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Independent Study and Mentorship 3B

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Research Assessment #5 - Personality

Topic: Personality

Date: 12/08/17

Citations:

"Personality." *The Gale Encyclopedia of Psychology*, edited by Jacqueline L. Longe, 3rd ed., vol. 2, Gale, 2016, pp. 870-873. *Health & Wellness Resource Center*, link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/CX3631000580/HWRC?u=j043905010&sid=HWRC&xid=33c3d78b. Accessed 29 Nov. 2017.

Gilchriest, Nancy C. "Personality and learning style connections." *Academic Exchange Quarterly*, Summer 2005, p. 220+. *Academic OneFile*, link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A136071109/AONE?u=j043905010&sid=AONE&xid=688d5a36. Accessed 3 Dec. 2017.

Assessment:

My topic for my original work this year involves the relationship between personality and academic performance. I know a bit about personality from my psychology class last year, but in order for me to gain a strong foundational knowledge of personality and learning for my project, I decided to further research these topics.

First, I decided to look into the general concept of personality in order to gain some background and foundational knowledge. The first article I read was called "Personality". This article went into detail about not only the APA definition of personality, but also described several different theories of personality that have been developed by famous psychologists in the past. Some of these theories include the type theory, trait theory, psychodynamic theory, phenomenological theory, and the behavioral theory. Each theory describes an explanation behind how personality develops and why it is different in every person. Based on what I have learned from class and my research, I tend mostly support the behavioral theory (which encompasses social learning). Although all of the aforementioned theories have been researched and tested extensively, in my opinion, the behavioral theory just seems more plausible than the others. People tend to mimic and conform to the actions and thoughts of the people around them, so it makes sense that this would influence their personality.

That article also served as a reminder that I need to review the personality theories that were mentioned. The article gave a brief description, but in order to really gain a better understanding of personality, I am going to need to do some more extensive reading. Due to the fact that my original work topic involves learning and cognition in adolescents and adults, I would also like to look into some of the development theories such as those developed by Piaget

and Erikson. As a person develops, their cognition and mental processes change and mature. This explains why small children and adults think and behave differently.

After reading about what personality is, I decided to do some research about personality and its connection to learning. I found an article that described the relationship between personality and learning styles. This article, titled “Personality and Learning Style Connections”, described the setup and results of a study conducted about the correlation between personality and preferred styles of learning. Although the topic of this article is similar to my original work topic, the article describes the effect of personality on learning styles, whereas my original work is about the effect of personality on academic performance. This article was very valuable to my research, as it confirmed that there was a correlation between learning styles and personality. This article also gave me some ideas about the topics that I will need to look into. According to the article, I will need to look into not only the different personality theories, but also the stages of development and types of personality and learning assessments. The study discussed in the article found that there was a correlation between personality and learning styles. Due to this connection, I am hopeful about the results that my original work will yield.

This article also talked about the results of the study done using the Myers-Briggs test. Originally, I was hesitant to use the Myers-Briggs assessment due to the many different personality types. However, after reading about how this study was conducted, I think the Myers-Briggs could actually be a really helpful and reliable source for data. By grouping certain personality characteristics (NT, SJ, etc.), it limits the number of variables while providing a more accurate analysis of personality and the effect on learning. This is similar to the advice I have been given in my informational interviews, so I am really considering using the Myers-Briggs

test when I am collecting data. If I am to use this assessment, I will need to do some reading and research about the different personality types and groupings used in the Myers-Briggs test.

The information I have gained from this assessment will be very useful to my original work. Although I learned a lot from this research, I still have so many questions about personality. I know that I will need to review the different personality theories and stages of cognitive development in detail. Next, I plan to look into learning and how the brain processes information.

Annotations:

<http://scribe.com/s/49I0C>

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