

**Psyc 250: Cross-Cultural Psychology**  
Bellevue College

**Syllabus Fall 2019**

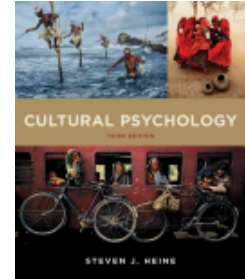
**Instructor:**

Dr. Helen Taylor

College email: [htaylor@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:htaylor@bellevuecollege.edu)

Best way to reach me: Through Canvas Inbox email

Office Hours: By appointment online or 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 and the instructor's lecture notes.

**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

### 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. There will be a total of 11 discussions, and you will be able to miss one discussion without penalty (or the lowest score will be dropped at the end of the quarter). Discussions are worth 15 points each, plus 10 points for a Closing Discussion the last week.

### Weekly Short Assignments:

There will be 8 short assignments, due Thursday of every week, that ask you to apply the ideas of the course:

Week 1 Module: Personal Introduction

Week 2 Module: Cultural Artifact

Week 3 Module: Hofstede Country Comparison

Week 4 Module: Socialization Stories

Week 5 Module: WHO Investigation

Week 6 Module: Mental Health Investigation

Week 7 Module: Interview Someone from Another Culture

Week 8 Module: Cultural Autobiography

These assignments will be described in the weekly module and will be shared with the class as discussion posts. Each assignment will be worth 15 points.

### 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, worth 50 points. Details about the assignment and specific requirements will be available mid-quarter.

**Quizzes:**

There will be 11 weekly quizzes covering material from the reading, instructor power point lecture notes, and discussions. Quizzes will be given on-line and will be open every Friday-Sunday. With a combination of 10-15 multiple choice, true false, and matching questions, each quiz will be worth 30 points. The lowest quiz score will be dropped (or you can skip one quiz). Study guides will be provided in the weekly modules.

**Final Exam**

There will be a comprehensive final exam worth 60 points given the last week. A study guide will be provided highlighting the main ideas of the quarter.

**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 the weekly modules.

**Grade Breakdown:**

Discussions: 11 @ 15 points each, minus lowest score	150
Closing discussion @10 points	10
Weekly short assignments: 8 @ 15 points each	120
Research paper	50
Research paper proposal	10
Quizzes: 11 @ 30 points each, minus lowest score	300
Final Exam	60
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 am happy to schedule a particular time for an email exchange, and I am also happy 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:

There are several online workshops available to introduce you to Canvas, our course platform, the first week of the quarter:

<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/elearning/current/online-workshop-information/>

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

Link to Student Technical Help:

<https://bellevuecollege.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/KB/ArticleDet?ID=21875>

### 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	Getting Started Module Ch. 1, What is Cultural Psychology? "Why is Culture Important?"	Discussion 1 Assignment 1: Personal Introduction Quiz 1
Week 2	Research Methods in Cross-Cultural Psychology	Ch. 4, Methods for Studying Culture and Psychology	Discussion 2 Assignment 2: Cultural Artifact Quiz 2
Week 3	Self-Concept and Personality	Ch. 6, Self and Personality "Marginality in a Pluralistic Society"	Discussion 3 Assignment 3: Country Comparison Quiz 3
Week 4	Human Development, Family Structure	Ch. 5, Development and Socialization "Family: Variations and Change across Cultures"	Discussion 4 Assignment 4: Socialization Story Quiz 4
Week 5	Physical and Mental Health	Ch. 13, Physical Health Ch. 14, Mental Health	Discussion 5 Assignment 5: WHO Investigation Quiz 5
Week 6	Cognition, Perception, and Communication	Ch. 9, Cognition and Perception "Cultural Continuums"	Discussion 6 Assignment 6: Mental Health Research Quiz 6
Week 7	Emotions	Ch. 10, Emotions	Discussion 7 Assignment 7: Interview Quiz 7
Week 8	Motivation	Ch. 8, Motivation	Discussion 8 Assignment 8: Cultural Autobiography Quiz 8
Week 9	Attraction and Relationships	Ch. 11, Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships	Discussion 9 Paper proposal due Quiz 9
Week 10	Race in America	6 articles	Discussion 10 Quiz 10
Week 11	Immigration and Acculturation	Ch. 7, Living in Multicultural Worlds 3 articles	Discussion 11 Research Paper due Quiz 11
Week 12	Cultural Competence		Closing Discussion Final Exam