: Random House.

Maslow, A. H. (1970). *Motivation and Personality* (3d ed.). HarperCollins Publishers.

May, R. (1974). *Man's Search for Himself*. Dell Publishing.

Roberts, R. C., & Talbot, M. R. (Eds.). (1997). *Limning the Psyche: Explorations in Christian Psychology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Rogers, C. R. (1961). *On Becoming a Person*. Houghton Mifflin Company.

Shields, H., & Bredfeldt, G. (2001). *Caring for Souls: Counseling Under the Authority of Scripture*. Moody Press.

Skinner, B.F. (1974). *About Behaviorism*. New York: Random House.

Sullivan, Harry Stack (1953). *The Interpersonal Theory of Psychiatry*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

**Seminar Requirements and Grading:**

Presentation (Report on selected theorists) .....	25%
Research Paper .....	25%
Weekly Non-Presenter Contributions .....	25%
Final Examination (Written and Oral) (Four Hours).....	25%
Total	100%

Presentation:

Students will report on their selected theorist during the first 60-75 minutes on the seminar period. The remainder of the presentation should allow time for questions from fellow seminar participants. Presentations will be graded on how well a student does the following:

1. Articulates an overview of the personality theory;
2. Extricates information on developmental experiences and social forces that may have influenced theory development;
3. Highlights both perceived strengths and weaknesses of the selected model;
4. Demonstrates a familiarity with the material (including outside sources on the topic to enrich the learning experience for fellow students);
5. Fields questions from fellow students;
6. Relates unique contributions of the theorist to contemporary understandings of personality development and the counseling ministry at large.

Students are expected to do more than simply read PowerPoint slides or handouts. While these are both encouraged as part of the presentation, the student is expected to facilitate a dynamic learning environment. Any significant failure to give attention to these areas will result in a reduction in the credit given for the presentation.

### Research Paper:

Papers are due the seminar period two weeks prior to the final exam. All late papers will be penalized a letter grade per day. Quality research papers are expected, and a close adherence to APA style is required. Students should consider all of the relevant literature pertinent to the subject of investigation. Careful attention should be given to selecting a topic that can be adequately addressed within 30-40 pages. Be diligent to avoid the common error of selecting a topic which is too broad. (A good question to ask is, "Could this topic be the subject of a book?" If so, it is too broad.) Additionally, these are research papers and **not** simply reviews of literature. You are looking to comment on something unique about your subject matter. Some examples of acceptable topics include: "A Comparison of the Significance Attributed to Sexuality in the Theories of Sigmund Freud and Erik Erikson," "Selected Parallel Religious Themes in the Writings of Rollo May and Abraham Maslow," "Selected Defense Mechanisms and Their Biblical Parallels," and "Contrasts Between the Views of Human Nature Held By Freud and Allport." Every effort should be made to select a topic by 2-3 weeks into the seminar in order to allow time to properly develop and complete your research. Papers will be scored according to the following grading criteria: APA Style (10%), Grammar, Style, Form, Spelling (10%), Unique, Researchable and Relevant Topic (10%), Content (70%).

### Weekly Non-Presenter Contributions:

At each meeting students will submit five typed questions which they would like to pose to the presenter from the reading material covered since the last meeting. Fellow participants may wish to ask for elaboration, clarification, opinions, evaluations, or ask the presenter to debate authors on perceived inconsistencies or shortcomings in the material they present. Additionally, students are encouraged to engage in lively debate regarding the presentation itself and should be prepared to answer any questions related to the previous week's reading posed by the instructor. Non-presenters will be graded according to the originality/relevance of their questions and their ability to demonstrate familiarity with the theories being presented. A student's overall level of participation and engagement in group discussions is included in the grading process. Videos on selected theorists are required viewing prior to the seminar for which it is assigned.

## SEMINAR AGENDA

\* Indicates two books due for the week

### I. Personality Theory: An Overview in Context

**Week 1**            *Limning the Psyche*            Presenter: **Class**

**Week 2\***            *Caring for Souls*  
                          *Jesus and Personality Theory*            Presenter: **Class**

**Week 3**            *An Introduction to Theories of Personality*    Presenter: **Class**

### II. Selected Personality Theorists:

#### Psychoanalytic (Freudian)

**Week 4**            *Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis*    Presenter:  
(Video)

#### Psychoanalytic (Neo-Freudian)

**Week 5**            *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*            Presenter:  
(Video)

**Week 6**            *Childhood and Society*                        Presenter:  
(Video)

**Week 7**            *Our Inner Conflicts*                            Presenter:

**Week 8\***            *The Interpersonal Theory of Psychiatry*      Presenter:

#### Biological (Trait)

*Becoming*                                        Presenter:

#### Behavioral

**Week 9**            *About Behaviorism*                            Presenter:  
(Video)

**Week 10**           *Social Learning Theory*                        Presenter:

#### Cognitive

**Week 11**           *The Individual Psychology of Alfred Adler*    Presenter:

**Phenomenological/Humanistic/Existential**

<b>Week 12</b> (Video)	<i>On Becoming a Person</i>	Presenter:
<b>Week 13</b>	<i>Motivation and Personality</i>	Presenter:
<b>Week 14</b>	<i>Man's Search for Himself</i>	Presenter:
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	