



AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

**Renison University College**  
Affiliated with the University of Waterloo  
240 Westmount Road N, Waterloo, ON Canada  
N2L 3G4

Phone: 519-884-4404 | Fax: 519-884-5135 | [uwaterloo.ca/Renison](http://uwaterloo.ca/Renison)

## **Renison University College Land Acknowledgement**

With gratitude, we acknowledge that Renison University College is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

### **Winter 2021**

**Course Code:** PSYCH349R, Lec 1

**Course Title:** Cross-Cultural Psychology

**Class Times/Location:** Remote

**Instructor:** Jessica L. Miller, M.A.

**Office:** N/A

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Email:** [jpates@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jpates@uwaterloo.ca)

### **Course Description, Course Objectives, and Learning Outcomes:**

This course focuses on human psychology (behaviours, cognition, emotion, awareness, and understanding of human commonality and diversity). It examines theoretical, methodological, and ethical issues in cross-cultural psychology in light of current literature. Throughout the semester we will be exploring the similarities and differences in behaviour cross-culturally. Some of the areas that will be discussed are: personality, conformity, obedience, aggression, abnormal psychology, and interpersonal relations. In addition, we will discuss the issues involved in conducting cross-culture research.

Another very exciting part of this course is the cross-cultural exchange project. Most semesters, my students are paired with students in the Bridge to Academic Success in English (BASE) program so that each student can learn about a culture other than their own. However, due to the current circumstances, this semester, students will be paired with a student in this class. At the beginning of the semester each student will complete a brief questionnaire and from those responses, students will be paired.

Course objectives/learning outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the dimensions along which cultures vary and the implications of this for understanding cultural differences.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of ethnocentrism, stereotyping, and prejudice of people from other cultures.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how well Western psychological principles and research hold up in other cultures.
4. Students will apply the information from the first three objectives to their understanding of the individual with whom they are paired with for the cross-cultural exchange project.

Online Learning Information:

1. Most weeks I will post on LEARN every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. There will be a combination of videos, mini assignments, and open-format Q&A.
2. Please email me at your leisure with any comments or questions; I want this to be fun and engaging.
3. This will be my first semester teaching online so please give me feedback throughout the semester about things that are working or not working for you.

**Required Text:**

Shiraev, E., & Levy, D. A. (2016). *Cross-cultural psychology: Critical thinking and contemporary applications* (7th ed.). New York: Routledge.  
ISBN-10: 9780429521003

**Course Requirements and Assessment:**

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Exam 1 (February 24)	15%
Exam 2 (March 31)	15%
Exam 3 (April 14)	15%
Cross-Cultural Exchange Project	15%
Research Paper	25%
Mini Assignments	15%
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Total:	100%

**Assessments 1, 2, & 3:**

Throughout the semester there will be a total of 3 examinations which are non-cumulative (see class schedule for dates). Each exam is worth 15 points (15% of your final average). Each exam will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer.

#### Assessment 4:

You will be paired with a student from class at the beginning of the semester. You will “meet” with your partner virtually three times throughout the semester and reflect on your interactions. You will submit your reflections using LEARN before each due date (by midnight), see course schedule for due dates. You will also be provided feedback on your partner’s contributions. Please see attached document for more information.

#### Assessment 5:

Each student will write a 6-8 page research paper based on a key concept of cross-cultural psychology. A minimum of 4 journal articles are required in order to examine this topic from a scientific perspective. APA format is required for citations and references. I take plagiarism very seriously so please let me know if you have any questions regarding proper in-text citations (i.e. paraphrasing).

#### Assessment 6:

Throughout the semester there will be a series of mini assignments that will be posted in LEARN at the beginning of the week they are due. For instance, I will post a mini assignment on Monday that will be due Friday by midnight. Each mini assignment will correspond with material covered that week in our lecture (power point slides). There will be a total of 6 mini assignments, each worth 2.5 points.

#### Course Outline:

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
1	Jan 11-15	Introductions, syllabus review, Chapter 1: Understanding Cross-Cultural Psychology	Chapter 1
2	Jan 18-22	Methodology in Cross-Cultural Psychology	Chapter 2
3	Jan 25-29	Critical Thinking in Cross-Cultural Psychology	Chapter 3
4	Feb 1-5	Sensation, Perception, and States of Consciousness	Chapter 4
5	Feb 22-26	<b>Exam 1: Feb.24 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4)</b> <b>Intelligence</b>	Chapter 5
6	Mar 1-5	Intelligence	Chapter 5
7	Mar 8-12	Emotion Video-Rain in a Dry Land <b>First C-C assignment due Mar.10</b>	Chapter 6

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings Due</b>
8	Mar 17-19	Emotion, Motivation and Behaviour	Chapter 6, 7
9	Mar 22-26	Motivation and Behaviour, Human Development and Socialization, <b>Second CC- assignment due Mar. 24</b>	Chapter 7, 8
10	Mar 29-Apr 1	<b>Exam 2: Mar. 31 (Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8)</b> <b>Psychological Disorders</b>	Chapter 9
11	Apr 5-9	<b>Social Perception and Cognition, Social Interactions</b>  <b>Third ePortfolio due Apr. 7</b>	Chapter 10, 11
12	Apr 12-14	<b>Research paper due Apr. 12</b> <b>Exam 3: Apr. 14 (Chapters 9, 10, 11)</b>	

### **Late Work:**

Make-up examinations will only be permitted with valid documentation. Late assignments will be penalized 20% each day late.

### **Information on Plagiarism Detection:**

**Turnitin.com:** Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

TurnItIn will be used to access your research paper for potential plagiarism. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's words, ideas, or concepts as your own. In order to avoid plagiarism please cite any source when necessary. This matter is particularly important when writing the research paper. Please see the instructor for proper instruction on how to cite sources. A TurnItIn score of 15% or more will be scrutinized more carefully and may result in a deduction of your overall score or may receive a score of zero.

### **Final Examination Policy:**

For **Winter 2021**, the established examination period is **April 17-26**. However, the last exam for this class will be during the last week of classes (April 12-14). The schedule will be available

early in the winter. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (see: [Final Examination Schedule](https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations) <https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations>)

### **Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:**

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing quizzes or exams. See [http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom\\_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

### **Academic Integrity:**

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour>) for more information.

***Discipline:*** Every student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their own actions. [Check the [Office of Academic Integrity](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity>) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or Academic Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties are imposed under the University of Waterloo Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties>).

Students should also be aware that copyright laws in Canada prohibit reproducing more than 10% of any work without permission from its author, publisher, or other copyright holder. Waterloo’s policy on Fair Dealing is available here: <https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory> Violation of Canada’s Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 – Student Discipline.

***Grievance:*** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4 (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>). When in doubt, please be certain to

contact the department's administrative assistant, who will provide further assistance.

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there are grounds. Students who believe they have grounds for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals \(https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

### **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for Students with Disabilities:** The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities, without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AAS office at the beginning of each academic term.

### **Intellectual Property:**

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of the instructor, which can include:

- lecture handouts and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- lecture content, both spoken and written (and any audio or video recording thereof)
- questions from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- work protected by copyright (i.e., any work authored by the instructor)

Making available the intellectual property of instructors without their express written consent (e.g., uploading lecture notes or assignments to an online repository) is considered theft of intellectual property and subject to disciplinary sanctions as described in Policy 71 – Student Discipline. Students who become aware of the availability of what may be their instructor's intellectual property in online repositories are encouraged to alert the instructor.

### **Mental Health Support:**

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

### **On Campus**

- Counselling Services: [counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 xt 32655
- [MATES](#): one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

### **Off campus, 24/7**

- [Good2Talk](#): Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-433 ext. 6880
- [Here 24/7](#): Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- [OK2BME](#): set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS [website](#)

Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#)

Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

### **A respectful living and learning environment for all:**

Everyone living, learning, and working at Renison University College is expected to contribute to creating a respectful environment free from harassment and discrimination.

If you experience or witness harassment or discrimination, seek help. You may contact Credence & Co., Renison's external anti-harassment and anti-discrimination officers, by email ([info@credenceandco.com](mailto:info@credenceandco.com)) or by phone (519-883-8906). Credence & Co. is an independent K-W based firm which works with organizations toward thriving workplace cultures, including professional coaching, consulting, facilitation, policy development, conflict mediation and ombudsperson functions.

Harassment is unwanted attention in the form of disrespectful comments, unwanted text messages or images, degrading jokes, rude gestures, unwanted touching, or other behaviours meant to intimidate.

According to the Ontario Human Rights Code, discrimination means unequal or different treatment causing harm, whether intentional or not, because of race, disability, citizenship, ethnic origin, colour, age, creed, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, or other personal characteristic.

## Cross-Cultural Exchange Project

In this assignment, you will be paired with a student from our class to better understand a culture other than your own. You will be interviewing or sharing your cultural knowledge with your partner(s). You will be meeting with your partner(s) three times throughout the semester. Following your meeting you will submit a reflection on LEARN. Each entry is worth 5% of your total grade in this class.

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Relate what you learned from your partner to course material (a topic in specific is advised).
2. Examine your own cultural in comparison to what you learned about your partner's culture.

### **Contents of your project:**

Each entry should contain the following three components:

1. Examples from your meetings with your partner(s):

Choose a few specific examples from your interview and summarize what you discussed with your partner(s). Present specific examples, your observations or interactions with your partner that are relevant to cross-cultural psychology. Provide enough details so that your subsequent sections of your project will make sense to someone who was not there.

Suggestions for the examples:

*Sharing cultural knowledge:* practices may be perceived as strange or even bizarre from different cultural perspectives. You may be surprised by how you have taken your culture for granted.

*Learn about your partner's cultural experiences:*

You can ask your partner's cultural experience and discuss how culture may be related to Canadian ways of thinking, perceptions and behaviours.

Suggested interview questions:

What are important values in your family?

How does your family view education?

What is the nature of friendship? What is the basis of friendship (e.g., shared activities, self-disclosure etc...)? Do students have cross-gender friends? Do students have many friends or a few but very close friends?

## 2. Relevance to the course materials:

In this section, you will provide *evidence* of reflective thinking, an exploration or critical analysis of **each example** that you present in the first section. After you meet with your partner(s), you will reflect on what you have learned from your interaction and connect to the course material. Choose a concept or theory from the readings or lecture materials that are relevant to the example or your observation from the interview. Then, provide theoretical background and information. Your description should be clear and detailed enough that someone not taking this course would be able to understand the concept or theory. This is your opportunity to show how well you comprehend the course material. You will discuss the example or observation from the first section by using the theories that you reviewed. Be specific about how each theory may or may not apply to your observation or example.

## 3. Your reflection:

You will reflect upon your reactions to what you have observed or learned through working with your partner. Discuss your mental or emotional reactions to your observation or examples. Here are some questions that you may want to consider:

Are there any unresolved issues? How do your observations relate to your in-class learning? Did your partner's experience contradict or reinforce course material? How was this example inconsistent with the theory or phenomenon you have discussed? Why do you think this example seems to be inconsistent with the theory? Is there an alternative way to think about the issue? Did your partner's experience challenge your assumptions about culture?

You can share what you have learned in class and discuss with your partner student(s). Examine if the theory or concept can apply to your partner. You can also share what you know about the Canadian educational system or workplace practices and examine how they are similar or different in other cultural contexts.

### **Citations:**

Please make sure to cite all research used and post a list of references at the end of your assignment.

Each and every section of your assignments should be *written in your own words*. This means that you are not allowed to copy directly from the article, even if you use quotations and cite the material properly (i.e., no direct quotes are allowed). You need to paraphrase information and cite the source. You are not allowed to use information from internet sources (e.g., Wikipedia). Failing to follow these guidelines will result in a penalty.

### **Length of Each Entry:**

Each entry should be approximately 500 words.

### **Late Submission Policy:**

See policy in syllabus.

