

PSYC 3350 -- Cultural Psychology

Course Director: Maya A. Yampolsky: mayaigd@gmail.com
Office location: BSB 072 G
Office hours: Tuesdays 2:00 – 3:00pm
Secretary: Agnes Levstik
alevstik@yorku.ca, 416-736-5125, BSB 281

Teaching Assistants: Sadia Zafar: sadiaz@yorku.ca
Office location: BSB 031
Office hours: Mondays 1:00 – 2:00pm

Bryan Choi: bryan888@yorku.ca
Office location: BSB 013
Office hours: Thursdays 5:30 – 6:30pm

Time and location: Tuesdays 16h00-19h00
Curtis Lecture Halls (CLH) G
125 Campus walk

Required Readings:

Text Heine, S. J. (2012). *Cultural Psychology (2nd Edition)*. New York, NY: Norton.

Journal articles A journal article will be assigned each week following the introductory lecture. These are available through e-resources in the York library system or through the course Moodle.

Course objectives and format:

This course addresses theory, research, and methods pertaining to culture and psychology. The course begins by offering different perspectives on culture and the methodological challenges that researchers face when bringing a cultural level of analysis to human behaviour. The potential role of culture is examined across a range of psychological areas including perception, cognition, emotion, developmental processes, as well as social and abnormal behaviour. Each week we will have a lecture which may include a research demonstration, some video, and class discussion. The lecture will be related in part to an assigned chapter from the textbook as well as an additional journal article. Lectures are designed to stimulate your interest in cultural psychology and not all of the information presented in the text will be covered in class. As a course instructor, I will be highlighting select interesting issues that are related to the weekly topic. Some of the lectures' information, therefore, will not be found in the textbook. You are responsible for covering the text and the additional readings in their entirety. It is in your best interest to borrow notes from a classmate if you must miss a class, as all information presented in class (including videos and research demonstrations) may lead to questions appearing on exams.

Evaluation:

There are two exams. The first exam is a midterm worth 35% of your final grade and the second exam is a final worth 35%. One exam will be given on October 15th and the other exam will be given during

the final examination period. Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions, as well as a series of short answer questions. You will also have one paper to write for the course. This paper is worth 27% of your final grade. The deadline for the paper submission will be November 12th. You will also have to submit your paper topic and outline with some preliminary literature research by October 22th for 3% of your final grade. More information regarding the paper will be provided during the second meeting of the class.

Drop Deadline:

Friday November 8, 2013 (last day to drop the course without receiving a grade on your transcript)

Grading

Percentage	Letter Grade
90+	A+
80-89	A
75-79	B+
70-74	B
65-69	C+
60-64	C
55-59	D+
50-54	D
40-49	E
0-39	F

Missed exams:

According to University Policy, the only legitimate reason for missing an exam (i.e., one for which a make-up will be scheduled) is because of medical problems or exceptional circumstances. If you miss an exam, please e-mail your Teaching Assistant (sadiaz@yorku.ca or bryan888@yorku.ca) within 48 hours of the missed exam. Clearly indicate your full name and student number in your e-mail. If you are unable to contact the TA during this period, documentation accounting for the delay must be provided. Documentation verifying the reason for the missed exam (see below) must be provided either prior to or at the time of the one-time only make-up exam. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0.

- A. Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of medical circumstances must be supported by an Attending Physician's Statement or a Statement by a Psychologist or Counsellor. The Attending Physician's Statement must include (I) the full name, mailing address and telephone number of the Physicians, (ii) state the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered), and (iii) an indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have seriously affected your ability to study and perform over the period in question.
- B. Exams missed on the ground of exception non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation: obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus tickets/receipt for emergency travel (with date of booking on ticket), etc. Receipts from emergency travel must indicate destination, departure and return dates.

In the case of the make up exam, you must be prepared to write within the week following the missed exam. Although the content to be examined will be the same, the format may or may not follow that of the original exam. It is your responsibility to check with the TA about the date/time of the make-up. A conflict with another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing a make-up, unless the conflict involves another exam. There will be no second opportunity for a make-up.

General information:

Important information for students regarding University policies, including Academic Honesty/Integrity (see below as well) can be found at: <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/>

Cheating/Plagiarism:

The University does not look favourably on cheating of any kind and the penalties for doing so are very harsh. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism and academic honesty. Go to the following website <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/> and read the section 'For Students.'

Cheating: Cheating is the attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation. Among the forms this kind of dishonesty can take are; obtaining a copy of an examination before it is officially available or learning an examination question before it is officially available; copying another person's answer to an examination question; consulting an unauthorized source during an examination; obtaining assistance by means of documentary, electronic or other aids which are not approved by the instructor; or changing a score or a record of an examination result.

Impersonation: It is a breach of academic honesty to have someone impersonates one's self in class, in a test or examination, or in connection with any other type of assignment in a course. Both the impersonator and the individual impersonated may be charged.

Plagiarism and other misappropriation of the work of another: Plagiarism is the representation of another person's ideas or writing as one's own. The most obvious form of this kind of dishonesty is the presentation of all or part of another person's published work as something one has written. However, paraphrasing another's writing without proper acknowledgment may also be considered plagiarism. It is also a violation of academic honesty to represent another's artistic or technical work or creation as one's own. This is not to say that students should not use the work of others with the proper acknowledgment.

Sanctions for Academic Misconduct:

When verified, a violation of academic honesty may lead to the following penalties:

1. Oral or written disciplinary warning or reprimand;
2. A make-up assignment or examination;
3. Lower grade or failure on assignment or examination;
4. Failure in the course;
5. Suspension from the University for a definite period;
6. Notation on transcript;
7. Withholding or rescinding a York degree, diploma or certificate

Course Timeline and Associated Readings

September 10 -- Culture & Human Nature (Chapters 1 & 2)

September 17 – Cultural Evolution (Chapter 3)

Inglehart, R. (2006). Mapping global values. *Comparative Sociology*, 5, 115–136.

September 24 -- Research Methods (Chapter 4)

Hormes, J., & Rozin, P. (2010). Does "craving" carve nature at the joints? Absence of a synonym for craving in many languages. *Addictive Behaviors*, 35, 459–463.

October 1 -- Development and Socialization (Chapter 5)

Miller, K. F., Smith, C.M., Zhu, J., Zhang, H. (1995). Preschool origins of cross-national differences in mathematical competence: The role of number-naming systems. *Psychological Science*, 6, 56-60.

October 8 -- Self & Personality (Chapter 6; Chapter 7 pp. 240-254; 263-268)

Markus, H. R., Uchida, Y., Omoregie, H., Townsend S. S. M., & Kitayama S. (2006). Going for the gold: Models of agency in Japanese and American contexts. *Psychological Science*, 17,103–112.

October 15 -- Mid-term Exam

October 22 – Perception & Cognition *Deadline: paper topic, outline & 2 refs due on this date* (Chapter 8; Chapter 7 pp. 269-278)

Masuda, T., Gonzalez, R., Kwan, L., & Nisbett, R. E. (2008). Culture and aesthetic preference: Comparing the attention to context of East Asians and Americans. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 34, 1260–1275.

October 29 -- Emotions (Chapter 14)

Elfenbein, H.A., & Ambady, N. (2003). Universals and cultural differences in recognizing emotions. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 12, 159-164.

November 5 – Morality & Religion (Chapter 13)

Haji, R., Lalonde, R. N., Durbin, A., & Naveh-Benjamin, I. (2011). A multidimensional approach to identity: Religious and cultural identity in young Jewish Canadians. *Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*, 14, 3–18.

November 12 – Health (Chapter 11 & 12) ***Deadline: paper due on this date***

Ryder, A. G., Yang, J., Zhu, X., Yao, S., Yi, J., Heine, S. J., & Bagby, R. M. (2008). The cultural shaping of depression: Somatic symptoms in China, psychological symptoms in North America? *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 117, 300–313.

November 19 -- Relationships and Groups (Chapter 9)

Adams, G. (2005). The cultural grounding of personal relationship: Enemyship in North American and West African worlds. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 88, 948–968.

November 26 -- Multicultural Issues (Chapter 10)

Giguère, B., Lalonde, R. N., & Lou, E. (2010). Living at the crossroads of cultural worlds: The experience of normative conflicts by second generation immigrant youth. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass, 4*, 14-29.

Final exam period: December 10 to 23

please keep the exam period dates open in your calendar; travel is not a valid reason to miss an exam