



Department of Psychology

Psychology 503.66 (L03) – Cross-Cultural Psychology

Fall 2007

Instructor:	Valerie Pruegger	Lecture Location:	ENF 334
Phone:	268-5126	Lecture	W 3-6 pm
		Days/Time:	
Email:	vpruegge@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	7 th Flr, 800 Macleod Tr S		
Office Hours:	by appointment		

Course Description and Goals

Cross-cultural psychology is the study of the similarities and difference in individual psychological functioning in various cultural and ethnic groups; of the relationships between psychological variables and sociocultural, ecological and biological variables; and of current changes in these variables. This discipline arose from related disciplines such as ecology, anthropology, sociology, linguistics and biology and seeks to test existing psychological knowledge and theory to establish cross-cultural generality of these principles before considering them to be established.

As much of the world, including Canada, becomes more and more pluralistic, professionals are needed who understand the impact that culture and systemic discrimination have on human behaviour. This understanding begins to address CPA and APA ethical guidelines for providers of psychological services to ethnic, linguistic and culturally diverse populations.

Required Text

Berry, J.W., Poortinga, Y.H., Segall, M.H., Dasen, P.R. (2006). *Cross-Cultural Psychology: Research and Applications* (2nd Ed). Cambridge Press. Available in bookstore.

Evaluation

This course will be evaluated through a mid-term exam worth 30% of the course grade, and a final exam worth 35%. The format of the exams will be short answer and one essay question. In addition, students will be graded on group exercises conducted throughout the course in terms of participation accounting for 10% of the final grade. The final 25% of the grade will be graded on an assigned team exercise that will require students to work together on a group project.

The midterm and final exam will be conducted in class time and due at the end of the class. The group project can be submitted electronically and is due no later than 4 pm of the due date. Late

assignments will be docked 5% for each day submitted late unless students arrange for late submission with the professor ahead of time.

Assignment	Topics	Due Date	% of Grade
Mid-term Exam	Chs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	2007 Oct 24	30
Final Exam	Chs 2,6, 7,13, 14, 15, 16, 17	Assigned by Registrar	35
Group Project	TBA	2007 Nov 21	25
Group Exercises	TBA	each class	10

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%, etc.).

Lecture Schedule

Date (2007)	Topic	Pre-reading
September 12	Introduction	Chs 1 and 12
September 19	Approaches	Chs 9 and 10
September 26	Social Behaviour/Personality	Chs 3 and 4
October 3	Cognition	Ch 5
October 10	Intro to Group Work	None ¹
October 17	Perception & Methodology	Chs 8 and 11
October 24	MIDTERM (30%)	All above chapters covered
October 31	Language & Emotion	Chs 6 & 7
Date (2007)	Topic	Pre-reading
November 7	Transmission & Acculturation	Chs 2 & 13
November 14	Organizations & Communication	Chs 14 & 15
November 21	Health Behaviour Group Project Due (25%)	Ch 16

¹ It is imperative that students attend this class to be assigned to a _____ group and topic for their group project. Please let the professor know _____ ASAP if you can not attend this class.

November 28	Psychology and the World	Ch 17
December 5	Talking Circle and Tips for Final Exam	None
TBA – scheduled by the Registrar	FINAL EXAM (35%)	Chapters covered from October 31-Nov 28

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

This course will address the following core competencies:

- Critical and creative thinking
- Analysis of problems
- Effective oral and written communication
- Gathering and organizing information
- Abstract reasoning and its applications
- Insight and intuition in generating knowledge
- Interpretive and assessment skills

It will provide:

- A defined interdisciplinary component
- An international component
- An experiential learning component relevant to the program objectives (weekly)
- Integration of research
- Practical real-world experiences
- Class discussions centering on methodological and conceptual issues in cross-cultural psychology

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done

expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and **have not** registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Course Credits for Research Participation

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in research is December 6, 2007.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

Fall Session:

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is September 21, 2007.
The last day to withdraw from this course is December 7, 2007.