

CET Syllabus of Record

Program: CET Prague

Course Title: Cross-Cultural Psychology

Course Code: PR/PSYC 252

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: Psychology / Sociology

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: None



Description

Psychology is a fascinating area of human studies and its knowledge helps people around the world. But can we simply take the psychological knowledge gained in one country and apply it in another country? Cross-cultural psychology examines how cultural differences in developmental, social and educational areas affect individual behavior and critically compares psychological research from specific countries. The theoretical section of the course introduces major theories and the latest research on cross-cultural psychology. In the practical section, critical thinking and intercultural competence will be developed through discussions, role play and self-experience techniques. Cross-cultural psychology explores a wide range of topics, so students who have an interest in psychology in general, or in specific psychology topics, may choose this course.

Objectives

During this course, students:

- Are introduced to the field of cross-cultural psychology
- Understand contemporary theories and research in cross-cultural psychology
- Develop tools for critical thinking in the area of cross-cultural psychology
- Understand how psychological processes differ among cultures
- Identify psychological challenges that arise from cultural differences
- Explore cultural self-awareness, awareness of other cultures, and the dynamics between them
- Enhance an understanding and adaptability to new cultural situations
- Increase the level of intercultural competence required for successful and satisfactory work or leisure activities in a culturally different environment

Course Requirements

- Participation: Participation extends beyond mere attendance. It involves active contribution to role plays, cultural activities and discussions. Extra points can be awarded.
- Power Point presentation: 10 minutes oral presentation on chosen topic, using expert literature.
- Homework: Intercultural homework to be prepared in a group of students.
- Midterm test: Written test. Students analyze different cross-cultural case studies.
- Final exam: Oral exam. Students demonstrate the acquired cross-cultural psychology knowledge in its complexity.

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- Students are expected to abide by CET's Attendance Policy.

Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

Participation	20%
Homework	10%
Power Point presentation	20%
Midterm test	20%
Final exam	30%

Primary Texts

Shiraev, E. B., Levy, D. A. (2013). *Cross-cultural Psychology: Critical Thinking and Contemporary Applications*. Fifth Edition. Pearson Education, Inc., USA.

Supplementary Texts

Selected articles from *Journal of Cross-cultural Psychology*.

Fiske, S. T. (2000). Stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination at the seam between the centuries: evolution, culture, mind, and brain. *European Journal of Social Psychology*. 30 p. 299-322
<http://www2.psych.ubc.ca/~schaller/Psyc591Readings/Fiske2000.pdf>

Markus, H.R., & Kitayama, S. (1991). Culture and the self: Implications for cognition, emotion and motivation. *Psychological Review*, 98(2), 224-253. <http://www.biu.ac.il/PS/docs/diesendruck/2.pdf>

Thomas, A., Kinast, E., Schroll-Machl, S. (2010). *Handbook of Intercultural Communication and Cooperation*. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht GmbH & Co.

Landis, D., Bennett, J., Bennett, M. (2004) *Handbook of Intercultural Training*. London: Sage Publications, Inc.

Berry, J. W. (2005). Acculturation: Living successfully in two cultures. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations* (29) 697–712.

Hofstede, Gert Jan, Pedersen, Paul & Hofstede, Geert (2002). *Exploring Culture: Exercises, Stories and Synthetic Cultures*. Intercultural Press.

Outline of Course Content

Topic 1 – Understanding cross-cultural psychology

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Topic 2 – Cross-cultural psychology methodology and critical thinking

Topic 3 – Cognition in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 4 – Intelligence in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 5 – Emotion and motivation in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 6 – Verbal and non-verbal communication in different countries

Topic 7 – Behavior in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 8 – Socialization in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 9 – Psychological disorders in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 10 – Social perception and cognition in cross-cultural psychology

Topic 11 – Applied cross-cultural psychology

Topic 12 – Adaptation to different cultural environment, culture shock, intercultural competence development

Topic 13 – Main Czech and American cultural and psychological differences and how to use them in praxis

E.g.: The most relevant Czech cultural standards (values, habits, rituals, norms etc.) will be demonstrated in a negotiation role play with a native Czech person. Case studies and new intercultural psychology research findings will complement the student's idea of how to understand Czechs, how to deal with them successfully, but at the same time how not to lose their own cultural identity while communicating with foreigners in general.