



Psy 350 ~ Cross Cultural Psychology
Section _____ ~ 3 Credits

Prerequisite: Psy 112/Introduction to Psychology

Course Description

This course introduces culture's influence on human behavior and mental processes. Begins with examination of theoretical definitions of culture, and covers a broad range of theories and research findings regarding cultural influences on human behavior and cognitive processes (life-span development, abnormal behavior and mental health, self-concept, emotion, motivation, learning, intelligence, perception, memory, communication, social cognition, and social behavior). Examines diversity of human expression in contexts ranging from everyday modes of functioning to family and work relationships. This course fulfills the general education learning competency of Multicultural (MC).



Course Goals

You will be provided with a non-judgmental understanding of how culture influences human behavior and are more equipped to interact in a world where there is increasing contact among different cultures. You will gain knowledge in cross-cultural research methodology. **Extensive reading, writing and research papers required.** APA citation criteria are required.



Required Text

Heine, S. J. (2015). *Cultural Psychology* (Third Edition).
 New York: W. W. Norton and Company, Inc.

Available as e-textbook, rental from publisher, and other textbook search engines.

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Methods

| Learning Outcomes | Assessment Methods |
|---|---|
| Formulate and defend clear and concise questions; identify, gather and assess relevant information; recognize alternative methods of thought; communicate with others while addressing complex problems; use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the | Quizzes, Cultural writing assignments, Discussions. |



Grading Policy

Your performance in this course is assessed using multiple, varied methods in the areas listed below and based on the expectations as described in the syllabus and outlined in assessment scoring guides or rubrics. If you do not understand the expectations, it is your responsibility to ask the instructor questions.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Class Participation/Discussions | 30% |
| Quizzes (10) | 25% |
| Cultural Project Assignments (2) | 25% |
| Critical Writing Assignments (3) | 20% |
| Total: | 100% |



Coursework Expectations

This section of the syllabus contains a listing with brief descriptions of the assessment methods for this course. They are designed to align with the student-learning outcomes and provide you with varied ways to demonstrate mastery of the course content. **Additional instructions and related scoring guides or rubrics are posted in Blackboard.**

Blackboard



Class Participation (30%):

Course expectations related to class participation focus on intrapersonal, interpersonal, and cognitive competencies that are important to employers and a successful career. In this course, you will be assessed based on the following criteria: (a) acting ethically and with integrity, (b) demonstrating foundational knowledge pertaining to the week's topic, (c) contributing to a collaborative learning environment (e.g., sharing knowledge or resources with other learners), (d) advancing the level and depth of learning (e.g., commenting or questioning in ways that encourage critical thinking or deeper analysis of a topic).

To earn full credit, be sure to come to class (a) on time, (b) having read the assigned material, (c) having prepared any required assignments, and (d) ready to participate in discussion or group work with your peers. In class assignments will be assessed as completed during class. You are responsible for material covered if you are absent.



Quizzes (25%): The purpose of the quizzes is to help you to see what you are learning and where you need more focus. You will complete 10 quizzes that are based on assigned readings. The quizzes are "open-book", but answers may not be shared with others. **The lowest scoring quiz will be dropped, at the end of the course**

Professionalism/Participation - 30% of grade

Graded discussions; Active participation. 100 Total Points Professionalism/Participation will be assessed through the demonstration of appropriate behavior in a college classroom including, but not limited to, arriving to class on time, contributing to in-class (or online) discussions, and reducing distraction from non-academic use of technology.

Cultural Project Assignments (2) – 25% of grade

You will have two research projects, to encourage you to actively engage in research in the field of Cross Cultural Psychology. Instructions for each project are located in Blackboard. Each project is worth 100 Total Points.

Critical Writing Assignments (3) - 20% of grade

All course assignments are made to develop your reading, writing, and critical thinking skills in accordance with the course objectives. They can be accessed through a link provided in the weekly course materials for each week. Please consult the Grading included in this syllabus for details regarding expectations for assignments, quizzes, and the discussion posts. All work must be double-spaced in Arial, 12-point font. APA citation criteria is required. Assignments are due each week by Sunday at 11:59 P.M. EST. Assignments posted after this due date will not be accepted, and therefore will not receive any credit.

Evaluation will focus on four aspects of good writing.

- **Content:** Does your writing contain specific details and adequate development? Do you retain focus on the assigned topic?
- **Organization:** Does your writing develop logically? Do individual sentences flow smoothly from one to the next? Do you use clear topic and/or thesis sentences?
- **Style:** Do you demonstrate a level of sophistication through variety in word choice and sentence structure?
- **Grammar:** Are you using Standard Written American English? Are you using APA citation criteria?

Course Outline / Class Schedule*

| Week/Unit | Topic(s) Covered | Chapter Readings | Assessment Schedule |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| Introduction | | | Get textbook, familiarize yourself with Blackboard, thoroughly review the syllabus and course expectations |
| 1 | What Is Cultural Psychology? Culture and Human Nature | Chapters 1-2 | Ch 1 Quiz Ch 2 Quiz Week 1 Writing: IAT |
| 2 | Cultural Evolution Methods for Studying Culture and Psychology | Chapters 3-4 | Ch 4 Quiz Week 2 Writing: Ch 3 |
| 3 | Development and Socialization Self and Personality | Chapters 5-6 | Ch 5 Quiz Ch 6 Quiz |
| 4 | Living in Multicultural Worlds Motivation | Chapters 7-8 | Ch 8 Quiz Project 1: Cultural Experience |
| 5 | Cognition and Perception Emotions | Chapters 9-10 | Week 5 Writing: Ch 9 Ch 10 Quiz |
| 6 | Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships Morality, Religion, and Justice | Chapters 11-12 | Ch 11 Quiz Project 2: Cultural Analysis Article |
| 7 | Physical Health Mental Health | Chapters 13-14 | Ch 13 Quiz Ch 14 Quiz |

**This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.*

The following are general expectations to follow. Ongoing communication with the instructor is highly recommended in order to optimize academic support throughout the course.

- Set aside approximately 6-9 hours a week for work on this course. That figure allows time for readings, written work, projects, on-line discussions and on-campus activities. Your actual time may vary depending on reading speed, and personal effort toward the subject.
- Routinely check your Goodwin e-mail account and the "Announcements" section on Blackboard for important messages and for communications with classmates.
- Post Discussion Board messages as required by specific course assignments.
- Complete and submit all assignments on time.
- Attend class regularly and participate fully during classroom discussions and activities.
- Abide by the College's Academic Integrity Policy.



Class Policies



Blackboard: Blackboard contains class materials such as PowerPoints, worksheets, media, and links for submitting assignments. Be sure to **check Blackboard often** to stay up to date on announcements, new course materials, and other important information. **All assignments must be submitted on Blackboard.**



Late Assignments: Deadlines are an integral part of all professional careers. You must manage your time and complete all coursework thoroughly and on time (e.g., quizzes, exams, papers, projects, discussion board posts). Per department policy, any work submitted to the instructor after the due date will result in a zero for that particular assignment. **Late assignments or make-up exams are not permitted** except when there are documented extenuating circumstances (i.e., medical and family emergencies), and the instructor has been notified **24 hours before or after the deadline**. In circumstances in which the instructor permits a make-up assignments or exams, the format of the task is at the discretion of the instructor.



Laptops and Tablets: Laptops and tablets are welcome in the classroom for academic purposes.



Cell Phones: As a courtesy to your classmates and the instructor, please set cell phones to vibrate. If you must take or make a call, please step out of the classroom to do so.



Course Decorum: We will create a positive learning environment in this course. There is an expectation of respect and professionalism. The professional conduct policy includes, but is not limited to:

1. Attending each class session, including arriving promptly and leaving at the designated time; notifying me prior to class should an exception be needed.
2. Working on only this class during class time.
3. Planning outside activities to avoid conflicts with the activities outlined in the syllabus.
4. Being an attentive, engaged, and active participant in class activities and discussions.
5. Demonstrating respect for instructors, peers, and self and treating others in a professional manner.
6. Abiding by Goodwin's academic integrity policies.



Communication and E-mail: Students are expected to communicate in a professional manner (i.e., verbal, written, and electronic). I will send course updates and announcements through Blackboard so please **check your Goodwin e-mail account regularly**.



APA Style: This course follows APA style format for all written assignments. All written assignments must be produced using software that is compatible with Blackboard. Assessment of written assignments will include use of APA format, writing, grammar, quotations, and references. Academic Writer is also available at <https://goodwin.libguides.com/academicwriter> to help with APA formatting.



Expectations for Written Work: The following are basic expectations for all written work:

1. One-inch margin for all sides of the page (e.g., top, bottom, left, and right side of the page).
2. The font is 12 point.
3. The paper is double spaced.
4. The first page of the paper includes:
 - ✓ Your full name
 - ✓ The date of submission

Applied Final Project 1: Cultural Experience Reflection Paper – DUE WEEK 4

Each student is required to attend a cross-cultural event this semester. You should attend an event of a cultural group different from your own. The event can be sponsored by Goodwin College on-campus organizations (ex: Student Services) or can be in the community (cultural celebrations, attending a worship service at an unfamiliar church/synagogue/temple, etc.).

If you are not sure about whether the event/experience you have chosen qualifies for this assignment, please see me for **prior approval**.

After attending the event, you will need to write a 4-5 paged double-spaced paper that is thoughtful, clear, and free of grammatical errors. In lieu of a paper, feel free to create a high-quality voice-narrated Powerpoint of 20-30 slides, or a high quality, Youtube video of at least 10 minutes, with transcript included.

Your reflections must include:

1. Description of the activity and the reasons why you selected it.
2. Emotional and intellectual reactions (candid thoughts and emotions you had during the experience).
3. Discuss how this experience is connected to concepts you have learned in class.
4. At least two things you learned, especially those that can help you with your future dealings (professionally and personally) with members of that group.
5. Be sure to cite all references in APA format and spell/grammar check before submitting for grading. **Additionally, all writing assignments MUST be submitted through TURNITIN.COM.**

Applied Final Project 2: Cultural Analysis Paper – DUE WEEK 6

For this assignment, you will watch a film and write an article to provide a detailed analysis of **2 to 3 culture-related observations** in the film, such as observed cultural norms, cross cultural differences, and intercultural difficulties. I would like you to comment on the observations. That is, I would like you to address the following areas, in your article:

1. Critically analyze whether and why your observations support or contradict knowledge in cross-cultural psychology.
2. Apply knowledge in cross-cultural psychology to give suggestions to help improve certain situations or behaviors in the film.
3. In your article, the description and explanation of your observations should be detailed enough and supported by examples so that a reader can fully understand it based on your article without watching the film or having prior knowledge of cross-cultural psychology.
4. The focus of this assignment is your **articulation, application, and evaluation** of cross-cultural psychology concepts, theories, and findings-- **using concrete examples**.
5. You will submit your article via Blackboard. **Additionally, all writing assignments MUST be submitted through TURNITIN.COM.**
6. **The deliverable:** 5-7 pages max., 12-point Times New Roman, or Arial, double-spaced, 1-inch margin, and APA 6th Edition citation style. You will submit it on Blackboard, through SafeAssign.
7. **What film should I choose?** You should pick either a **specific director** (e.g., Spike Lee, John Singleton), **a specific writer** (original screenplays only), **or a specific franchise** (e.g., Star Trek, Harry Potter) and watch at least two films. Again, films that do not have prominent characters (i.e., on screen for at least 15 minutes) from the group you selected should not be included. If you select films that do not meet the above criteria, your assignment will be returned without a grade (there can be nothing learned by comparing apples and oranges).

Diversity Movies to Select From: *Crash, American History X, Higher Learning, Monster's Ball, Hotel Rwanda, A Day Without a Mexican, The Laramie Project, Priest, Boys Don't Cry, The Crying Game, Tiptoes, North Country, Remember the Titans, School Ties, Antwone Fisher, The Joy Luck Club, Amistad, The Color Purple, Once Upon a Time...When We Were Colored, Roots, Grand Canyon, House of Sand and Fog, John Q, Barbershop, Boyz in the Hood, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Guess Who, Kissing Jessica Stein, The Outsiders, Whale Rider, Control Room, Spanglish, Smoke Signals, Real Women Have Curves.*

Which films you select and how well you give synopses of scenes in the films are NOT the most important for this assignment; rather your insights into culture and how you apply course materials in your analysis will be the focus of assessment.

How should I start? My recommendation is that you pick and watch a film that interests you; take note of scenes that relate to culture. After watching, consolidate two to three observations that you think can allow you to best apply **Psy 350 course materials** for your analyses.

The observations should be distinct enough that you can draw on different **Psy 350 course materials**.

What sources should I use for analysis? Your article must include materials from lectures or the textbook. In addition, you are free to include other references, such as peer-reviewed journal articles, to support your analysis. Make sure you provide proper citations, in APA format.

How can I get access to the film? All films listed are available on Netflix, Google Play, iTunes, Amazon, and Redbox. The older classic movies are also freely accessible in the Goodwin library. Also try YouTube and other, free, open-source sites.

Grading of both Applied Final projects will consider the following (also see the Rubric below):

All components must be present (follow directions), clear theme throughout the paper and an easily traceable development of ideas (logical), audience awareness, concise thinking and paragraphing, neat and well-demarcated organization, originality and creative thinking, evidence of diverse resources used in research (books, chapters from anthologies, journals, appropriate web sources, local experts), ample use of salient sources integrated throughout the paper, APA referencing, originality and creativity, use of culturally aware, culture-sensitive terminology, insightfulness along with incisive analysis of course material. **Additionally, all writing assignments MUST be submitted through TURNITIN.COM.**

PSY 350 Applied Final Project Grading Rubric

| Trait being evaluated | A | B | C | D | F |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| Organization of paper | Paper is well organized, professionally presented, uses headings, and has a title page. | Paper is adequately organized & uses headings. | Most of paper is adequately organized. | Some aspects of paper are organized. | No organizational system is evident. |
| Key facts | Paper includes a full list of the key points related to this section of the chosen topic. | Paper includes a good list of the key points related to the chosen topic. | Paper includes a list of 75% or more of the key points related to the chosen topic. | Paper includes a list of 70% or less of the key points related to the chosen topic. | Paper includes a list of 60% or less of the key points related to the chosen topic. |
| Key impressions | Paper includes a thoughtful, complete discussion of the most relevant impressions related to this section of the chosen topic. | Paper includes a good discussion of the most relevant impressions related to the chosen topic. | Paper includes an adequate discussion of the most relevant impressions related to the chosen topic. | Paper includes a limited discussion of the most relevant impressions related to the chosen topic. | Paper includes very little discussion of the relevant impressions related to the chosen topic. |
| Topics to learn about | Paper includes a list of topics to learn more about and an adequate discussion of each topic. | Paper includes a list of topics to learn more about and an adequate discussion of all but 1 topic. | Paper includes a list of topics to learn more about and an adequate discussion of all but 2 topics. | Paper includes a list of topics to learn more about and very little discussion of topics. | Paper mentions 1 topic to learn more about. |
| Support for discussion of topics | Points in the discussion are supported with references to <i>textbooks, classroom materials, or professional literature.</i> | At least 85% of the points are supported with references to textbooks, classroom materials, or professional literature. | Most points are supported with references to textbooks, classroom materials, or professional literature. | Very few points are supported with references to textbooks, classroom materials, or professional literature. | Points are not supported. |
| Use of APA style | APA style is used throughout the paper. Nothing is listed in the reference page that is not used in the paper. | Only minor problems with APA style. | Most of the paper uses correct APA style. | Many problems with APA style. Quotations do not have full reference (author, date, page #). | No indication of APA style. |
| Writing quality | Paper is very well written, almost no errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Paragraphs or bullet points and sentences are well developed and clear. | Paper is well written, very few errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Paragraphs or bullet points, and sentences are well developed. | Paper is generally well written with no more than a few problems with grammar, spelling, and punctuation; Some lack of clarity. | Paper is not very well written. Many problems with grammar, spelling, and punctuation | Paper is poorly written. |

Goodwin College Policies and Services

This course adheres to all policies outlined in the Goodwin College catalog.

General academic policies of Goodwin College may be found on the college web site at and in the college catalog at <http://www.goodwin.edu/academics/catalogs.asp>.

Student services information may be found on the Goodwin College website at <https://www.goodwin.edu/student-affairs/> and <http://www.goodwin.edu/library/>.