

Course Outline

Psychology C14 H3 *Cross-Cultural Psychology*

Fall 2006: September 11 -December 4, 2006

Lectures location and time: University of Toronto (Scarborough Campus)
Room: SW 143
Day: Thursday; Time: 9-11 am
<http://www.scar.utoronto.ca/courses/calendar/Psychology.html>

TA: Steven Valderrama
Email: steven.valderrama@utoronto.ca
Office hours and location: TBA

Course Director: Gabriela Ilie, Ph.D.
Contact: ghusain@psych.utoronto.ca
<http://psych.utoronto.ca/~ghusain/>
Office hours and location: Thursdays 11:30-1:30 pm
Office: SW 638.

Link to (updated weekly): [Lecture Notes and other course announcements \(double click here to sign on UTSC intranet\)](#)

EMAIL:

For security purposes, and time considerations, student emails will be answered if and only if the subject line contains your name, student number, and course number. Please be advised that email attachments from students will not be opened for security reasons.

Course Description:

This course introduces the student to the world of culture and psychology. The population and cultural make up of our society has changed vastly over the past years. Along with this change comes the need to understand the role of culture in shaping mental processes and human behavior.

Attendance and Participation:

Because the lectures will cover material that is not contained in the readings, class attendance is absolutely essential. Repeated late arrivals to class, or talking while the instructor or other students are speaking, are disrespectful to the instructor and other class members. Please be punctual and do not talk in class while others are speaking.

Cell Phones:

Please respect others in the class by turning off all cell phones and pagers before entering the auditorium.

Special Needs:

If you have a disability or other special needs, please notify me and the Dean's Office during the first week of the semester, and I will do my best to accommodate them.

Course Evaluation:

2 Classroom quizzes (October 19 readings 1-4; November 23 5-7): 8% each

Midterm test (TBA): 42%

Final exam(TBA): 42%

Classroom quizzes are based exclusively on article readings (required readings) material and not the text or lecture material. Each quiz test will consist on 4 short answer questions. Each quiz takes 20 minutes (5 minutes per question).

Midterm and final exams include materials from lectures, required text and readings.

Each exams consists of 50 multiple choice (MC) questions. The exams cover as representatively as possible the contents of lectures, the assigned readings, and the assigned readings in the textbook (you should not assume that the material covered in lectures is more important than that covered in the textbook -- the textbook actually contains more information than lectures, a fact that will be reflected in exams). The exams are not cumulative. The names of specific researchers are not of critical importance since questions will provide sufficient information for the identification of research. You must, however, familiarize yourself with the names of important theorists.

General Advice: Cross cultural psychology is deceptively simple. Because the phenomena covered in this course often seem familiar, it is all too easy to assume that intuition is a good guide to the material. This feeling has lulled many students into a false sense of security as they entered exams in this course. The "Just use your common sense" prescription doesn't work very well when it comes to knowing the contents of a complex scientific enterprise. Bear in mind that the course is not only about understanding cross-cultural human behaviour, but also about learning how the science of Cross cultural psychology yields such understanding. You would be asking your common sense too much if you expect it to tell you not only if people who are in love are happier, but also how this has been demonstrated scientifically.

Also beware of the false sense of security that comes from your understanding of the material covered in lectures. By necessity the scope of this material is quite limited, especially when compared to coverage in the textbook. The phenomena of Cross cultural psychology often have substantial dramatic impact, and this can cause you to forget your role of budding scientific critic. Don't let the first exam act as your reminder. Pay attention to all details of the course and read the textbook very carefully.

Exam and tests penalties: Students who miss the mid-term, or quizzes must notify the instructor within 24 hours of the test date. Make up exams/ quizzes will be allowed, only, and only if a UofT medical certificate will be provided and the information can be verified with the medical professional who issued the

note. No other circumstances will be considered for requests to write a make up exam.

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Required text and readings

1. *Culture and Psychology* by David Matsumoto & Linda Juang. *Third Edition, Thompson & Wadsworth (2004)*.
2. Required readings as posted on the intranet.

Outline of topics to be covered

<u>Week - date</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Chapters</u>
1 September 14	Introduction	
2 September 21	An Introduction to the Study of Culture and Psychology	1
	Cross-cultural Research methods	2
3 September 28	Ethnocentrism, Prejudice, Stereotypes	3
4 October 5	Culture and Basic Psychological Processes	4
5 October 12	Enculturation	5
6 October 19	Culture and Developmental Processes	6
7 October 26	Culture and Gender	7
8 November 2	Culture and Emotion	9
9 November 9	Culture language and communication	10
10 November 16	Culture Self, and Personality	11
11 November 23	Culture and Abnormal Psychology	12
12 November 30	Culture and Social Behavior	14
<u>MID-TERM EXAM</u>		<u>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.</u>
<u>FINAL EXAM</u>		<u>7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14.</u>