

<p style="text-align: center;">Course Syllabus, Winter 2014 Psychology 459: Tuesday and Thursday 4 :00 – 5 :20 Knight Library 101</p>
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30-6:30, or by appointment.

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Course Description: In the field of cultural psychology, we study the ways that humans form cultures and the ways in which those cultures shape behavior, thinking, and feeling. General psychology tends to focus on universals or similarities between all people often ignoring the impact that differences in culture have on psychological phenomena. At the end of this class, it is my hope that you will be able to apply the lessons you have learned in this class to increase your awareness of the impact that culture has had on your own experiences as well as to understand the complexity that other cultures have added to our social world.

Research about learning has shown that students learn and retain material better in a situation in which learning is active rather than passive, and cooperative rather than individual. I have incorporated some of the principles of active and cooperative learning into my class, and try to be sensitive to the various types of learning styles that might exist among my students. To this end, we will do active learning exercises in this class that involve your participation. We will also do some group work. Oftentimes these in-class active learning and group exercises will have associated class credit. You must be in class to receive this credit.

Course Objectives: Cultural psychology is the scientific study of the ways in which people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by their culture, traditions, and social practices. The aims of this course are:

- To familiarize you with the concepts and theories of cultural psychology.
- Help you recognize the influence of culture on behavior, thoughts, and feelings.
- Give you the capacity to interpret research findings.

Required Readings: Weekly readings from the textbook will be required for all students. Additionally, students will be required to read supplemental journal articles for some of the sections. The supplemental readings will be made available online.

Text: Heine, S. J. (2012). *Cultural Psychology* (2nd Edition) NY: Norton.

Course Requirements: Your grade for this class will be based on 4 things:

1. **Exams:** There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. The exams will include questions taken from the text, lecture, and the supplemental readings. There is no way to cover all of the information contained in the textbook during lecture, so doing well on the exams will require that you learn from the textbook, supplemental readings, and the lecture. Exams will mostly be multiple choice, though short answer and mini-essay questions may also be included. The final exam will NOT be cumulative. Each exam will be worth 25% of the final grade.

Makeup Exams: It is important to be prepared and present for all scheduled exams. However, I recognize that there are some situations in which you simply cannot make it to an exam. In the case of a serious illness, emergency, religious observance, or university sponsored event, make up exams will be allowed. If you have a scheduled university sponsored event or religious observance, you must let me know well in advance of the listed exam date (at least 1 week) and we will arrange for you to take an exam before you leave. If you have a serious illness or an emergency, you must let me know prior to the exam (before 9:00am) and we will make arrangements for a make-up. Documentation that verifies the event (e.g., a note from a physician) will be required upon request. If you have questions about what type of documentation is required for a specific situation, contact me.

2. **Paper:** You will have one paper due during the term. You will select a topic of interest and examine at least 3 peer-reviewed journal articles examining that topic in different cultures. In your paper, summarize the topic under discussion, the specific cultures that were examined, the analyses used, and what the researchers found.

More details on this assignment will be given as we progress. Additionally, you will each submit a draft which will then be reviewed by another student and returned to you for editing. More details on the papers will be made available online.

3. **Reading Responses:** You are required to read the chapter and supplemental reading for each section. To help you make a personal connection to the reading matter you will complete weekly reading responses on Blackboard. These questions will be graded out of 10 points, and each response should be about a half page single spaced. Completed responses will be submitted via Blackboard and will be worth 20% of your final grade.

4. **In-Class Activities:** Attendance is not required but is strongly recommended. We will cover some material in class that is not in the textbook. Additionally, there will be in-class activities that will be awarded points, if you are not in class you will not receive the points, there will be no make-ups for in-class activities.

Grading: Your final grade in the course is based on your total points accumulated on the two tests, your paper, attendance, and in-class assignments, as described above. To summarize:

Exams (100 points each)	= 200 points
Short papers (65 points for final draft 15 for first draft and review)	= 80 points
In-class Activities	= 40 points
<u>Reading Responses (8 at 10 point each)</u>	<u>= 80 points</u>
Total	= 400 points

The following grid provides the letter grade associated with each percent.

A	93-100%	B	83-86.9%	C	73-76.9%	D	63-66.9%
A-	90-92.9%	B-	80-82.9%	C-	70-72.9%	D-	60-62.9%
B+	87-89.9%	C+	77-79.9%	D+	67-69.9%	F	59.9% or below

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me during the first week of classes. Please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities send a letter verifying your disability. Students without a documented disability who are experiencing learning difficulties are encouraged to consult Disabilities Services (164 Oregon Hall; 346-1155; disabsrv@uoregon.edu; <http://ds.uoregon.edu/>). If you have a non-documented disability, I encourage you to contact Disabilities Services.

Cheating/plagiarism: Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating on exams, copying answers off of other students during exams, having other students help you falsify your attendance, and plagiarizing of any kind will absolutely not be tolerated in this class. At the very least, you will receive a zero on the assignment. I encourage you to review the University policy on academic dishonesty; you are responsible for behaving in accordance with this policy and continued enrollment in this class will be considered implicit agreement that you have read and accepted the terms of that policy.

Class Etiquette & Norms:

- Arrive on time and stay for the entire class.
- Treat your fellow students and your instructors with respect.
 - Turn the ringer off on your cell phone during class.
- If you attend class, please be attentive (no texting, reading novels, web-surfing, etc).
 - Ask questions and speak up during class.
 - Stop by and see Jordan and Philippe during office hours.
- Attendance is not required; do not attend class at all if you cannot meet these norms.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Reading is to be completed **before** the first class for which it is listed

Note: Last date to drop courses without receiving a "W": January 13th

Last date to drop courses with "W" or change to pass/no pass: February 23rd

Week	Topic	Chapter Reading
1	Syllabus and Introduction	
	What is Cultural Psychology?	Heine ch. 1
2	Culture and Human Nature	Heine ch. 2
	Cultural Evolution	Heine ch. 3
3	Methodology	Heine ch. 4
	Development and Socialization	Heine ch. 5
4	Self and Personality	Heine ch. 6
	Motivation	Heine ch. 7
5	Wrap-up	
	MIDTERM EXAM	
6	Cognition and Perception	Heine ch. 8
	Interpersonal Relationships	Heine ch. 9
7	Multicultural World	Heine ch. 10
	Physical Health	Heine ch. 11
8	Mental Health	Heine ch. 12
	Morality, Religion, and Justice	Heine ch. 13
9	Emotions	Heine ch. 14
	Wrap-up	
10	Wrap-up	

FINALS WEEK

Thursday March 20th, 1:00 p.m. FINAL EXAM (Chapters 8-14).

Paper Due Dates:

Topic Selected and Short Proposal: Tuesday February 11th in class.

First Draft Complete: Tuesday February 25th in class.

Peer-Reviewed Paper Returned: Tuesday March 4th in class.

Final Draft: Tuesday March 11th in class.