



AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

**Renison University College**  
 Affiliated with the University of Waterloo  
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 Phone: 519-884-4404 | [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 Anishinaabeg, Hodinohsyó:ni, and Attawandaran (Neutral) Peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River from mouth to source. Our active work toward reconciliation takes place in all corners of our campus through research, learning, teaching, community building and outreach. We are guided by the work of our Reconciliation and Re-storying Steering Committee and Anti-Racism and Decolonization Spokesouncil, as well as the [University of Waterloo's Office of Indigenous Relations](#).

### **Fall 2023**

**Course Code:** PSYCH349R

**Course Title:** Cross-Cultural Psychology

**Class Times/Location:** (*building, room number*) Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00am-11:20am/REN2102

**Instructor:** Jessica L. Miller, MA, RP

**Office:** REN 1701

**Office Phone:** N/A

**Office Hours:** By appointment

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

### **Course Description**

This course focuses on the psychological similarities and differences between two or more cultures. Some of the areas that will be discussed are: communication, stereotyping, personality, mental health disorders and treatments, and perception. In addition, we will discuss the origin, history, and issues involved in conducting cross-cultural research and study. Lastly, each student will be paired with another student in class to meet and discuss their own cross-cultural similarities and differences.

### **Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes - (Upon completion of this course, students should be able to)**

- A. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the dimensions along which cultures vary and the implications of this for understanding cultural differences.
- B. Students will demonstrate an understanding of ethnocentrism, stereotyping, and prejudice of people from other cultures.
- C. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how well Western psychological principles and research hold up in other cultures.
- D. Students will apply the information from the first three objectives to their understanding of the individual with whom they have been matched with for the cross-cultural project.

**Required Text**

Safdar, S., Mio, J. S., Barker, L. A., Domenech Rodriguez, M. M., & Gonzalez, J. (2022). *Cross-Cultural Psychology: Understanding Our Diverse Communities, Canadian Edition*. Oxford University Press.  
ISBN: 9780199038176

**Course Requirements and Assessment**

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Examination 1 (October 3rd)	20%
Examination 2 (November 2nd)	20%
Examination 3 (December 5th)	20%
Cross-Cultural Exchange Project	20%
Research Paper	15%
<u>Participation</u>	<u>5%</u>
Total:	100%

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

Throughout the semester there will be a total of 3 examinations which are non-cumulative (see class schedule for dates). Each exam is worth 20 points (20% of your final average). Each exam will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. A brief review will be held the class before the exam.

**Assessment 4: Cross-Cultural Project**

You will be paired with a student(s) in our class at the beginning of the semester. You will meet with your partner(s) two times throughout the semester, reflect on your interactions, and write a summary based on your meetings. There will be predetermined cross-cultural topic discussions for you and your partner to cover. You will submit your reflections on LEARN before each due date (by midnight), see course schedule for due dates. Please see attached document for more information.

**Assessment 5: Research Paper**

Each student will write a 6-8 page literature review paper based on a key concept of cross-cultural psychology. It is important to hone skills pertinent to finding appropriate resources for your paper; I will help throughout the semester so that you feel prepared to write your paper. Also, there is a large distinction between cross-cultural (c-c) psychological literature and multicultural; c-c literature is the comparison of two cultures within a research study. Please make sure to only use c-c research samples. You may choose a topic covered in class or a topic that has piqued your interest from class discussions. A minimum of four journal articles are required to examine this topic from a scientific perspective. The use of headings and subheadings can be very helpful to keep your paper organized and easy to read. Students are asked to submit their papers in the drop box on LEARN before midnight of the due date.

APA format is required for citations and references. I know some students are not familiar with APA format; please contact me to review the specifics or see the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. I take plagiarism very seriously so please let me know if you have any questions regarding proper in-text citations (i.e., paraphrasing). It is imperative to give proper credit to the author(s) of research articles/textbooks that you are citing in your

research paper. It isn't enough to simply use a citation, but it is imperative to paraphrase the information taken from sources; this means you need to put what you read into your own words, not just a word or two. TurnItIn software will be used (see statement below for more details) to detect plagiarism.

### Assessment 6: Participation

Students are highly encouraged to attend and participate in each lecture. It is imperative to attend all lectures in order to receive the information needed to successfully complete this course. Also, students are expected to be on time for each class session.

### Course Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
1	Sept 6 – 8	What is Culture & C-C Psych	Chapter 1
2	Sept 11 – 15	What is Culture & C-C Psych, C-C Issues w/Research	Chapter 1, Chapter 2
3	Sept 18 – 22	C-C Issues w/Research, Diversity	Chapter 2
4	Sept 25 – 29	Diversity & World Views Review for Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, & 3)	Chapter 3
5	Oct 2 – 6	<b>Exam on October 3rd</b> Cultural Differences w/Communication	Chapter 4
	Oct 7 – 15	Reading Week	
	Oct 9	Thanksgiving	
6	Oct 16 – 20	Immigrants, Refugees Video	Chapter 5
7	Oct 23 – 27	Stereotyping, Prejudice, Disc., & Racism <b>Cross-Cultural Project Assignment 1 due Oct. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter 6
8	Oct 30 – Nov 3	APA overview Review for Exam 2 (Chapters 4, 5, & 6) <b>Exam on Nov. 2nd</b>	
9	Nov 6 – 10	Cultural Identity Development	Chapter 7
10	Nov 13 – 17	Culture and Physical Health <b>Cross-Cultural Project Assignment 2 due Nov. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Chapter 8
11	Nov 20 – 24	Culture and Mental Health	Chapter 9
12	Nov 27 – Dec 1	Building Cultural Competence	Chapter 10

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
		Review for Exam 3 (Chapters 7, 8, 9, & 10) <b>Research paper due Nov. 30th</b>	
13	Dec 4 – 5	<b>Exam 3 on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	

### **Late or Incomplete Work**

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

### **Coursework Submission Policy**

Examinations will take place on campus on the predetermined dates detailed in the course outline. All other work (i.e., cross-cultural project assignments and the research paper) will be submitted on LEARN. Each assignment is to be submitted by midnight of the due date.

### **Policy on Plagiarism**

“Policy 71’s glossary defines plagiarism, in part, as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others (whether attributed or anonymous) as one’s own in any work submitted whether or not for grading purposes”...

The Vice-President Academic and Dean has the authority to assess instances of plagiarism and the resultant penalties that are raised by an instructor. An instructor can propose a grade penalty to the Vice-President Academic and Dean, who will decide whether to accept the penalty or initiate a formal inquiry.”

For additional information on how plagiarism is dealt with at Renison, review the policy from where the above text is copied: [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#).

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 at [uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory](http://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory). Violation of Canada’s Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 – Student Discipline.

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.

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Please feel free to use an electronic device to take notes. Please refrain from using electronic devices for matters other than university work as I and your fellow students find it distracting.

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is not mandatory but is highly encouraged as participation in the course is crucial for a deeper understanding of the material. Also, there will be useful information provided in class that will aid in fostering research skills and honing writing skills.

### **Cross-listed course:**

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, an SDS/RS cross-list will count in an SDS major average, even if the course was taken under the Religious Studies rubric.

### **Communication Policy**

Email, using the uWaterloo provided email address, is the approved method of communication for Renison. The Office 365 email that you use to login using your WatIAM login and password is secure and confidential. Take caution when forwarding your WatIAM email to an external email service as confidential information forwarded to a third-party provider could be a data security breach and violation of FIPPA (Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act) under which all students, staff, and faculty are bound by law.

### **Final Examination Policy**

For **Fall 2023**, the established examination period is **December 9-23**. The schedule is available now. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time. See the [Final Examination Schedule at uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations](http://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 [www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom\\_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

### **Accommodation Due to Religious Observances**

The University acknowledges that, due to the pluralistic nature of the University community, some students may seek accommodations on religious grounds. Accordingly, students must consult with their instructor(s) within two weeks of the announcement of the due date for which accommodation is being sought. Failure to provide a timely request will decrease the likelihood of providing an accommodation. [See Request for accommodation on religious grounds.](#)

### **Academic Integrity, Grievance, Discipline, Appeals and Note for Students with Disabilities**

**Academic Integrity:** 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](#) and the [Arts Academic Integrity](#) websites for more information.

Renison University College is committed to the view that when a problem or disagreement arises between a faculty member and a student every effort should be made to resolve the problem through mutual and respectful negotiation. Most issues are resolved by a student/faculty meeting to discuss differences of opinion. It is only after this stage, when a common understanding or agreement is not obtained that further actions listed below could be taken.

**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](#) website 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 or academic advisor. 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 the [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the Department’s administrative assistant, or Academic Advisor, 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 is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals](#).

**Academic Integrity Office (UWaterloo):** The website can be found at [uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/)

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

[AccessAbility Services](#) is located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, and 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 AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Students are encouraged to register with AccessAbility Services (AAS) at the start of each term if they require accommodations due to a disability. However, some students not connected to AAS may require accommodations later in the term. In that case, you should immediately consult with your instructor and/or your Academic Advisor.

### **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](mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca): counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4096
- [MATES](#): one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services

- [Health Services](#) – Student Medical Clinic: 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
- [Empower Me](#): Confidential, multilingual, culturally sensitive, faith inclusive mental health and wellness service.
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 844-437-3247
- [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. Email: [ok2bme@kwcounselling.com](mailto:ok2bme@kwcounselling.com) Phone: 519-884-0000

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.

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.

If you feel that you are experiencing the above from any member of the Renison community (students, staff, or faculty), you may contact Melissa Knox, Renison's external anti-harassment and anti-discrimination officer, by email ([mnknox@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mnknox@uwaterloo.ca)) or by phone or text (226-753-5669). Melissa is an employment and human rights lawyer and part-time Assistant Crown Attorney for the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General. Melissa is experienced in case management, discipline and complaints processes, and works with organizations across Canada to foster safe, respectful, and inclusive work and learning environments through policy development, educational workshops, conflict mediation and dispute resolution, and organizational culture audits.

For additional information see Renison's [Harassment, Discrimination, and Abuse](#) policy.

## **Sona Participation and Research Experience Marks Information and Guidelines**

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Research participation is one example of this, article review is another. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn a **"Bonus" grade of up to 3%** in this course through research experience. Course work will make up 100% of the final mark and your SONA will add up to an additional 3% to this final grade.

The two options for earning research experience grades; participation in research through online remotely operated and In Lab studies, as well as article review; are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades. Credits will be permitted to be earned with half from online, and the other half (1.5) from In-lab or Remote Access studies.

### **Option 1: Participation in Psychology Research**

Research participation is coordinated by the Research Experiences Group (REG). Psychology students may volunteer as research participants in remotely operated, In Lab and/or online (web-based) studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation enables students to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience. Please be assured that all Psychology studies have been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Board.

#### ***How to earn extra marks for your Psychology course(s) this term by participating in studies ...***

- You will earn "credits" which will be converted to "marks" (1 credit = 1%)
- You can schedule your studies using the "Sona" website.

#### ***Educational focus of participation in research***

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables
- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data
- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Director of the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which s/he participated.

Participation in remotely operated (counts as the same as in-lab) studies has increment values of 0.5 participation credits (grade percentage points) for each 30-minutes of



participation. Participation in ONLINE studies is worth .25 credits for each 15-minutes of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and at the end of the term the REG Coordinator will provide the course instructor with a credit report of the total credits earned by each student.

### **How to participate?**

**Study scheduling, participation and grade assignment is managed using the SONA online system. All students enrolled in this course have been set up with a SONA account. You must get started early in the term.**

**For instructions on how to log in to your SONA account and for a list of important dates and deadlines please, as soon as possible, go to:**

[Participating/SONA information: How to log in to Sona and sign up for studies](#)

*\*\*\* Please do not ask the Course Instructor or REG Coordinator for information unless you have first thoroughly read the information provided on this website.\*\*\**

More information about the REG program in general is available at:  
[Sona Information on the REG Participants website or you can check the Sona FAQ on the REG website homepage for additional information.](#)

### **Option 2: Article Review as an alternative to participation in research**

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative, students may opt to gain research experience by writing short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. The course instructor will specify a suitable source of articles for this course (i.e., scientific journals, newspapers, magazines, other printed media). *You must contact your TA to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.* Each review article counts as one percentage point. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before the [last day of lectures](#). Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- Be typed
- Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
- Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
- Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.
- Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.

### Cross-Cultural Exchange Project

In this project, you will be paired with a student from our class to better understand a culture other than your own. You will be interviewing and/or sharing your cultural knowledge with your partner(s). You will be meeting with your partner(s) two times throughout the semester. Following your meeting you will submit an assignment on LEARN (see class schedule for due dates). Each assignment is worth 10% of your total grade in this class. Assignment parameters: At least 500 words, APA format (i.e., double-spaced, 1" margins).

Each assignment should contain the following **three** components:

1. Give 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:

- a. How does your family view education?
  - b. How does the expression of affection differ between your and your partner's culture?
  - c. What do people do during "leisure time" in your culture?
  - d. How is intelligence measured?
2. Discuss and write about one of the following questions with your partner:
    - a. What are your core personal beliefs and values and where do they come from?
    - b. What stereotypes did you hold/currently hold of a different culture?
    - c. What stereotypes do people hold of your own culture? How does this effect you?
    - d. As humans travel more and are exposed to different cultures, do you think this has a positive or negative effect on issues surrounding stereotyping and/or racism?

3. Your reflection:

Please provide a personal reflection summarizing your interactions with your partner(s). Discuss any emotional and mental reflections after meeting with your partner. Was there anything that surprised you from your meeting? Did you have invalid preconceived notions about your partner's culture? Did your meeting reinforce class material?