

PSYC14 – Cross-Cultural Psychology

Course Syllabus Fall 2012

Instructors:

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Teaching Assistants:			
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Overview:

This course explores the intersection between psychology and culture. It will establish a foundation by describing universal psychological processes that define all cultures. Cultural specificity will also be considered by emphasizing the role that learning shapes our modes of being in the world. Key topics that will be considered in a cross-cultural context in this course include language and development; cognition, emotion and health of the body; social and personality psychology; and abnormal psychology.

Objectives:

By the end of this course you should be able to:

- Define *culture* and exemplify this concept through the use of examples.

- Compare and contrast research methods that might be used to complete a cross-cultural study.

- Explain how enculturation, socialization and cultural learning may occur via parenting, peer contact, education, and religion.

- Compare and contrast theories of attachment and cognitive development as they pertain to culture.

- Identify cognitive and emotional processes that are universal cross-culturally and distinguish them from ones that differ cross-culturally.

- Identify cultural influences on physical and mental health.

- Summarize the sides of the debate related to personality models and culture.

- Distinguish between different cultural definitions of the self, the in-group, and the out-group.

Class Dates:

Thursdays, September 13, 2012 – November 29, 2012, 2 – 4pm, Room SY110

Required Readings:

Textbook: Matsumoto & Juang's **5th Edition** of *Culture & Psychology*.

Other Resources:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and AccessAbility Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. Contact: 416-287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca

Evaluation:

Your final course grade will be based on a midterm test and final examination, each worth 50%. These tests will be comprised mainly of multiple choice questions, as well as several short answer questions.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<u>http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm</u>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences.

Potential offences include but are not limited to: ON TESTS AND EXAMS: Using or possessing unauthorized aids. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test. Misrepresenting your identity. IN ACADEMIC WORK: Falsifying institutional documents or grades. Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~stuaff/student_policies.html).

Date	Lecture	Readings
September 13	Lecture 1: Introduction and Overview of Fundamental Concepts Related to Culture. (Diane & Michelle).	Chapter 1
September 20	Lecture 2: Research Methods. (Diane).	Chapter 2
September 27	Lecture 3: Enculturation and Development. (Diane).	Chapters 3 & 4
October 4	Lecture 4: Culture and Cognition. (Michelle).	Chapter 5
October 11	Lecture 5: Culture, Health and Emotions. (Michelle).	Chapters 7 & 8
October 18	In-class midterm test.	
October 25	Lecture 6: Culture and Social Processes. (Diane).	Chapters 13 & 14
November 1	Lecture 7: Culture and Organizations. (Michelle).	Chapter 15
November 8	Lecture 8: Culture, Language and Communication. (Michelle).	Chapter 9
November 15	Lecture 9: Culture and Personality. (Michelle).	Chapter 10
November 22	Lecture 10: Culture and Gender. (Diane).	Chapter 6
November 29	Lecture 11: Culture and Abnormal Psychology. (Diane).	Chapter 11 & 12

Lecture and Reading Schedule: