

Psyc 250: Cross-Cultural Psychology
Bellevue College

Syllabus Spring 2018

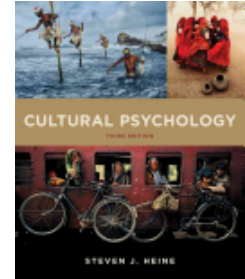
Instructor:

Dr. Helen Taylor

College email: htaylor@bellevuecollege.edu

Best way to reach me: Through Canvas Inbox email

Office Hours: 9-10 Thursdays online or by appointment on campus



Required Text:

Heine, S.J. (2016) *Cultural Psychology*, 3d edition, NY: Norton
ISBN 978-0-393-26398-5

Additional Readings posted on Canvas site:

<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/canvas/>

Course Description

This course investigates the psychological study of people from different cultures – both subcultures within the US and peoples from around the world. It also addresses the question of universality of psychological phenomenon.

The concepts that we will cover include but are not limited to: (1) an overview of research methods in studying culture, (2) understanding common psychological and behavioral concepts (e.g., motivation, personality, emotions, self-concept, cognition and perception) presented through the lens of cultural psychology; and (3) becoming more culturally competent in the multicultural world in which we live. Although our main resource will be the cultural psychology text (referenced above), we will augment various topics using additional readings.

Student Learning Objectives

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- Describe the ways in which culture, beliefs, values, and behavior interact.
- Identify ethnocentrism in psychological thought, theory, and research methods, and suggest means for reducing bias in the study of human behavior.
- Demonstrate respect for the wide diversity of human behavior as well as knowledge of the common threads and values.
- Explain the relevance of psychology and other disciplines in understanding human behavior from a global perspective.
- Describe how culture and the environment might be important variables in situations one expects to encounter.
- Demonstrate competencies in functioning in a diverse society, thus making cross-cultural interactions more productive and enjoyable.
- Apply concepts from the course to events and everyday behavior of people from other cultures.

Course Requirements

Tests:

There will be five on-line unit tests covering material from the reading, power point lecture notes, and discussions. Tests will be given on-line as scheduled on the calendar every two weeks and will be open Friday-Sunday, except the last exam which will be given the last few days of the quarter. Tests will include a combination of multiple choice, true false, and matching questions, and study guides will be provided. There will be no comprehensive final exam; the last unit test will include some reflection on learning from the whole quarter. Exams will be worth 70 points each or 50% of the final grade.

Assignments:

There will be 5 short assignments, due every other week, and a research paper due at the end of the quarter.

Bi-Weekly Assignments

Week 1 Module: Personal Introduction

Week 3 Module: Hofstede Country Comparison

Week 5 Module: Cultural Artifact

Week 7 Module: Interview Someone from Another Culture

Week 9 Module: Cultural Autobiography

These assignments will ask you to apply the ideas of the course, and will be due online as noted on the calendar. Each assignment will be described fully in the appropriate module. (20 points each; 100 points total)

Research Paper

The Research Paper Assignment asks you to research information about a cultural practice in a particular culture using library resources. You will be able to choose the specific practice from a provided list as well as the culture to be investigated. You will need to post a proposal for your topic and culture (10 points). Once your research is completed, you will write a research paper using APA formatting. Details about the assignment and specific requirements will be available mid-quarter (80 points).

Discussions:

There will be one online discussion a week related to the text material. You will be able to choose a question from a list of questions, write a response to that question, and respond to a student who answers a different question. There will also be a closing discussion the last week. Some of the questions will ask you to provide an example illustrating a concept, some will ask you to do an activity and report on the results, and some will ask you to respond to one of the questions at the back of the relevant chapter.

The discussion sessions will run from Monday to Saturday every week. Questions will be posted on Monday mornings. You will need to respond to one of the questions by

Friday night, and to post a response to a student who answered a different question by Saturday night. You are also expected to cite the text in at least one post and to read students' posts in each discussion. More specific instructions are available in the "Course Structure and Expectations" in the Getting Started Module. Discussions are worth 15 points each or 150 points total, plus 10 points for the Closing Discussion (160 points).

Extra Credit:

There will be some opportunities over the course of the quarter to earn up to 5 extra credit points. These will be posted in some of the modules.

Grade Breakdown:

Tests: 5 @ 70 points each	350
Assignments: 5 @ 20 points each	100
Discussions: 10 @ 15 points each	
+ closing discussion @10 points	160
Research paper (80) + Proposal (10)	90
Total=	700

Grading Scale:

Points assigned for each of the course components will accumulate to a possible total of 700 points, with the grading scale as follows:

658-700 A (94-100%)	539-559 C+ (77-79%)
630-657 A- (90-93%)	518-538 C (74-76%)
609-629 B+ (87-89%)	490-517 C- (70-73%)
588-608 B (84-86%)	469-489 D+ (67-69%)
560-587(80-83%)	420-468 D (64-69%)
	Below 420 F

Note: There will be no "bumping up" at the end of the quarter; your grade will be determined by where your points/ percentages fall within the ranges noted above.

General Information

My availability

Unless otherwise notified, I will be checking the site several times a day, including weekends. I make an effort to respond to emails within a few hours if possible. I will

be online every Thursday between 9 and 10 am, but am also available at other times, and am willing to meet you on campus when requested.

Accommodations

If you need course modifications / adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please let me know as soon as possible. If you have not done so already, you can contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in B132 or by calling 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>.

Affirmation of Inclusion:

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

For technical help with the class:

Link to Canvas student guides: <http://guides.instructure.com/m/4212>

Link to Student Technical Help: <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/>

For behavioral and grading guidelines of the Social Science

Division: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/procedures-guidelines/>

Let me know if you have any questions any time!

I look forward to working with you this quarter--

Helen/ Dr. T.

Quarterly Schedule

See specific dates in the calendar

Module	Topic	Reading	Assignments and Tests
Week 1	Intro to Cross-Cultural Psychology	Ch. 1, What is Cultural Psychology "Why is Culture Important?"	Discussion 1 Assignment 1: Personal Introduction
Week 2	Research Methods in Cross-Cultural Psychology	Ch. 4, Methods for Studying Culture and Psychology	Discussion 2 Test 1
Week 3	Self-Concept and Personality	Ch. 6, Self and Personality "Marginality in a Pluralistic Society"	Discussion 3 Assignment 2: Country Comparison
Week 4	Human Development, Family Structure	Ch. 5, Development and Socialization "Family: Variations and Change across Cultures"	Discussion 4 Test 2
Week 5	Cognition, Perception, and Communication	Ch. 9, Cognition and Perception "Cultural Continuums"	Discussion 5 Assignment 3: Cultural Artifact
Week 6	Motivation, Attraction, and Relationships	Ch. 8, Motivation Ch. 11, Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships	Discussion 6 Test 3
Week 7	Emotions	Ch. 10, Emotions	Discussion 7 Assignment 4: Interview someone from another culture
Week 8	Physical and Mental Health	Ch. 13, Physical Health Ch. 14, Mental Health	Discussion 8 Test 4 Research Paper proposal due
Week 9	Race in America	6 articles	Discussion 9 Assignment 5: Cultural Autobiography
Week 10	Immigration and Acculturation	Ch. 7, Living in Multicultural Worlds 3 articles	Discussion 10 Research Paper due
Week 11	Cultural Competence		Closing Discussion Test 5