



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Course Acronym:	PSYC
Course Number:	117
Descriptive Title:	Cultural Psychology
Division:	Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department:	Psychology and Human Development
Course Disciplines:	Psychology
Catalog Description:	This course will examine psychological principles, theory, and research through exploration of cultural differences and similarities, both within and across cultures. Topics may include the interplay between culture and developmental processes, cognition, emotion, communication, gender, personality development, psychopathology, and social behavior.
Prerequisite:	Psychology C1000 or Psychology C1000H with a minimum grade of C
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	Eligibility for English C1000 or equivalent
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	3
Hours Laboratory (per week):	0
Outside Study Hours:	6
Total Course Hours:	54
Course Units:	3
Grading Method:	Letter Grade and Pass/No Pass
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	2/17/2015
Transfer UC:	Yes
Effective Date:	fall 2015
General Education: ECC	Area 2C - Social and Behavioral Science
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	Area D - Social Sciences
Term:	

	Other:	
	IGETC:	Area 4 - Social and Behavioral Sciences
	Term:	
	Other:	
	CalGETC:	
	Term:	
	Other:	
Student Learning Outcomes:	SLO #1 Logic of the Scientific Method Identify and describe the challenges and advantages of cross-cultural research methodology and critically evaluate research findings concerning psychological principles and culture. SLO #2 Fundamental Principles Identify, explain, and critique different theoretical perspectives relating to cultural psychology and analyze cultural differences and similarities, both within and across cultures. SLO #3 Everyday Application Identify and analyze the relationship between cultural backgrounds/perspectives and behavior/mental processes and apply the knowledge gained to real life situations	
Course Objectives:	1. Define, identify, and discuss key terms relating to culture and psychology. 2. Define, identify, and discuss research methods and be able to critically evaluate research findings concerning psychological principles and culture. 3. Describe and discuss different theoretical perspectives relating to cultural psychology. 4. Discuss and analyze cultural differences and similarities, both within and across cultures. 5. Recognize and appreciate cultural diversity and how culture influences behavior. 6. Apply the knowledge gained to real life situations.	

	7. Discuss the relationship between their own cultural backgrounds and cultural perspectives and their behavior and mental life.
Major Topics:	I. An Introduction to Culture and Psychology (3 hours, lecture) A. What is Culture? B. Factors Influencing Culture C. How Does Culture Influence Behavior? II. Cross-Cultural Research Methods (3 hours, lecture) A. Research Methods in Psychology B. Approaches to Cross-Cultural Research C. Methodological Concerns with Cross-Cultural Research D. Interpreting and Analyzing Data III. Differences in Worldviews (2 hours, lecture) A. Different Perspectives for Looking at Cultures B. Individualism and Collectivism C. Worldview Models IV. Enculturation and Development (5 hours, lecture) A. Enculturation and Socialization B. Culture and Developmental Processes V. Acculturation (2 hours, lecture) A. Common Experiences in Acculturation B. Models of Acculturation VI. Culture and Cognition (3 hours, lecture) A. Cognition and Perception B. Culture and Intelligence VII. Culture and Gender (3 hours, lecture) A. Sex and Gender B. Gender Roles and Stereotypes

C. Gender Differences across Cultures

VIII. Culture and Emotion (3 hours, lecture)

A. Universality in Emotion

B. Cultural Differences in Emotion

IX. Culture, Language, and Communication (4 hours, lecture)

A. Cultural Influences on Verbal Language

B. Cultural Influences on Nonverbal Communication

C. Intracultural and Intercultural Communication

D. Bilingual Communication

X. Culture and Personality (3 hours, lecture)

A. Defining and Measuring Personality Across Cultures

B. The Trait Approach

C. Cross-Cultural studies of Personality

XI. Culture, Self, and Identity (3 hours, lecture)

A. Cultural Differences in Self-Concept

B. Culture and Identity

C. Culture and Attributions

XII. Culture and Social Behavior (4 hours, lecture)

A. Person Perception

B. Love, Sex, and Marriage

C. Conformity and Obedience

D. Ethnocentrism, Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination

E. Culture and Cooperation

XIII. Culture and Health (3 hours, lecture)

A. Definitions of Health Across Cultures

B. Biopsychosocial Influences on Health and Disease

	C. Cultural Differences in Dealing with Health and Disease XIV. Culture and Psychopathology (3 hours, lecture) A. Defining Abnormal Behavior B. Diagnosis of Abnormal Behavior C. Cross-Cultural Research on Abnormal Behaviors D. Culture-Bound Syndromes XV. Culture and the Treatment of Mental Disorders (3 hours, lecture) A. Culture and Psychotherapy B. Treatment Issues Across Cultures C. Cultural Competency D. Culture-Specific Therapies XVI. Culture and Conflict (4 hours, lecture) A. Intrastate and Interstate Conflict B. Immigrants and Refugees C. Psychological and Physical Ramifications of Conflict D. Conflict and Acculturation XVII. Culture and Technology (3 hours, lecture) A. Influences of Technology on Culture B. Advantages and Disadvantages of Technology C. Impact of Technology on Future Generations
Total Lecture Hours:	54
Total Laboratory Hours:	0
Total Hours:	54
A.1. Primary Methods of Evaluation (Part 1 - CCN courses only):	
A.2. Primary Method of Evaluation (Part 2 -	1) Substantial writing assignments

all courses; choose one):	
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	Enculturation is the process by which individuals learn and adopt the ways and manners of their culture. What have been your own experiences with enculturation? In a 2-3 page paper, please discuss your enculturation/socialization experiences in each of the following areas: 1) Parents and families - How did parental ethnotheories (beliefs and values system), parenting styles (e.g., authoritative, authoritarian, permissive, uninvolved) and parenting behaviors influence your development? - Did socioeconomics play a role? Why or why not? - What about the role of siblings and extended families? What was their influence on your enculturation/socialization process? 2) Peers - What role did peers play in your enculturation/socialization process? 3) Education - How did the educational system influence your development? - Did your teachers and/or parents influence your educational enculturation/socialization? How? 4) Other vehicles of enculturation: Please discuss any additional influential vehicles of your enculturation/socialization process (e.g., religion and spirituality, ecological environment, significant events, etc...).
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	Current Event Assignment Guidelines: 1) Find a culturally relevant event or research finding that has occurred within the last 12 months. 2) You must use a reliable source (e.g., no Wikipedia, the National Inquirer, US Magazine, etc) 3) Present a summary of the current event. Be sure to include the following in your presentation: - Explain how the presentation topic is relevant to cultural psychology - Include terms that we have learned in class (e.g., enculturation/acclulturation, world view, discrimination, etc). - Prepare 2 questions about the article that you can address to your classmates.

	4) Type and turn-in a brief summary of your current event presentation (no more than 1 page).
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	What is culture? In a 1-2 page paper, please address the following questions: Part I: Please address questions 1 and 2. 1) How do you define culture? 2) What is your experience of culture? Part II: Below is the Matsumoto (text) definition of culture. "A unique meaning and information system, shared by a group and transmitted across generations, that allows the group to meet basic needs of survival, pursue happiness and well-being, and derive meaning from life." Matsumoto 3) Is it adequate? 4) How would you change it to fit with your above definition? Part III: Please research different definitions of culture (use the reliable sources and websites we discussed in class) and address questions 5 and 6. 5) What is your final definition of culture after researching different definitions? 6) How has it changed from question #1
Other Evaluation Methods:	Class Performance, Objective Exam
Instructional Methods:	Discussion, Group Activities, Guest Speakers, Lecture, Multimedia presentations
If other:	Internet Presentation/Resources
Work Outside of Class:	Journal (done on a continuing basis throughout the semester), Required reading, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	Online discussion board
Up-To-Date Representative Texts:	Matsumoto, D. & Juang, L. Culture and Psychology. 7th ed. Cengage, 2023. Heine, S. J. Cultural Psychology. 4th ed. Norton & Company, Inc., 2020. Shiraev, E. B. & Levy, D. A. Cross-Cultural Psychology: Critical Thinking and Contemporary Applications. 8th ed. Pearson, 2024.
Alternative Texts:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	Recommended Supplemental Readings (not Required) Keith, K. Cross-Cultural Psychology: Contemporary Themes and Perspectives. 2nd ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2019. (Discipline Standard)
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite:	Prerequisite
Category:	sequential

Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box.	Psychology C1000 or Psychology C1000H
Requisite and Matching skill(s):Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	Students must process knowledge of research methodology, mental processes, and behavior. As well as human development across the lifespan. PSYC C1000 - Outline the steps of the scientific method, identify common research methods, and discuss ethical considerations of psychological research. PSYC C1000 - Explain the basics of genetics and assess the combined influence of genes and environment on a variety of human characteristics. PSYC C1000 - Explain the basics of genetics and assess the combined influence of genes and environment on a variety of human characteristics. PSYC 101 - Outline the steps of the scientific method, identify common research methods, and discuss ethical considerations of psychological research. PSYC C1000 - Analyze the impact of situational forces on human thought processes and behavior. PSYC C1000 - Describe processes of stability and change in the domains of biological, cognitive, and psychosocial development across the lifespan. PSYC C1000H - Outline the steps of the scientific method, identify common research methods, and discuss ethical considerations of psychological research. PSYC C1000H - Explain the basics of genetics and assess the combined influence of genes and environment on a variety of human characteristics. PSYC C1000H - Explain the basics of genetics and assess the combined influence of genes and environment on a variety of human characteristics. PSYC C1000H - Outline the steps of the scientific method, identify common research methods, and discuss ethical considerations of psychological research. PSYC C1000H - Describe processes of stability and change in the domains of biological, cognitive, and psychosocial development across the lifespan. PSYC C1000H - Analyze the impact of situational forces on human thought processes and behavior.
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s):Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding	

course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	Eligibility for ENGL C1000
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable	This course involves reading college level textbooks, developing projects, and answering essay questions. A student's success in this class will be enhanced if they have these skills. Summarize, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize college-level texts. Write a well-reasoned, well-supported expository essay that demonstrates application of the academic writing process.
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Renee Galbavy
Date:	02/20/2014
Original Board Approval Date:	02/17/2015
Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:	Amy Himsel
Date:	09/20/2025
Last Board Approval Date:	12/16/2025
Effective Term:	FA 2026