



Class Title: Orange Cinema & Psychology Analysis

Subjects Covered: Psychology / Applied Science

Teacher Name: Marie Jones

Class Day: Monday

Class Size: 15

Overall Class Cost: \$50

Individual Student Supply Fee: \$0

Class Fee: \$96

Ages or color group served: Orange

What level is this class: Level 3

Prerequisites: Students should be able to do the following:

Read fluently with good pacing and expression.
Understands main ideas, inferences, and complex vocabulary
Can summarize and analyze text independently
Need to know how to write
Higher intensity, higher requirements
Kids need to know how to read and write well

Graduation Requirements: HCU attendance policy plus all assignments completed including final.

Homework Requirements: Homework requires approximately 2.5 hours weekly for the film and written case notes.

Class Description:

In Cinema & Psychology Analysis, students will study psychology foundations and use age-appropriate movies as behavioral case studies. They will examine portrayals of emotions, anxiety, personality, motivation, memory, family dynamics, identity, social pressure, coping, relationships, and personal growth.

Students will watch the assigned movie at home and write from the perspective of a counselor-in-training or behavioral science consultant. Analyses will identify observable behavior, emotions, possible motivations, environmental influences, relationship patterns, coping strategies, and evidence from specific scenes.

Class discussions will encourage respectful disagreement because viewers may interpret the same character differently.

The course distinguishes personality traits from personality disorders and emphasizes that fictional characters are not confirmed diagnoses. Students will not diagnose themselves, classmates, or real people.

Assessment includes vocabulary quizzes, weekly analyses, discussion participation, and a final film analysis presentation.

Skills Children Will Develop

- Applying foundational psychology vocabulary

- Distinguishing observation, interpretation, and diagnosis
- Supporting conclusions with evidence from film scenes
- Analyzing emotions, behavior, motivation, and relationships
- Discussing, writing, and presenting evidence-based behavioral analyses

Week 1:

Psychology, Cinema, and Ethical Analysis

Focus: Psychology foundations, observable behavior, evidence, interpretation, and ethical limits

Activity: Practice separating what a character does from assumptions about why; introduce the weekly case-note format

Skills: Behavior, cognition, emotion, observation, interpretation, evidence, and ethics

Talk About: Homework Film: Inside Out, with behavioral case notes on emotion, memory, and adjustment

Week 2:

Emotions, Memory, and Adjustment

Focus: How emotions influence attention, memory, choices, and adaptation to change

Activity: Discuss Inside Out using scene evidence and complete a short vocabulary quiz

Skills: Emotion regulation, core memory, cognition, adjustment, coping, and perspective

Talk About: Homework Film: Inside Out 2, with analysis of anxiety, identity, and sense of self

Week 3:

Anxiety and the Developing Self

Focus: Helpful versus overwhelming anxiety, prediction, control, avoidance, and self-concept

Activity: Hold a case conference on Inside Out 2 and compare different interpretations of Anxiety's behavior

Skills: Anxiety, stress response, avoidance, coping, self-concept, and emotional regulation

Talk About: Homework Film: Finding Nemo, with analysis of grief, fear, protection, and independence

Week 4:

Grief, Fear, and Overprotection

Focus: How loss and fear may influence parenting, risk-taking, independence, and relationships

Activity: Analyze Marlin and Nemo from multiple perspectives and complete an evidence chart

Skills: Grief, hypervigilance, attachment, autonomy, resilience, and protective behavior

Talk About: Homework Film: Winnie the Pooh, with case notes on personality traits, habits, worry, and friendship

Week 5:

Personality Traits vs. Personality Disorders

Focus: Patterns of thoughts and behavior, individual differences, and why diagnosis requires qualified professionals

Activity: Compare characters in Winnie the Pooh without assigning diagnoses; identify strengths, challenges, and context

Skills: Trait, temperament, pattern, impairment, diagnosis, personality disorder, and context

Talk About: Homework Film: Encanto, with analysis of family roles, expectations, and coping

Week 6:

Family Systems and Hidden Pressure

Focus: Family roles, rules, expectations, communication, intergenerational patterns, and belonging

Activity: Map the Madrigal family system and discuss how each student may interpret the same character differently

Skills: Family system, role, boundary, expectation, communication, intergenerational pattern, and belonging

Talk About: Homework Film: Turning Red, with analysis of development, identity, emotion, and family conflict

Week 7:

Development, Identity, and Emotion Regulation

Focus: Adolescent development, independence, cultural and family expectations, and managing intense emotions

Activity: Analyze Mei's choices and relationships using developmental and environmental evidence

Skills: Development, identity, autonomy, regulation, conflict, social support, and environment

Talk About: Homework Film: Zootopia, with analysis of bias, stereotypes, conformity, and social behavior

Week 8:

Social Psychology, Bias, and Stereotypes

Focus: How groups, labels, expectations, fear, and social systems influence behavior

Activity: Examine Zootopia's characters and institutions through a social psychology lens; complete a vocabulary quiz

Skills: Bias, stereotype, prejudice, conformity, in-group, out-group, and social influence

Talk About: Homework Film: Luca, with analysis of belonging, fear, secrecy, friendship, and acceptance

Week 9:

Belonging, Friendship, and Fear

Focus: Acceptance, identity concealment, peer relationships, trust, and courage

Activity: Compare how Luca, Alberto, and Giulia respond to fear, rejection, and belonging

Skills: Belonging, acceptance, trust, concealment, rejection, peer influence, and courage

Talk About: Homework Film: Akeelah and the Bee, with analysis of motivation, self-efficacy, pressure, and support

Week 10:

Motivation, Confidence, and Performance Anxiety

Focus: Internal and external motivation, self-efficacy, practice, mentorship, and pressure

Activity: Create a motivation map for Akeelah and evaluate the influences that shape her choices

Skills: Motivation, intrinsic, extrinsic, self-efficacy, mentor, performance anxiety, and growth mindset

Talk About: Homework Film: Wonder, with analysis of empathy, perspective, bullying, resilience, and community

Week 11:

Empathy and Perspective-Taking

Focus: How perspective, social experiences, support, and resilience shape behavior

Activity: Analyze the same events in Wonder from multiple characters' viewpoints and begin final case presentations

Skills: Empathy, perspective-taking, bullying, resilience, protective factor, social support, and advocacy

Talk About: Homework: Watch an approved student-selected film and complete the final written behavioral analysis

Week 12:

Final Behavioral Case Conference

Focus: Synthesis, evidence-based interpretation, professional communication, and reflection

Activity: Present final movie case analyses, compare interpretations, and complete the cumulative vocabulary quiz

Skills: Case formulation, evidence, context, alternative explanation, recommendation, and reflection

Talk About: Students explain what they observed, how they interpreted it, what evidence supports their view, and what supportive response they would recommend