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CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY
PSYCH 480-01: Cross-Cultural Psychology
Wednesdays 2:00 – 4:40
Henry Hall, Room 107

Instructor: Dale R. Fryxell, Ph.D.
Office: Kieffer Hall, "Cube L"
Office Hours: Wed. 4:30 – 5:30, Tues. 2:00 – 2:30, and by appointment
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Text

1. Myers, D. G. (1998). Psychology (5th ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.
2. Other readings as assigned.

Course Description and Goals

This course will provide an overview of the field of cross-cultural psychology. Through active participation and the use of discussion, videos, mini-lectures, activities, student presentations, and reading students will have the opportunity to fully explore this exciting field of psychology.

The goal of this course is to learn how psychological problems and conditions vary across the different cultures of the world. The purpose of this comparative approach to psychology is to emphasize that the Western view of psychology should not necessarily be taken as the norm. Theories developed in North America and Europe do not necessarily apply to the entire world's populations, even though we tend to assume that they do. By the end of the course you should be able to appreciate a variety of psychological processes and be able to view critically theories of psychology which claim to be universal in scope. You should be able to discuss both the psychological similarities and the differences of various cultures around the world.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. explain the major theories from cross-cultural psychology.
2. identify the major theorists who have contributed to the study of psychology across cultures.
3. apply principles and concepts from the study of cross-cultural psychology to normal and abnormal human behavior.
4. use critical thinking skills to examine ideas and information.

Important !!!!!!!!!

By Wednesday, September 8th, please turn in an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet with the following information on it;

1. A reasonably good Xeroxed picture of yourself.
2. Anything special that you would like me to know about you.

Course Requirements

Grades for the course will be assigned based on the quality of student work as demonstrated by successful completion of the following requirements:

A. Class activities (10 @ 20 points each)	=	200 points
B. Paper & Presentation	=	160 points
C. Class participation	=	<u>40 points</u>
Total Points	=	400

A. Class Activities (10 @ 20 = 200 points)

Ten class activities will be turned in for credit. Each activity will be worth 20 points. These activities may involve both individual and group work and may include both in and out of class time. Activities that are turned in late will be worth only half credit (no exceptions). You can keep track of the activities by listing them on the following chart.

Activity #	Date	Description
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

B. "EXPERT" Research Paper & Presentation (Paper = 100 points, Presentation = 60 points)

Early in the semester you will select one topic for which you will become the "expert." The purpose of the presentation is to share with others in the class your knowledge about and interest in the topic you've chosen for your specialty. The paper and presentation are a very important part of your experience in this course. Presentations will be graded on organization, writing quality, knowledge of subject, creativity in presentation, and effectiveness of delivery.

Each student should select a topic of interest (see the following list for ideas). Everyone will have a different topic. The list is not exhaustive, which means that you may be interested in a topic that doesn't appear. If you wish to pursue something different, check with me first. Remember, the topic must highlight some aspect of psychology in another culture. Please select your topic by the third week in the semester. Topics like eating disorders and child rearing go quickly, so if you are interested in them, choose fast.

The paper should be 6 to 10 pages in length using standard margins and 12 point type. The presentation should be fifteen to twenty minutes. Think of it as a mini-lecture in which you use a minimum of three references. You are encouraged to use overheads, Powerpoint, video clips, or other types of media to make your presentation interesting.

The following should be included in each presentation:

1. The title of your presentation and your name
2. Very brief discussion of how your topic is traditionally seen in the West
3. Discussion of your topic from the point of view of a traditional culture
4. Suggestions for incorporating your topic into the Western mainstream views of psychology

Presentations may be scheduled throughout the semester, with the bulk of them occurring during the last two weeks.

Visual illusion susceptibility

Culture and dreams

Addictions from a cultural perspective

Cognitive style

Intelligence

Achievement motivation

The experience of emotion

Gender roles

Attachment

Infant temperament

Conformity

Locus of control

Person perception

Interpersonal attraction and love

Social loafing

Categorization and grouping of experience

Culture-specific psychological disorders

Psychotherapy from a cultural perspective

Responses to emotions

Child-rearing styles

Bilingualism and personality

Parenting styles and family structure

Self-perception

Attributions concerning academic success and failure

C. Class Participation (40 points)

It is important in an interactive class for all students to come to class fully prepared and ready to actively participate. Your final grade in the course will be based in part on your attendance - or lack thereof - and participation in the class discussions. Emphasis is placed on preparation. You should come to class with notes, questions, insights, comments, criticisms, and enthusiasm!

Grading

Grades will be assigned on a percentage basis.

A	90% - 100%	360 - 400 points
B	80% - 89%	320 - 359 points
C	70% - 79%	280 - 319 points
D	60% - 69%	240 - 279 points
F	59% or lower	239 points or below

Psychology 480-01 Cross-Cultural Psychology

Week	Topics	Reading/Assignments
#1 – Sept. 1	Course Introduction	
#2 – Sept. 8	Sociocultural Nature of Human Beings	Chapter 1
#3 – Sept. 15	Cross-Cultural Research	Chapter 2
#4 – Sept. 22	Human Development and Informal Education	Chapter 3
#5 – Sept. 29	Perceptual and Cognitive Processes	Chapter 4
#6 – Oct. 6	Alternative Views on Human Competence	Chapter 5
#7 – Oct. 13	Everyday Cognition	Chapter 6
#8 – Oct. 20	Motives, Beliefs and Values	Chapter 7
#9 – Oct. 27	Male/Female Relationships	Chapter 8
#10 – Nov. 3	Culture and Aggression	Chapter 9
#11 – Nov. 10	Intercultural Relations in a Shrinking World	Chapter 10
#12 – Nov. 17	Acculturation	Chapter 11 Paper Due
#13 – Nov. 24	No Class (Maui Invitational)	
#14 – Dec. 1	Conclusions Paper and Presentation Due	Chapter 12
#15 – Dec. 8	Course Review	

Quiz #4