

**Psychology 410: Mind and Culture**  
**Dr. Shinobu Kitayama**

**Description:** This course examines the interdependence between culture and a variety of psychological processes such as social inference, moral reasoning, motivation, emotion, and psychopathology. The focus is on the possibility that many of current psychological theories and phenomena may be rooted, often implicitly, on the Western premises of personhood (i.e., what it means to be a "person") and, as a result, may not be applicable, in any straightforward way, to non-Western cultures. We will examine evidence from non-Western cultures and explore ways to integrate this evidence with current theories in psychology.

**Office:** 309 Straub (346-4905)

**Office hour:** W and F, 1-3 pm

**Reading:** Two packages are available at the EMU copying center: primary readings and supplementary readings. The primary readings (indicated below with p) are required for everyone taking the course for credits; whereas the supplementary readings (indicated below with s) are required only for graduate students taking the course for credits although they are highly recommended for every serious, motivated student.

**Requirements:** You are expected to read all the primary readings and attend the lectures. At the end of most lectures, you will be asked to hand in a brief summary of the lecture. You can also raise questions or point out issues unclear to you in the lecture. You must hand in this "lecture summary" at least 80% of the times when it is requested. There will be two exams; midterm and final. Questions will be asked from both lectures and readings (only primary readings for undergraduates but both primary and supplementary readings for graduate students). The final exam is cumulative, covering the entire course. In both exams you can bring in your **own** notes. Graduate students can write a term paper (10-15 pages) to meet the lecture summary requirement.

**Evaluation:** Midterm (30%), Final (40%), Lecture Summaries (or a term paper for graduate students, 30%)

**Schedule**

Jan 8, 10                      Approaches to culture

pLakoff, G., & Johnson, M. (1984). *Metaphors we live by*. Chapters 1-5, 25.

pBonner, J. T. (1988). *The evolution of culture in animals*. Chapter 8.

sGeertz, C. (1973). Chapter 3 of *The interpretation of cultures*. The growth of culture and the evolution of mind.

Jan 15, 17                      Person as cultural category

\*Jan 17: Slide show on Stanford Prison Study by P. Zimbardo.

pShweder, R. A., & Bourne, E. J. (1984). Does the concept of the person vary cross-culturally? In R. A. Shweder & R. A. LeVine (Eds.), *Culture theory*. Cambridge.

pLutz, C. (1988). Chapter 4 of *Unnatural emotion*. The ethnopsychological contexts of emotion: Ifaluk beliefs about the person.

sShweder, R. & Sullivan, M. A. (1990). The semiotic subject of cultural psychology. In L. A. Pervin (Ed.), *Handbook of personality: Theory and research*. Guilford.

Jan 22, 24                      Individualism and collectivism

pSchwartz, S. H., & Bilsky, W. (1990). Toward a theory of the universal content and structure of values: extensions and cross-cultural replications. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 58, 878-891.

pTriandis, H. C., McCusker, C., & Hui, C. H. (1990). Multimethod probes of individualism and collectivism. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 59, 1006-1200.

sSampson, E. E. (1988). Indigenous psychologies of the individual and their role in personal and societal functioning. *American Psychologist*, 43, 15-22.

Jan 29                              Self

pMarkus, H., & Kitayama, S. (in press). pp 1-6. Culture and the self: Implications for cognition, emotion, and motivation. *Psychological Review*.

pDoi, T. (1971). Foreword and Chapter 1 of *The anatomy of dependence*.

sKakar, S. (1978). Chapter 2 from *The inner world: A psychoanalytic study of childhood and society in India*. Oxford.

Jan 31                              Midterm exam

Feb 5, 7                          Social inference

pMarkus, H. & Kitayama, S. (in press). pp 7-12.

pCousins, S. (1987). Culture and self-perception in Japan and the United States. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 56, 124-131.

sD'Andrade, R. G. (1989). Cultural cognition. In M. Posner (Ed.), *Foundations of cognitive science*. MIT.

sMiller, J. (1984). Culture and everyday social explanation. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 46, 961-978.

Feb 12, 14                      Moral reasoning

pMiller, J. G., Bersoff, D. M., & Harwood, R. L. (1990). Perception of social responsibilities in India and in the United States: Moral imperatives or personal decisions? *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 58, 33-47.

pFiske, A. (in press). Table 1 from The four elementary forms of sociality: Framework for a unified theory of social relations. *Psychological Review*.

pWeber, M. (1920). Introduction from *The Protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism*.

sFiske, A. (in press). The four elementary forms of sociality: Framework for a unified theory of social relations. *Psychological Review*.

sGilligan, C. (1982). Chapters 1 and 6 from *In a different voice: psychological theory and women's development*.

Feb 19, 21                      Motivation

pMarkus, H. & Kitayama, S. (in press). pp 17-22.

pMaehr, M. L., & Nicholls, J. G. (1980). Culture and achievement motivation: A second look. In N. Warren (Ed.), *Studies in cross-cultural psychology*. Academic Press.

sMcClelland, D. C. (1987). Chapter 11 from *Human motivation*. Cambridge. Motivational trends in society.

sSpence, J. T. (1985). Achievement American style: The reward and costs of individualism. *American Psychologist*, 40, 1285-1295.

Feb 26, 28                      Emotion

pMarkus, H., & Kitayama, S. (in press). pp 12-16, 23-25.

pWhite, G. (1990). Moral discourse and the rhetoric of emotions. In Lutz, C., & Abu-Lughad, L. *The politics of emotion*. Cambridge.

sSchachter, S., & Singer, J. (1962). Cognitive, social, and physiological determinants of the emotional state. *Psychological Review*, 37, 379-399.

sOrtony, A., & Turner, T. J. (1990). What's basic about basic emotions? *Psychological Review*, 97, 315-331.

Mar 5, 7                      Psychopathology

pWeitz, J. R., Rothbaum, F. M., & Blackburn, T. C. (1984). Standing out and standing in: The psychology of control in America and Japan. *American Psychologist*, 39, 955-969.

sKleinman, A., & Kleinman, J. (1985). Somatization: The interconnections in Chinese society among culture, depressive experiences, and the meanings of pain. In Kleinman, A., & Good, B. (Eds.), *Culture and depression*. Berkeley.

sBlatt, S. J. (1990). Interpersonal relatedness and self-definition: Two personality configurations and their implications for psychopathology and psychotherapy. In J. L. Singer (Ed.), *Repression and dissociation*. Chicago.

Mar 13, 3:15pm:      Final exam