

## **Personality Traits as Predictor of Self-esteem of University Students: Moderating Role of Openness to Experience**

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The present study was aimed at investigating relationship among Big five Personality traits and self-esteem of university students. In addition, gender differences were also focus of interest. The sample of the study was conveniently drawn and it comprised of 240 students (120 men and 120 women) from different departments of University of Sargodha. Big Five Personality Trait Scale (John & Srivastava, 1999) and Self-esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965) were used in the study. Correlation matrix demonstrated that extroversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, openness to experience was positively related. Whereas as, these variables were negatively related with neuroticism. Regression analysis revealed that extroversion, neuroticism and openness to experience were significant predictors of self-esteem. Furthermore, t-test revealed significant gender differences in self-esteem and neuroticism. Moderation analysis was also performed revealing openness to experience as moderator between neuroticism and self-esteem. Implications of the study and suggestions for future research have also been discussed.

*Keywords.* Extroversion, neuroticism, agreeableness, openness to experience, conscientiousness, self esteem