



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Department of Psychology
Psychology 491 (L01) – Cross-Cultural Cognition
Winter 2011 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Meghan Zvaigzne	Lecture Location:	A 253
Email:	mtzvaigz@ucalgary.ca	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 9:00 – 9:50
Office:	Admin 257D		
Office Hours:	Wednesday 10:00 – 12:00		

Course Description and Goals

From Calendar: Theory and research on the interaction of culture and human cognition. Topics include cross-cultural research in perception, language processing, memory, concepts, and reasoning.

Prerequisites

Psyc 312 – Experiment Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology
Psyc 365 – Cognitive Psychology

Required Text

There is no required textbook. Article readings will be assigned, please check on Blackboard for article list.

Evaluation

Exams

Exam	Date	% of Grade
Midterm 1	Wednesday, February 2 nd , 2011	15%
Midterm 2	Friday, March 4 th , 2011	15%
Midterm 3	Monday, March 28 th , 2011	15%
Final Exam	Registrar Scheduled (April 18 th -29 th)	25%

There will be four exams: three midterms (15% each) and a final (25%). Each will cover both reading and lecture material and will consist of short and long answer questions. The midterms will not be cumulative, but the final exam will be cumulative.

Assignments

Assignment	Due Date	% of Grade
Assignment 1	Friday, February 18 th , 2011	10%
Assignment 2	Monday, April 11 th , 2011	20%

There will be two assignments. The first will be a 2-3 page (double-spaced) summary and critique of two articles on a related topic, worth 10%. The second will be a 4-5 page (double-

spaced) research proposal based on your critique of the two articles, worth 20%. The introduction and background of the proposal will be a revision of your first assignment based on the feedback you receive. To help improve your thinking and writing, a peer review process will be included. A peer will provide feedback on your summary/critique and research proposal prior to final submission. The peer feedback will be graded, and must be submitted with your assignment. Peer feedback will be worth 2% of your Assignment 1 grade and 3% of your Assignment 2 grade. The assignments are to be submitted in class on the due date. Late assignments will lose 10% per day late, 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	Readings
M Jan 10	<i>Lecture begins.</i> Course overview	
W Jan 12	Intro to cross-cultural cognition	
F Jan 14	Definition of culture	TBA
M Jan 17	Definition of culture	
W Jan 19	Cross-cultural research issues	TBA
F Jan 21	<i>Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i> Cross-cultural research issues	
M Jan 24	<i>Last day for registration/change of registration.</i> Perception	TBA
W Jan 26	Perception	
F Jan 28	Attention	TBA
M Jan 31	Attention	
W Feb 2	Midterm 1	
F Feb 4	<i>No lecture. University closed.</i>	
M Feb 7	Concepts and knowledge	TBA
W Feb 9	Concepts and knowledge	
F Feb 11	Peer review feedback due Memory	TBA
M Feb 14	Memory	
W Feb 16	Autobiographical memory	TBA
F Feb 18	Assignment 1 due in class Autobiographical memory	
M Feb 21	<i>Reading days. No lecture.</i>	
W Feb 23	<i>Reading days. No lecture.</i>	
F Feb 25	<i>Reading days. No lecture.</i>	

M Feb 28	Emotion	TBA
W Mar 2	Cognitive development	
F Mar 4	Midterm2	TBA
M Mar 7	Language	
W Mar 9	Language	TBA
F Mar 11	Bilingualism and biculturalism	
M Mar 14	Communication	TBA
W Mar 16	Nonverbal communication	TBA
F Mar 18	Social cognition	TBA
M Mar 21	Social cognition	
W Mar 23	Creativity	
F Mar 25	Creativity	TBA
M Mar 28	Midterm 3	
W Mar 30	Motivation	TBA
F Apr 1	Motivation	
M Apr 4	Peer review feedback due Judgment	TBA
W Apr 6	Judgment	
F Apr 8	Reasoning	TBA
M Apr 11	Assignment 2 due in class Reasoning	
W Apr 13	Problem solving	TBA
R Apr 14	<i>Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.</i>	
F Apr 15	<i>Lecture ends. Last day to withdraw.</i> Problem solving	
Apr 18 – Apr 29	Final exam scheduled by the Registrar	

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) 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, 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 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 offering the course within 15 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 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 A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams 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 from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP 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 or UCIDs with their grades or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

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 the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Apr 14th, 2011**.

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>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

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 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

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

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Jan 21st, 2011**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Jan 24th, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 15th, 2011**.