



Psychology 503.30

Culture and Psychopathology

Instructor:	Keith S. Dobson, Ph.D.	Lecture Location:	SS 010
Phone:	403- 200- 5096	Lecture Days/Time:	W 18:00- 20:50
Email:	ksdobson@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	Administration Bldg. 233A		
Office Hours:	W 17:00- 18:00, or by appointment		

Course Description and Goals

This course will encompass an investigation of how the concepts of culture and psychopathology intersect, and implications of this intersection for theory, research and practice. Within this overall goal, the course will have several tasks, including: 1) to explore what “culture” is and why it matters in understanding both normal and abnormal human behavior, 2) to understand in what ways psychopathology is both universal and culturally defined, 3) to understand research methods to study culture and psychopathology, 4) to explore attitudes and assumptions towards individuals from other cultures, and 5) to explore ways to integrate theoretical knowledge and dilemmas about the cultural basis of psychopathology into clinical practice for the “helping professions” such as clinical psychology and psychiatry.

Prerequisites

Psychology 312

Required Text

There is no assigned text for this course. Course readings will be emailed directly to students.

Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on three elements, including a 20 minute in-class presentation about a specific disorder (20% of final grade), a 30 minute presentation about a conceptual or research issue from the course (30% of final grade), and a term paper related to the second presentation (50% of final grade).

The first presentation will review a minimum of two journal articles you have chosen, which compare or contrast the symptom presentation, rates, or some specific feature of a given disorder in at least two different cultural contexts. The first presentation will be no more than 20 minutes in duration. In contrast, the second presentation will be on a topic of your choice related to a concept (theoretical, research, assessment, or practice) that you have an interest in, and which you have approved by the course instructor. The second presentation will be no more than 30 minutes in duration, and can include a conceptual review, a class exercise, a brief video (with commentary), or other creative aspect, as you think best reflects the issue about which you are presenting. The lecture on September 19 will include more information about evaluation and tips for giving your first presentation, and topics will be chosen or assigned. Topics for the second presentations will be chosen or assigned in the lecture on or before October 10, and the October 10 class will include more information for the second presentation, and topics will confirmed or assigned.

Each presentation will require the student to become a “mini- expert” in a course-relevant area of their choice, as approved by the course instructor. The student will review relevant journal articles and summarize the key theory, methodology, results, implications for research, and take-home points for practice. Effective presentations will include an interesting, concise, clear, well-organized, digestible delivery of material and will stimulate class participation through discussion points, activities, exercises, and so forth. Each presentation will be given using PowerPoint slides, and will be supplemented with a brief handout, including the references used. If a student fails to give his/ her assigned presentation, he or she will receive a grade of 0% for that part of the course.

The term paper is due by Friday, December 19th, 11:59pm, by email to the instructor. Term papers will involve a critical review and discussion of conceptual and/ or research findings in the same selected topic area of the second presentation, determined in conjunction with the student’s interest and the instructor’s approval. Articles reviewed should be from leading academic journals and have important implications for research and practice. Secondary sources such as chapters or books should be used sparingly, and web-based sources (e.g. Wikipedia, Google Scholar) are not to be used. A major component of the paper will involve a critical examination of the constructs that are evaluated and the research used to explore this issue. Aspects of the paper will include how the research could it be improved, what the evidence tells us about theory and/or practice, and discussion of novel linkages among the articles reviewed. The paper will have a cover page, and then will be no more than 20 pages, including references (single sided, double-spaced, one inch margins, in Times New Roman 12 pitch font). APA style is required. Late term papers will be penalized 5% per day, including weekends.

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% = A, but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)
W Sep 12	<p>Lecture begins. Introductions and key definitions. Fowers, B. J. & Davidov, B. J. (2006) The virtue of multiculturalism: Personal transformation, character, and openness to the other. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 61, 581-594. Sam, D. S. & Moreira, V. (2012). Revisiting the mutual embeddedness of culture and mental illness. <i>Online readings in psychology and culture, Unit 10</i>. Retrieved from http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu.orpc/vol10/iss2/1</p>
W Sep 19	<p>First presentations chosen or assigned. Cross-cultural research methods. Adamopoulos, J. & Lonner, W. J. (2001). Culture and psychology at a crossroad: Historical perspective and theoretical analysis. (pp. 11- 34). In D. Matsumoto (Ed.) <i>The Handbook of Culture and Psychology</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p>

	Van De Vijer, F. (2001). The evolution of cross-cultural research methods. (pp. 77- 97). In D. Matsumoto (Ed.) <i>The Handbook of Culture and Psychology</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press.
F Sep 21	Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.
	Key Concepts: Individualism and collectivism. Chin, D., & Kameoka, V. A. (2006). Sociocultural influences (pp. 67- 84). In M. Hersen and J. C. Thomas (Eds.) <i>Comprehensive handbook of personality and psychopathology. Volume 2- Adult Psychopathology</i> . New York: Wiley & Sons. Lopez, S. R., & Guarnaccia, P. J. J. (2000). Cultural psychopathology: Uncovering the social world of mental illness. <i>Annual Review of Psychology, 51</i> , 571- 598. Triandis, H. C. (2001). Individualism and collectivism: Past, present and future. (pp. 35- 50). In D. Matsumoto (Ed.) <i>The Handbook of Culture and Psychology</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press.
M Sep 24	Last day to add or swap courses.
W Oct 3	Immigration and acculturation. Berry, J. W. (1998). Acculturation and health: Theory and research. (pp. 39- 57) In S. S. Kazarian and D. R. Evans (eds.). <i>Cultural clinical psychology: Theory, research and practice</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press.
W Oct 10	Second presentations chosen or assigned. Practice issues Hansen, N. D., Pepitone-Arreola-Rockwell F., and Greene, A. F. (2000). Multicultural competence: Criteria and case examples. <i>Professional Psychology: Research and Practice, 31</i> , 652-660. Toumishey, H. (2003). Multicultural health care: An introductory course. (pp. 113- 138). In R. Masi, L. Mensah & K. A. McLeod (Eds.) <i>Health and Culture: Exploring the relationships</i> . Oakville, Ontario: Mosaic Press. Whaley A. L., and Davis, K. E. (2007). Cultural competence and evidence-based practice in mental health services: A complementary perspective. <i>American Psychologist, 62</i> , 563–574.
W Oct 17	Class presentations (1)
W Oct 24	Class presentations (1)
W Oct 31	Class presentations (1)
W Nov 7	Class presentations (2)
F Nov 9	Reading days. No lectures.
M Nov 12	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed.
W Nov 14	Class presentations (2)
W Nov 21	Class presentations (2)
W Nov 28	Class presentations (2)
W Dec 5	Class presentations (2)
F Dec 7	Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw from this course. Term paper due.
Dec 10-19	Fall Term Exam Period

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work has been unfairly graded may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied with that response, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the Department of Psychology, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 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 of Arts within 15 days of the unfavorable 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. All term papers in this course will be evaluated for plagiarism. 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 403-220-8237. 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 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From An Evaluation/ Test/ Exam

Makeup evaluations are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup evaluation/test/exam, or forfeit the right to a makeup evaluation/test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup evaluation/ test/exam must be completed within 2 weeks.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act

The FOIPP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/ lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIPP-sensitive information.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. The primary and secondary assembly points for the current classroom are the Professional Faculties Building-Food Court, and the Education Block - Food Court, respectively.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Sep 21st, 2012**.

Last day for registration/change of registration is **Sep 24th, 2012**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 7th, 2012**.