

Psychology 307

Cultural Psychology

Section 004, 2020, Winter

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Introduction

This course will explore how culture influences human thought. The relations between culture and psychology are both complex and profound. We'll be considering a number of difficult questions including: What is human nature? How do culture and self make each other up? What methodologies can we use to study culture in psychology? How do various ways of thinking differ across cultures? What happens when different cultures collide? How do cultures change or persist over time? The goals of the course are to introduce you to the field of cultural psychology, stimulate critical thinking and analytic skills generally, and help you think about your own psychological experiences from a cultural perspective.

To access course information and lecture slides, visit www.canvas.ubc.ca and enter your CWL and password. The slides should be available by around noon each day of class.

Text

Heine, S. J. (2020). *Cultural Psychology* (4th edition). New York: W. W. Norton.

(Note that there are many used copies of the 3rd edition around, however, it overlaps only about 80% with the 4th edition. You'll be tested on the material from the 4th edition).

Sequence of Topics

Each topic corresponds to a chapter in the textbook, which will be covered in the same order as the Table of Contents. These dates provide a rough guide, and they might be adjusted slightly if needed.

January 6	Overview of the Course and Expectations
January 8-10	Chapter 1: A Psychology for a Cultural Species
January 10-13	Chapter 2: Culture and Human Nature
January 15-20	Chapter 3: Cultural Evolution
January 22-24	Chapter 4: Research Methods
January 27-31	Chapter 5: Development and Socialization
January 31-February 5	Chapter 6: Self and Personality

February 5-10	Chapter 7: Living in Multicultural Worlds
February 10-14	Chapter 8: Motivation
February 17-21	Reading Break, No Classes
February 24	*****Midterm 1*****
February 26 – March 6	Chapter 9: Cognition and Perception
February 28	INSTRUCTOR IS AWAY – CLASS CANCELLED
March 9-13	Chapter 10: Emotions
March 13-18	Chapter 11: Attraction and Relationships
March 20-25	Chapter 12: Morality and Religion
March 23	*****Short Paper is Due*****
March 27-30	Chapter 13: Physical Health
April 1-3	Chapter 14: Mental Health
April 6-8	Chapter 15: Organizations, Leadership, and Justice
In exam week, as scheduled by the Registrar	*****FINAL EXAM*****

Assignments

Exams.

There will be two exams (a midterm and a final) in this course. The exams will test your understanding and mastery over the material covered in the readings and lectures. The midterm and final will both consist of multiple choice questions. The final is NOT cumulative and will only cover material since the midterm.

Short Paper

You will need to think about a cultural difference or potential cultural difference you are curious about. Consider this difference. Explain to the reader what this difference is. Explain to the reader why you think this difference should exist, and why it is theoretically interesting. And then tell the reader about a study that would examine this difference in a compelling and interesting way. You'll get bonus marks if your study is an experiment in which some variable is manipulated. You do NOT need to actually conduct the study. You only need to outline it in enough detail so that you can show the reader that the study should convincingly demonstrate what you want to show. Note: you should have at least 2 references other than the textbook. But this paper is not a report of other people's research (you will read enough of that for class). Rather this is a paper describing a phenomenon you want to examine, describing why this phenomenon is theoretically interesting, and then describing a compelling way that your idea can be tested.

You will be required to submit your short paper in electronic form to a service called TurnItIn. UBC subscribes to this service that checks written material for originality. This service is in increasing use in universities as protection for students against the impact of academic fraud on scholarship competitions, graduate and law school admissions, and degree reputation. Students will submit their short papers to the TurnItIn website, where software scans the paper against a database which includes

public websites, paper writing services, essays submitted to TurnItIn, and journal articles. The service then produces a report on the paper's originality. The instructor will review the reports, and where necessary, the papers themselves. Students are required to hand in one copy of their paper and submit the paper electronically to TurnItIn on the due date. Papers are considered late if they are not submitted to the instructor by the end of the class on the due date and if the same paper is not submitted to TurnItIn by the due date. See below section on Academic Dishonesty. You'll receive more information about the paper and using TurnItIn later in class.

Your short paper should be 4 pages, double spaced, with 12 point font and one inch margins, plus title page and references).

Class Participation as measured by Top Hat

You will receive participation marks for answering questions on an interactive system we will be using called Top Hat (tophat.com). Whenever you answer a Top Hat question or comprehension check, you will receive a point towards your participation grade. These questions will be distributed randomly across different lectures throughout the course, so to earn full points you'll need to attend class regularly. Of course, sometimes there will be issues such as you being ill and not being able to make it to class, or sometimes you might have technical problems with Top Hat. To address these, I will allow each student to miss up to 20% of participation opportunities, and still be able to earn full participation marks. So please don't contact me to ask about being excused from class, or about having technical problems with Top Hat – that's why I'm allowing you each to miss up to 20% of participation opportunities. Your participation grade will be calculated by summing up all of your Top Hat responses and dividing this number by the total number of response opportunities that were available to the class, less the 20% (with a maximum of 10 participation marks to be earned towards your grade). If you do have a technical problem with Top Hat, please contact Arts IT support at: arts.helpdesk@ubc.ca.

Top Hat will keep track of participation and also enable real-time in-class engagement. Please do the following:

1. You can connect with Top Hat using any device with wifi (e.g., laptop, tablet, mobile phone). Go to <https://tophat.com/>. Login if you have an existing account or Sign-up > Student sign-up
2. Follow the prompts. When you see the join code field, enter **838306**
3. Create your account. **MAKE SURE THAT YOUR NAME AND STUDENT NUMBER MATCHES YOUR RECORD ON CANVAS.** The password for the course is culture-004.

The breakdown for your grade will be as follows:

Evaluation	Date	Percent of Final Grade
Midterm Exam	February 24	30%
Short Paper	March 23	20%
Participation	Randomly throughout term	10%
Final Exam	As scheduled by the registrar	40%

Extra Credits

Because students get very little hands on learning in these large lecture classes I am encouraging students to participate in any studies that are being conducted in the Psychology Department. You can receive up to **three extra credits** for your grade by participating in experiments offered in the Psychology Department. The department grants these extra credits at a rate of one per hour of experimental participation. Each credit is worth one percent towards your final grade. You can sign up for studies by visiting <https://ubc-psych.sona-systems.com/>. If you prefer, you can earn these same extra credits by completing a library-writing project, in which you read and summarize a peer-reviewed research article. See <http://psych.ubc.ca/internal/human-subject-pool/> for more information about the extra credit options.

Departmental Policy on Distributions of Grades in all Psychology Classes

All psychology courses are required to meet the grade distributions as described below. This is done in order to “maintain equality among sections and conformity to University, Faculty and Department norms”. Thus scaling of grades may take place for any assignment in which the class average is either below 66% (in which case points will be added to bring the class average up to 66%) or above 70% (in which case points will be subtracted to bring the class average down to 70%). You will be notified if any scaling has taken place whenever you receive a grade for an assignment. If any scaling does occur in the class it will not impact your extra credits –extra credits that are earned through study participation will be added to your grades AFTER the scaling.

Psyc 300 and 400-level courses

Class Performance	Mean	Standard Deviation
Good class	70	13
Average class	68	13
Weak class	66	13

University Values and Policies

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious and cultural observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available at <https://senate.ubc.ca/policies-resources-support-student-success>

UBC students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre will be provided with accommodations. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date. Details of the policies and how to access support are available at <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,329,0,0>

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examinations remain the property of the university.

If you miss marked coursework (assignment, exam, participation in class) and are an Arts student, review the Faculty of Arts' academic concession page and then complete Arts Academic Advising's online academic concession form, so that an advisor can evaluate your concession case. If you are a student in a different Faculty, please consult your Faculty's webpage on academic concession, and then contact me where appropriate.

Psychology Department's Position on Academic Misconduct

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns of the University, and the Department of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. In the first place, the Department has implemented software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. In addition, your assigned short paper will be uploaded on to Turn-It-In to ensure that there is no material copied into it from anything else on the web.

In all cases of suspected academic misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. According to the University Act (section 61), the President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to a student's transcript.

All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by you. If you have any questions as to whether or not what you are doing is even a borderline case of academic misconduct, please consult your instructor. For details on pertinent University policies and procedures, please see Chapter 5 in the UBC Calendar (<http://students.ubc.ca/calendar>) and read the University's Policy 69 (available at www.universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/policy69.html).