

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



MASTER SYLLABUS

PSYC 300 – Cultural Psychology

CIP Code: 42.99

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**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
SPRING 2023**

- A. **TITLE:** Cultural Psychology
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** PSYC 300
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3 lecture hour(s) per week for 15 weeks
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **GER CATEGORY:** GER 3 DEISJ
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall or Spring

G. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will examine historical and present psychological concepts, theory, and research on variations and commonalities in human behavior, both within and across cultures to gain a deeper understanding of psychological phenomena. As a means of exploring the extent to which culture influences psychological phenomena, students will examine their own and different cultural practices and behaviors from around the world, and critically evaluate psychological topics from a cross-cultural perspective. Students will analyze how these cultural differences manifest on a systemic level such as the education system, work system, health system, and so on. Topics may include, but are not limited to individualism and collectivism, perspectives on the self, culture and development, acculturation, among others.

- H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** None Yes If yes, list below:
Introductory Psychology (PSYC 101) AND 45 credits.

I. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u>	<u>GER 3</u> Diversity: Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice	<u>PSLO</u>	<u>ISLO</u>
A. Demonstrate the understanding of key historical and developmental key concepts, principles, theories of cultural psychology and cross-cultural psychology.	Describe the historical and contemporary societal factors that shape the development of individual and group identity involving race, class, and gender.	1. Knowledge Base in Psychology	2 [CA, IA]
B. Analyze the impact of psychological research in contrast with cross-cultural research to understand the impact of culture on psychology.	Describe the historical and contemporary societal factors that shape the development of individual and group identity involving race, class, and gender.	2. Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking	2 [IA]
C. Students will analyze their own individual cultural practices and values from a reflective perspective and apply ethical thinking and cultural sensitivity to evaluate those of others.	Describe the historical and contemporary societal factors that shape the development of individual and group identity involving race, class, and gender.	3. Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World	4 [ER, GL, IK]

D. Analyze systemic structures such as work systems, health system, education system, and others and their impact on strengthening, breaking down, or sustaining cultural values and practices.	Analyze the role that complex networks of social structures and systems play in the creation and perpetuation of the dynamics of power, privilege, oppression, and opportunity.	4. Communication	4 [ER, GL, IK]
E. Apply cultural theory and skills in given assignments to demonstrate cultural awareness, understanding, and sensitivity.	Apply the principles of rights, access, equity, and autonomous participation to past, current, or future social justice action.	5. Professional Development	2 [PS]

KEY	<u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u>
ISLO #	ISLO & Subset
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT: Yes No

K. TEXTS:

Suggested text:

Heine, S. J. (2016). *Cultural Psychology* (3rd ed). New York: Norton.

L. REFERENCES:

Shweder, R. A., & Sullivan, M. A., (1993). Cultural psychology: Who needs it? *Annual Review Psychology, 44*, 497-523

Henrich, J., Heine, S.J., & Norenzayan, A. (2010). The weirdest people in the world? *Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 33*, 61-135.

M. EQUIPMENT: None Needed: Technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

Exams, quizzes, essays, student presentations, writing assignments, and discussion

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

Foundational Understanding of Culture

- What is Cultural Psychology?
- What is culture?
- Variance across cultures
- Why we should study cultural psychology
- Culture and Human Nature
- The difference between humans and animals
- Cultural learning as human nature
- Cultural Evolution
- Cultural variation
- Biological and cultural evolution
- Spreading of ideas
- Culture change
- Culture persistence

Research in Culture and Psychology

- Methods for Studying Culture and Psychology
- Cross-cultural methods
- Other methods (situation sampling, cultural priming, culture-level measures)
- Case study

Development

- Development and Socialization
- Universality of brains

- Sensitive periods
- Cultural differences across age
- Early childhood across different cultures
- Developmental transitions across cultures
- Education

The Self

- Self and personality
- Independent vs. interdependent views of self
- Ingroups and outgroups
- Individualism and collectivism
- Heterogeneity
- Gender
- Self-concept
- Personality

Multicultural World

- Living in Multicultural Worlds
- Acculturation
- Multiculturalism

Psychological Phenomena

- Motivation
- Self-enhancement and self-esteem
- Religion
- Achievement motivation
- Control and agency
- Fitting in vs. sticking out
- Cognition and Perception
- Analytic and holistic thinking
- Attention
- Fundamental attribution error
- Reasoning
- Creative thinking
- Linguistic relativity
- Emotions
- What are emotions?
- Emotions across culture
- Language
- Cultural variation in emotional experiences (e.g., happiness)
- Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships

- Attractiveness
- Similarity-attraction effect
- Elementary forms of relationships
- Friends and enemies
- Love

Systems, Psychology, & Culture

- Morality, Religion, and Justice
- Ethnocentrism and interpreting variability
- Kohlberg and moral development
- Autonomy, community, and divinity
- Culture wars
- Morality of thoughts
- Culture and fairness
- Physical Health
- Biological variability
- Culture and sleep
- Culture and health
- Medicine and culture

- Mental Health
- What is a psychological disorder
- Culture-bound syndromes
- Universal syndromes
- Mental health treatment

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: N/A