

CET Syllabus of Term



Program: CET Prague

Course Title: Cross-Cultural Psychology

Course Code: CE152

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Suggested Cross Listings: Psychology, Sociology

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: Open to all students

Professor: Simon Weissenberger

Email: sweissenberger11@gmail.com

Class Schedule: Mon 13:00-14:30, Wed 13:00-14:30

Description of the course

Psychology is the study of the mind and behavior. The field of psychology encompasses the whole of our mental states. It takes into account all aspects of life and explores what it is that makes us human beings. Developmentally our state of consciousness is in constant evolution and change, one of the main aspects of creating ourselves is the culture that our parents and ancestors come from and have raised us in. This fascinating factor will make up a fundamental part of the course, and we will explore it at length with particular emphasis on the Czech and European culture. Cross-cultural psychology describes how cultural differences in developmental, social and educational areas affect individual behavior. The course will critically compare psychological and social research from different countries.

The course will give an introduction to the field, with some brief overview of the history of psychology, from the philosophers to the modern psychotherapists and the broad definitions of what is considered normal behaviour in one culture and what can be considered pathological in a different one.

Cross-cultural psychology touches a wide range of topics to allow students to find a deeper interest in the field and initiate some insight and awareness in one's own life.

Objectives

Aims of the course are:

- Introduction to the field of psychology – brief history of the field as well as the various areas and schools of thought within the field
- An understanding of the field of psychology and cross-cultural communication

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- An understanding of contemporary theories and research in cross-cultural psychology
- Tools for critical thinking in cross-cultural psychology
- Understand how psychological processes differ among cultures, differences in what constitutes psychopathology in different cultures. An introduction to certain diagnostic tools in psychology such as the DSM 5 and the ICD-10.
- Identify psychological challenges that arise from cultural differences, explore cultural self-awareness as well as awareness of other cultures and the various aspects to compare
- Increase the level of intercultural competence required for successful and satisfactory work or leisure activities in a culturally diverse environment.

Course Method & Requirements

Attendance: 95% attendance in classes is expected.

Participation: Participation accounts for 20% of the total grade, it includes taking part in the class discussions, asking questions, etc.

PowerPoint presentation: 10-15 minutes power point presentation on chosen topic for the class using the readings and other reputable sources.

Homework: Readings are essential to master the class as we have a wide array of topics, many of the readings will be chapters from the textbook Culture and Mental Health as well as handouts and online webpages that are free of charge.

Midterm test: The Midterm exam will include multiple choice questions as well as an essay.

Final exam: Essays on themes from class. The student should show a grasp of the introductory concepts to psychology as well as a wider understanding of culture and social influences in the field.

Academic Honesty

Although the students are encouraged to exchange ideas in and outside class, everybody is required to submit their own work. That means that copying the work of other students or published materials is strictly prohibited.

Methods of Evaluation

Grading

The final grade is determined as follows:

Attendance/Participation	20%
Homework	10%
PowerPoint presentation	20%
Midterm	20%
Final exam	30%
Total	100%

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Participation: Participation accounts for 20% of the total grade, it includes taking part in the class discussions, asking questions, etc.

PowerPoint presentation: 10-15 minutes power point presentation on chosen topic for the class using the readings and other reputable sources.

Homework: Readings are essential to master the class as we have a wide array of topics. Many of the readings will be chapters from the textbooks *Cross-Cultural Psychology and Culture and Mental Health*. Other readings will include research articles and other material pertinent to the weekly topics.

Midterm test: The Midterm exam will include multiple choice questions as well as short essay questions.

Final exam: Similar to the Midterm but with more emphasis on essays.

For detailed examples and explanations of grading see your Academic Handbook

Grading scale:

A:	93-100%	C+:	77-79%
A-:	90-92%	C:	73-76%
B+:	87-89%	C-:	70-72%
B:	83-86%	D+:	67-69%
B-:	80-82%	D:	60-66%
		F:	59% and below

Attendance Policy

Mandatory attendance is a primary requirement for a responsible learning experience. Please consider that every absence has the potential to lower the final grade, as it may affect the “attendance and participation” portion of your grade or result in missing key information that could appear on quizzes or exams. In addition, professors take attendance at the beginning of the class. If you are more than 10 minutes late, professors mark one hour of absence from class. Onsite visits count as regular class hours. A no-show to a site visit counts as an absence. Detailed information about the Attendance you will find in the **CET**

Prague Academic Policies

Primary texts

Eshun S. & Gurung, R.A.R. (2009). *Culture and mental health: Sociocultural influences, theory, and practice*. West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell

Shiraev, Eric. Levy, David. (2010) *Cross-Cultural Psychology. Critical Thinking and Contemporary Application*. Boston. Pearson Publishing.

Waters, Ethan. (2011) *Crazy Like Us: The Globalization of the American Psyche*. New York. Simon and Schuster.

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Secondary texts

Readings regarding current research in CCP will be provided on a weekly basis

Course Schedule

Week 1 29.1-31.1	General introductions and introducing the course.	An in depth look at the basic concepts of CCP, understanding the theoretical base of the field.
Week 2 5.2. – 7.2.	The forefathers of Psychology in the 1800s Leipzig School/American School. The cultural influences of the times and how they impact psychology today.	The methods of studying CCP. How to conduct unbiased and ethical research.
Week 3 12.2 – 14.2.	Freud and the psychoanalytic revolution. A brief history of psychoanalysis in Czech Republic.	Communicating between cultures. A deeper look at the work of Geert Hofstede.
Week 4 19.2. – 22.2.	Critical Thinking in CCP.	The influence of PR and advertising on the American psyche. Ed Bernays and the globalization of the “American mind”
Week 5 26.2 – 28.2	Cognition and perception across cultures.	Introducing the world religions and how they affect mental state and what is considered psychopathology around the world.
Week 6 5.3. – 7.3	Back to the roots: The humanistic renaissance within the field of psychology.	Existential psychology and the applications of humanistic psychology within CCP.
Week 7 12.3 -	Midterm Exam	No Classes 19 and 21 st of March

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Week 8 26.3. – 28.3.	Exporting Western diagnostics into other cultures. Examples from Sri Lanka.	PowerPoint presentations and discussions
Spring Break	Spring Break No classes on 2.4 and 4.4	
Week 9 9.4 – 11.4	Intelligence understood from a cross-cultural model. Emotions throughout cultures	Motivation and stress throughout cultures.
Week 10 16.4 – 18.4	Human development, looking at the theories of Freud, Erikson and Piaget and applying them cross-culturally	Psychology in the Czech Republic, brief history and introducing the concept of post-Soviet trauma.
Week 11 23.4 – 25.4	Possible field trip to psychiatric hospital.	Psychological disorders and culture specific disorders, looking at the medical model and diagnostics.
Week 12 30.4 – 2.5	Social perception and social cognition	More on social psychological concepts tested cross culturally.
Week 13 7.5-9.5	Personality psychology looked at cross culturally	Class review/Applied cross cultural psychology
Week 14 14.5	Final exam	

Weekly readings (supplementary readings are provided in class)

Week 1

Cross-Cultural Psychology (from now on referred as CCP)- Chapter 1 pgs. 1-22

Culture and Mental Health – Chapter 1 pgs. 1-19

Week 2

CCP – Chapters 2 pgs. 27-47

Boeree, George. "William James and Wilhelm Wundt". <http://webspace.ship.edu/cgboer/wundtjames.html>

Croce, P. J. (2010). Reaching beyond Uncle William: A century of William James in theory and in life. *History Of Psychology*, 13(4), 351-377.

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Blumenthal, A. L. (1975). A reappraisal of Wilhelm Wundt. *American Psychologist*, 30(11), 1081-1088.

Week 3

Bennett, Milton. (2011). A developmental mode of intercultural sensitivity. IDRI Institute.

Coan, R. W. (1987). Theoretical orientation in psychology and the traditions of Freud, Jung, and Adler. *Professional Psychology: Research And Practice*, 18(2), 134-139.

Hofstede, G. (1976). Nationality and espoused values of managers. *Journal Of Applied Psychology*, 61(2), 148-155.

Kim, E., Zeppenfeld, V., & Cohen, D. (2013). Sublimation, culture, and creativity. *Journal Of Personality And Social Psychology*, 105(4), 639-666.

Week 4

CCP - Chapter 3 pgs 53-88

Gunderman, Richard. The Manipulation of the American Mind: Edward Bernays and the Birth of Public Relations. <http://theconversation.com/the-manipulation-of-the-american-mind-edward-bernays-and-the-birth-of-public-relations-44393>

Daly, Christopher. How Woodrow Wilson's Propaganda Machine Changed American Journalism <https://theconversation.com/how-woodrow-wilsons-propaganda-machine-changed-american-journalism-76270>

Bernays, E. L. (1945). Attitude polls—servants or masters?. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 9264-268.

Week 5

CCP Chapter 4 – Pgs 93-114

Culture and Mental Health Chapter 6 – pgs 91 -115

Abu-Raiya, H., Pargament, K. I., & Krause, N. (2016). Religion as problem, religion as solution: Religious buffers of the links between

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religious/spiritual struggles and well-being/mental health. *Quality Of Life Research: An International Journal Of Quality Of Life Aspects Of Treatment, Care & Rehabilitation*, 25(5), 1265-1274.

Carlisle, P. A. (2015). 'We don't talk about that around here': Religion, spirituality and mental health in Northern Ireland. *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*, 18(5), 396-407.

Week 6

<http://www.simplypsychology.org/client-centred-therapy.html>

Mendelowitz, E. (2011). Transience and possibility: The legacy of Rollo May. *The Humanistic Psychologist*, 39(3), 253-260.

Pytell, T. (2007). Extreme experience, psychological insight, and Holocaust perception: Reflections on Bettelheim and Frankl. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 24(4), 641-657.

Pytell, T. (2006). Transcending the angel beast: Viktor Frankl and humanistic psychology. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 23(3), 490-503.

Week 7

Crazy Like Us - Chapter 2 pgs 65 - 126
The True Self Reading

Week 8

Gefland, MJ. (2017). The strength of social norms across human groups. *Perspectives in Psychological Science*.

Week 9

CCP – Chapter 5 & 6 pgs 120-169

Miler, Joan et al. (2017). A Cultural Psychology of Agency: Morality, Motivation and Reciprocity. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.

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Week 10

CCP – Chapter 8 pgs 195-216

Marlin, O. (1990). Group psychology in the totalitarian system: A psychoanalytic view. *Group*, 14(1), 44-58.

Klicperová, M., Feierabend, I. K., & Hofstetter, C. R. (1997). In the search for a post-communist syndrome: A theoretical framework and empirical assessment. *Journal Of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 7(1), 39-52.

Week 11

CCP - Chapter 9 pgs 221-249

Culture and Mental Health - Chapter 2 pgs 19-35

Week 12

CCP - Chapter 10 pgs 255-272

Markus, Hazel. (2017). American=Independent? Perspectives on Psychological Science.

Week 13

CCP - Chapter 11-12 pgs 277-319