

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of culture and its significance for the study of psychological process.
2. Describe and evaluate the range of research methods used in cultural psychology.
3. Analyse and evaluate research articles in the fields of cultural and cross-cultural psychology.
4. Describe and evaluate the impact of cultural variation across a wide range of psychological fields including self and personality, motivation, morality, emotions, reasoning, communication, mental health, interpersonal attraction and groups.
5. Critically evaluate claims about the universality and cultural variability of psychological processes.
6. Demonstrate an ability to write a clear and well reasoned academic paper that draws effectively on research evidence in the field of cultural psychology.
7. Analyse and evaluate the effect of cultural change and cultural transition on psychological processes.
8. Demonstrate an ability to apply knowledge from cultural psychology to a contemporary topic in multicultural societies.

N: Course Content:

1. **Culture and Human Nature**
The nature of culture and cultural learning
Psychological universals and variability
The origin and significance of cultural psychology
2. **Cultural Evolution**
The origin of cultural variation
Cultural change
Cultural persistence
3. **Research Methods in Cultural Psychology**
Meaningful comparisons and cultural measures
Cross cultural research design
Specific research approaches in cultural psychology
4. **Development and Socialization**
The development of culturally variable minds
The cultural variation of childhood experience
Developmental transitions.
Socialization through education
5. **Self and Personality**
Culture and the self concept
Gender and culture
Implicit theories of self
Personality and the five factor model
6. **Motivation**
Motivations for self esteem and self enhancement
Motivations for face
Religion and achievement motivation
Agency and control
Motivations for conformity

7. **Morality, Religion and Justice**
Ethnocentrism and cultural variability
Ethics of autonomy, community and divinity
Emotions and moral violations
The morality of thoughts
Culture and distributive justice
8. **Emotions**
Theories of emotions
Emotional display and recognition
Emotion and language
Cultural variations in kinds of emotional experience
Cultural variations in well-being and happiness
9. **Cognition and Perception**
Analytic and holistic thinking
Attention and attribution
Styles of reasoning
Cognitive dissonance
Language and thought
10. **Mental and Physical Health**
Universal mental disorders
Culture-bound mental disorders
Culture, physical health and psychological variables
Cultural attitudes towards health, illness and mental disorder
11. **Interpersonal Attraction, Close Relationships and Groups**
Universality and variation in types of relationship
Bases of interpersonal attraction
Friends and enemies
Love
Ingroups, outgroups and workgroups
Bases of group identification
12. **Living in Multicultural Worlds I**
Issues in studying acculturation
Moving to a new culture
Multicultural people
13. **Living in Multicultural Worlds II**
Special topics
Cultural psychology and contemporary issues in multicultural worlds.

O: Methods of Instruction

The primary methods of instruction will be the lecture and seminar, but the course may involve various other methods of instruction such as small group activities, discussion groups, oral presentations, video tapes, guest lectures and supplementary online discussions.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

Texts will be updated periodically. A typical example of a text is:

Heine, S. J. (2008). *Cultural Psychology* (1st ed.). New York, N.Y: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Q: Means of Assessment

The course evaluation will be based on the course objectives and in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester.

An example of a possible evaluation scheme would be:

Evaluation of Research Article	15%
Mid Term Paper	20%
Seminar Presentation and Response	10%
Term Paper	35%
Final exam	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): Dr. Graham Rodwell

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director

Registrar