



COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 322: Psychology and Culture

Term:	Semester I (Fall), 2021-22 – Section 01 (Main Campus)
Meetings:	Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 – 9:50 pm, D224 Science (and 33% Online)
Instructor:	Craig A. Wendorf, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology

If you have any questions, please talk to me directly or contact me via email, Teams, or Canvas. I will generally respond to student messages within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours, please resend your message.

- **Contact Information:** cwendorf@uwsp.edu, 715-346-2304 (with voicemail)
- **Office Location:** D240 Science Center, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point (Main Campus)
- **Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 - 11:30 am or by appointment!

Course Overview

Prerequisites

This course expects that you have already accrued a basic understanding of the field of psychology. *As such, it requires that you have completed PSYC 110 (Introduction to Psychology) or its equivalent.* It is strongly recommended that you have also completed PSYC 200 (Research Methods in Psychology).

Course Objectives

This course serves as an introduction to the theoretical and methodological approaches to studying the relationship between psychology and culture. The psychological foundations of culture are addressed as are cross-cultural psychological comparisons. Examples examine both minorities within the US and members of non-Western societies. Therefore, while completing this course, you will:

- **Course Learning Outcome 1:** Explain the key psychological mechanisms that create cultural groups and identities along with the psychological processes that result from those groups and identities.
- **Course Learning Outcome 2:** Describe applications of cultural psychology to personal and societal issues including (but not limited to) prejudice, discrimination, inequality, and acculturation.
- **Course Learning Outcome 3:** Examine the role that cultural factors play in the creation, implementation, and interpretation of empirical psychological research.
- **Course Learning Outcome 4:** Demonstrate understanding of and empathetic insight about diverse cultural groups at the local, national, and global levels.
- **Course Learning Outcome 5:** Demonstrate effective scientific writing that communicates the understanding, application, and interpretation of cultural psychology principles and research.

Course Materials and Resources

Course Textbook

There one required textbook for this class and it is available at text rental. Canvas includes a link to a document describing how to obtain the textbook if you cannot pick up the book directly on campus. If you decide to purchase or borrow the book through another source, please be sure to get the correct edition.

Heine, S. J. (2020). *Cultural psychology* (4th ed.). W. W. Norton.

Online Materials

As a hybrid course, a significant portion of this course will be delivered through the course management system Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the Canvas Login Page (<https://www.uwsp.edu/canvas/>).

At various points throughout the course, you will use Canvas to view additional readings, download and upload documents, read documents online, view online videos, and participate in online discussions. *Failure to report a problem in obtaining the course materials will be treated as a failure to complete the requirement.*

Course Grading Policies

Assignments and Exams

Evaluation of student performance will be based on homework assignments and in-class exams. An overview of the point values for each of the course assessments is given below.

ASSESSMENTS OF OBJECTIVES	POINTS EARNED
Part I: Theories and Functions of Culture	
Assignments: Topics 1-5 (5 assignments @ 4 points each)	_____ / 20 points
Exam: Topics 1-4 (1 exam @ 40 points)	_____ / 40 points
Part 2: Construction and Transmission of Culture	
Assignments: Topics 6-10 (5 assignments @ 4 points each)	_____ / 20 points
Exam: Topics 6-9 (1 exam @ 40 points)	_____ / 40 points
Part 3: Manifestations and Changes of Culture	
Assignments: Topics 11-15 (5 assignments @ 4 points each)	_____ / 20 points
Exam: Topics 11-14 (1 exam @ 40 points)	_____ / 40 points
TOTAL: _____ / 180 points	

The course assignments are designed to provide you with opportunities to explore the main concepts, to apply the material, and to describe the research underlying the concepts. *You may confer with other students and the instructor if you have questions, but you must submit work that is your own.* These materials must be submitted via the Canvas dropbox and will be automatically checked by Turnitin.com for their originality. Feedback will be given online as well.

The in-class exams are a combination of multiple-choice questions and short essay questions. *Though you will be expected to take these exams individually, you will be able to access a bank of essay questions before the exams and you will be permitted to use a single sheet of notes during the exam.* The grading rubric used for grading essay questions is also available on Canvas.

Extra credit is not available in this course. The way to achieve the grade you desire in the course is to do the work above in a timely and complete fashion. The most common reason students receive low grades is that they do not hand in one or more assignments.

Late Work and Absence Policies

Each assignment’s due date is clearly marked on this syllabus and on the Canvas dropbox. If you know ahead of time that you will miss a due date for an assignment, you should submit the assignment before the due date. Late submissions will be accepted within 48 hours of the due date with penalty. After 48 hours, no late submissions are accepted.

Similarly, each exam will start promptly at the beginning of class on the scheduled exam day. Students who arrive late to an exam will only be allowed to take it if they arrive before the first student finishes and leaves the room. After that point, requests to take exams will be declined unless they are consistent with the make-up policy below.

For all unexpected absences (e.g., illnesses, etc.), I require notice no later than the morning of the due date or exam. Only students with instructor-validated documentation for the absence will be given an extension or a make-up exam; failure to follow this policy will result in an automatic zero for the assessment in question.

Unless you are taking an exam through the Disability and Assistive Technology Center, all make-up exams will be proctored through the Department of Psychology during one of the official times. I will notify you of available times, and you will be expected to schedule during one of these times. Under most conditions, make-up exams should be completed within one week of the original exam date.

Final Course Grades

Final course grades are determined by the percentage of possible points that you earn. The grades will be determined as follows (with no extra credit available in the course).

COURSE GRADE	PERCENT OF TOTAL	POINTS EARNED
A	93% - 100%	166 – 180
A-	90% - 92%	161 – 165
B+	87% - 89%	155 – 160
B	83% - 86%	148 – 154
B-	80% - 82%	143 – 147
C+	77% - 79%	137 – 142
C	73% - 76%	130 – 136
C-	70% - 72%	125 – 129
D+	67% - 69%	119 – 124
D	60% - 66%	107 – 118
F	0% - 59%	000 - 106

Final grades of “Incomplete” will be given only under extreme circumstances. An Incomplete is not an option for students who feel overwhelmed by academics, work schedules, or extracurricular Assignments. Typically, an Incomplete must be completed within one semester otherwise an “F” will result.

Tentative Course Schedule

General Structure

This is a three-credit hybrid course. Rather than meeting the customary three 50-minute class periods per week, it meets two 50-minute class periods each week, with the remaining one 50-minute period asynchronously online (i.e., on your own time).

The goal is to spend face-to-face time on material not available online and, contrastingly, to spend online time focusing on activities that do not involve interaction. In the face-to-face class periods, I will lecture on and we will discuss the main concepts and research findings associated with the topic for the week. In the asynchronous time, you will be expected to read additional material and watch online videos. Additionally, and like in a traditional class, there will be outside assignments that follow these face-to-face and online periods.

Specific Dates and Topics

This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student’s responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement or through email.

DATE	THEME AND TOPIC	PRE-CLASS READING	HOMEWORK (DUE)
Part I: Theories and Functions of Culture			
Topic 1	Introduction to Psychology and Culture: What is this Course All About?		
8-31	T01A: No Class		
9-2	T01B: Describing Culture	Heine (2020, Ch. 1)	Assignment 1 (9-8)
Topic 2	A Framework for Culture: What Features of Culture are Relevant to Psychology?		
9-7	T02A: Aspects of Culture	Triandis (2002)	
9-9	T02B: Cultural Differences		Assignment 2 (9-15)
Topic 3	Foundations of Culture: Why Does Culture Exist?		
9-14	T03A: Evolutionary Foundations	Heine (2020, Ch. 2)	
9-16	T03B: Social Foundations	Harton & Bourgeois (2004)	Assignment 3 (9-22)
Topic 4	Prejudice: How is Culture Distinct from Stereotypic Notions of Differences?		
9-21	T04A: Bias and Stereotypes		
9-23	T04B: Breaking the Habit	Forscher & Devine (2014)	Assignment 4 (9-29)
Topic 5	Integration: How Well Can You Demonstrate What You Know?		
9-28	T05A: Cultural Summary		
9-30	T05B: Exam #1		Assignment 5 (10-6)

Part II: Construction and Transmission of Culture

Topic 6	Cultural Methodology: How Do We Study Culture?		
10-5	T06A: Global Approaches	Heine (2020, Ch. 4)	
10-7	T06B: Focal Approaches		Assignment 6 (10-13)
Topic 7	Cultural Variation: How Do We Describe Cultural Differences?		
10-12	T07A: Cultural Dimensions	Matsumoto & Yoo (2006)	
10-14	T07B: Cultural Products and Narratives	Triandis (1996)	Assignment 7 (10-20)
Topic 8	Cultural Evolution: How Do Cultures Develop and Evolve?		
10-19	T08A: Emergence of Culture	Heine (2020, Ch. 3)	
10-21	T08B: Sources of Variation		Assignment 8 (10-27)
Topic 9	Cultural Transmission: How Does Cultural Information Get Transmitted?		
10-26	T09A: Models of Transmission	Heine (2020, Ch. 5)	
10-28	T09B: Socialization via Organizations		Assignment 9 (11-3)
Topic 10	Integration: How Well Can You Demonstrate What You Know?		
11-2	T10A: Cultural Origins		
11-4	T10B: Exam #2		Assignment 10 (11-10)

Part III: Manifestations and Changes of Culture

Topic 11	Psychological Differences: What Psychological Differences are Associated with Culture?		
11-9	T11A: Culture and Mental Habits	Heine (2020, Ch. 9)	
11-11	T11B: Event and Norm Knowledge	Heine (2020, Ch. 10)	Assignment 11 (11-17)
Topic 12	Self-Representation: How Do Cultures Differ in Their Concept of Self?		
11-16	T12A: Construal of the Self	Heine (2020, Ch. 6)	
11-18	T12B: Self-Construal and Behavior	Heine (2020, Ch. 8)	Assignment 12 (11-24)
Topic 13	Cultural Identity: Why Do People Come to Identify with Their Cultures?		
11-23	T13A: Group Identity	TBA	
11-25	T13B: No Class		Assignment 13 (12-1)
Topic 14	Acculturation: What Happens to Individuals as a Result of Intercultural Contact?		
11-30	T14A: Process of Acculturative	Heine (2020, Ch. 7)	
12-2	T14B: Acculturation in Minorities		Assignment 14 (12-8)
Topic 15	Future Directions: What Do We Still Need to Know?		
12-7	T15A: Intercultural Competence		
12-9	T15B: The Unfinished Agenda	Smith et al. (2013, Ch. 15)	Assignment 15 (12-15)
Topic 16	Integration: How Well Can You Demonstrate What You Know?		
12-14	T16B: Exam #3 (10:15-12:15)		

Conduct and Accommodations

Personal Conduct

UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment and has developed guidelines to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed. *All students are expected to be familiar with and to abide by the university's Community Rights and Responsibilities document* (see <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>).

Under federal and state laws, and university guidelines, I am required to report acts of a criminal or offensive nature that occur both within and outside of class. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents – both current and in the past – may be reported to the Dean of Students office (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos>) or the local authorities.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct (i.e., cheating) will result in an automatic zero on that exam or assignment for all people involved. I will follow up on all cases in the manner described in Community Rights and Responsibilities document.

Representation of another person's work as your own (i.e., plagiarism) will result in an immediate rejection of the work. Any student who engages in plagiarism will be given the opportunity to repeat the work and have it graded appropriately. Consistent with university policy, a written reprimand will be placed in the student's disciplinary file. "Accidental plagiarism" – naiveté about what constitutes plagiarism – will not be accepted as a legitimate excuse.

Accommodations and Disabilities

If there are factors creating difficulties for you in this course that are recognized disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please provide me with appropriate notification from the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (103 Student Services Center, 715-346-3365, or at <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability>). *I will follow all recommendations made by the Disability and Assistive Technology Center.*

If you are having difficulties of a personal (not academic) nature, I will refer you to the UWSP Counseling Center (Third Floor Delzell Hall, 715-346-3553, or at counsel@uwsp.edu). *Appropriate accommodations may be made for due dates, testing procedures, etc. at the instructor's discretion.*

Extra Assistance and Tutoring

If you would like extra assistance related to course materials or have any questions related to your performance in the course, please contact me as soon as possible. This should always be your first step in getting assistance, as most questions and concerns can be best addressed this way.

However, if you would prefer help from a student beyond your instructor or colleagues in this class, you should contact the UWSP Tutoring-Learning Center (<http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc>, 018 LRC, 715-346-3568).