CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Cultural Psychology	307 99C	3

PREREQUISITES

Either (a) PSYC 100 or (b) two of PSYC 101, PSYC 102, PSYC 205, PSYC 207, PSYC 208, PSYC 216, PSYC 217. (Strongly recommended: PSYC 102 and PSYC 216 or 217.)

CONTACTS

Course Instructor	Contact Details	Office Location	Office Hours
Dr. Jason Martens	martensj@psych.ubc.ca	N/A	Email for online appointment
Primary TA: Takara Bond	takara.bond@alumni.ubc.ca	N/A	Email for online appointment

COURSE INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

Hi everyone. Welcome to the course! Here is a little bit about me: I have a PhD in social/personality psychology from UBC, but I've done quite a bit of cultural research. Some of my cultural research includes assessing how farming practices influence cognition in Crete, Greece; whether our tendency to copy those who display nonverbal pride is a human universal (including testing a small-scale society in Fiji); and how culture influences science skepticism around the world.

OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

You have one TA, Takara. She is your primary contact for the course. You can still contact your instructor, but most questions should go to your TA first.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is entirely online. There are no face-to-face meetings. Independent learning is necessary to succeed, but topics will be supplemented with online resources. Be sure to check the guides on Canvas for instructions on how to succeed in the course.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

Besides the items in **bold**, the schedule is recommended to help you keep up with the course. You have a bit of freedom on when you complete certain tasks (e.g., when you read the chapters). The bold items are subject to change, but every effort will be made to stick to the schedule. However, unforeseen circumstances might warrant a change (e.g., serious IT issues at UBC, illness, pandemic, etc.), but any change will be communicated to you through Canvas or your university email.

Weeks	Module	Topics/Notes	Readings
January 11-27	1 - Where Does Culture Come From, Why Does it Matter, and How Can We Study it?	Week's Topics: Introduction; Culture and human nature; Cultural evolution; **Exam 1 on Module 1 (chapters 1-3 and associated resources, completed on Canvas—view details on Canvas)**	Chapters 1, 2, 3
Ends February 12	2 - How Does Culture Come to Shape People?	Week's Topics: Methods; Development and socialization; Self and personality; **Exam 2 on Module 2 (chapters 4-6 and associated resources, completed on Canvas—view details on Canvas)**	Chapters 4, 5, 6
Ends March 9	3 - Multicultural Societies and How Culture Influences What we Want and Feel	Week's Topics: Living in multicultural worlds; Motivation; Emotions; **Exam 3 on Module 3 (chapters 7, 8, 10 and associated resources, completed on Canvas—view details on Canvas); NO CLASS FEBRUARY 15-19 (family day and reading break)**	Chapters 7, 8, 10
Ends March 25	4 - How Culture Shapes How we Think, Value, and Have Relationships	Week's Topics: Cognition and perception; Attraction and relationships; Morality and religion; **Exam 4 on Module 4 (chapters 9, 11, and 12 and associated resources, completed on Canvas—view details on Canvas)**	Chapters 9, 11, 12

| Ends April 14 | 5 – Culture in Our Health and Work | Week's Topics: Physical health; Mental health; Organizations, leadership and justice; **Last day to submit the Poster Project is April 14**, which is last day of class; **NO CLASS APRIL 2 (good Friday) and 5 (Easter Monday)** | Chapters 13, 14, 15 |
| Final Exam Period: April 18-29 | | **There is NO final exam for this course** | |

LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will explore how culture influences human psychology. 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 values from a cultural perspective.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Without regular meetings to prime you when tasks are to be completed, it is your responsibility to keep up with the content of the class. You should go on Canvas and check your UBC email regularly to ensure you do not miss important information. Being active in discussions will contribute to your knowledge retention.

LEARNING MATERIALS

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

Previous editions do not contain the same material, so they are not recommended. The 4th edition is the latest edition and reorganizes content and adds a new chapter, so it is rather different from previous versions. The textbook can be purchased at the UBC bookstore. It might be available through other third party dealers. Feel free to use alternative formats (e.g., e-texts, used texts, etc.).

Canvas will be used heavily. Your exams will all be completed on Canvas, and this is the primary means of communicating with you and distributing other resources. You must have access to Canvas (e.g., computer and internet access) to complete this course.

ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

4 Module exams worth 19% each, 76% total, will occur after each of the first 4 modules. There is no module exam for the last module. The exams are multiple choice and completed on Canvas. 4 cultural interviews worth 1% each, 4% total, will occur after each of the first 4 modules. The mini poster

project is worth 20% and can be submitted at any time, but must be submitted before the end of the course (the official last day of class) and include content from each module.

Late exams/assignments will receive 10% penalty per day (including weekends). An assessment cannot be more than 1 day late. Excused missed exams/assignments will either be omitted (with other content re-weighted) or done at another time, at the instructor's discretion. Typical accepted reasons for missing an exam/assignment include being ill or on jury duty.

UNIVERSITY 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 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 on **the UBC Senate website.**

OTHER POLICIES

Departmental policy on grade distribution

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. If the grades are scaled, any extra credits that are earned will be added to your grades after the scaling. Because of the potential need for scaling, "students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department, or school. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record."

Psyc 300 and 400-level courses

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

Academic Dishonesty

Please review the UBC Calendar "Academic regulations" for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit www.arts.ubc.ca and go to the students' section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation. The Department of Psychology

is currently implementing software designed to detect cheating on multiple choice exams. This software will be used to analyze the response patterns of all students taking these exams, and suspicious parties will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University.

Accomodations

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. 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.

Viewing exams

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 examination remains the property of the university.

LEARNING ANALYTICS

Learning analytics includes the collection and analysis of data about learners to improve teaching and learning. This course will be using the following learning technologies: Canvas, WordPress, edX, iPeer, Piazza. Many of these tools capture data about your activity and provide information that can be used to improve the quality of teaching and learning. In this course, I plan to use analytics data to:

- View overall class progress
- Track your progress in order to provide you with personalized feedback
- Review statistics on course content being accessed to support improvements in the course
- Track participation in discussion forums
- Assess your participation in the course

LEARNING RESOURCES

This online course has resources located on the Canvas website.

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