



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Cross-Cultural and Indigenous Psychology

| Subject | Cat-nbr | Class | Term | Mode | Units | Campus |
|---------|---------|-------|---------|------|-------|-----------|
| PSY | 1030 | 90782 | 2, 2009 | EXT | 1.00 | Toowoomba |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Academic group: | FOSCI |
| Academic org: | FOS005 |
| Student contribution band: | 1 |
| ASCED code: | 090701 |

STAFFING

Examiner: Lorelle Burton

RATIONALE

Cross-cultural psychology, including Indigenous Australian psychology, aims to explore the relationships between cultural variables and human emotions and behaviour. This course will raise students' awareness and sensitivity to the impact that cultural variables have on perception and cognition, social functioning and development, communication, personality, mental health and other specific arenas of the discipline of psychology. In doing so, students will begin to explore their own assumptions and values that affect the manner in which they approach others and the world at large, with a specific focus on Indigenous Australians. The course will thus provide a foundation for further study in psychology with an increased understanding of the broad impact of cultural factors. It is also hoped that the course may serve to influence students' personal development, inspiring greater tolerance and respect for, as well as involvement within, the increasingly multi-cultural society in which we live.

SYNOPSIS

This course focuses on cross-cultural and specifically Indigenous Australian psychology, exploring both those areas that are common to all humans and those that differ across people from various geographical regions, with different racial and ethnic identities, and from various other cultural groups. As cross-cultural research is increasingly influencing broad aspects of the practice of psychology, the course will cover the various findings to date and explore how cultural factors impact upon human emotion and behaviour, specifically including cognition, social functioning and development, personality and mental health, amongst other sub-disciplines. Students, including non-psychology students, will develop their personal and professional understanding and awareness of cultural variables in order to help prepare them for further training and development. A variety of teaching and learning methods are employed, including a number of practical and interactive exercises to help students apply new knowledge and practise new skills.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the influence of culture on diverse aspects of human behaviour by describing the aspects of life that appear to be consistent across different cultures; and by describing the aspects of life that appear to differ across cultures (Computer Managed Assessments and Exam);
2. describe how traditional psychological theories and approaches may be inaccurate, incomplete or inappropriate due to a constrained awareness of cultural diversity (Computer Managed Assessments and Exam);
3. discuss the approaches taken by psychologists to promote cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity, including a basic understanding of cross-cultural research methodology (Computer Managed Assessments and Exam);
4. demonstrate an awareness of the various aspects of Indigenous Australian culture that differ, and do not differ, with regard to the various sub-disciplines of psychology (Computer Managed Assessments and Exam);
5. demonstrate an improved sensitivity to and awareness of cultural diversity in Australian society and throughout the globe (All Assessment elements);
6. follow specific writing, organisation, and style guidelines as set out in the latest edition of the Publication Manual of the APA (Assignment 1 and Reflective Essay).

TOPICS

| | Description | Weighting (%) |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | Introduction to the Study to Culture and Psychology - Chs 1 & 2 | 10.00 |
| 2. | Attitudes and Stereotypes - Ch 14 | 10.00 |
| 3. | Impact of Culture on Social Functioning, & Development - Chs 3, 4 & 6 | 15.00 |
| 4. | Impact of Culture on Physiology, Perception, & Cognition - Ch 5 | 10.00 |
| 5. | Impact of Culture on Language, Communication, & Emotion - Chs 8 & 9 | 15.00 |
| 6. | Impact of Culture on the Self & Personality - Ch 13 & 10 | 10.00 |
| 7. | Impact of Culture on Mental Health - Chs 11 & 12 | 15.00 |
| 8. | Impact of Culture on Group Relationships & Organisations - Chs 14 & 15 | 10.00 |
| 9. | Summary & Conclusions | 5.00 |

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

American Psychological Association 2001, *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edn, American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

(Note - For most purposes only one or the other of Burton and the APA manual will be required.)

Burton, LJ 2006, *An interactive approach to writing essays and research reports in psychology*, 2nd edn, Wiley, Milton, QLD.

(Note - For most purposes only one or the other of Burton and the APA manual will be required.)

Garvey, DC 2007, *Indigenous identity in contemporary psychology: dilemmas, developments, directions*, Thomson, South Melbourne.

Matsumoto, D & Juang, L 2008, *Culture and psychology*, 4th edn, Wadsworth/Thompson, Australia.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Dudgeon, P, Garvey, D & Pickett, H 2000, *Working with Indigenous Australians: a handbook for psychologists*, Gunada Press, Perth, WA.

Insight media 2005, *Cross-cultural communication*, Insight media, New York.

(Available in the USQ library.)

Shiraev, EB & Levy, DA 2007, *Cross-cultural psychology: critical thinking and contemporary applications*, 3rd edn, Pearson Education, Boston.

Sue, DW & Sue, D 2003, *Counseling the culturally diverse: theory and practice*, 4th edn, Wiley, New York.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

| ACTIVITY | HOURS |
|---------------|--------|
| Assessments | 55.00 |
| Examinations | 2.00 |
| Private Study | 107.00 |

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

| Description | Marks out of | Wtg (%) | Due date |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------|------------------------|
| CMA 1 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 07 Aug 2009 |
| ASSIGNMENT 1 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 14 Aug 2009 |
| CMA 2 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 21 Aug 2009 |
| CMA 3 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 28 Aug 2009 |
| CMA 4 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 04 Sep 2009 |
| CMA 5 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 11 Sep 2009 |
| CMA 6 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 02 Oct 2009 |
| CMA 7 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 09 Oct 2009 |
| CMA 8 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 16 Oct 2009 |
| ASSIGNMENT 2 | 30.00 | 30.00 | 23 Oct 2009 |
| 2 HR RESTRICTED (M/C) EXAM | 90.00 | 55.00 | END S2 (see note 1) |

NOTES

1. Examination dates will be available during the Semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, students are required to access and participate in the on-line discussion group on a regular basis (see Introductory Book for details). Further, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item. Students do not have to satisfactorily complete each of the assessment items to be awarded a passing grade in the course. Refer to Statement 4 below for the requirements to receive a passing grade in this course.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without (prior) approval of the examiner then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded. No assignments will be accepted after model answers have been posted.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must obtain an overall mark of at least 50% and must submit all assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

- 6 Examination information:
Candidates are allowed access only to specific materials during a Restricted Examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); calculators which cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the make and model of any calculator(s) they use during the examination). Students whose first language is not English, may, take an appropriate unmarked nonelectronic translation dictionary (but not technical dictionary) into the examination. Dictionaries with any handwritten notes will not be permitted. Translation dictionaries will be subject to perusal and may be removed from the candidate's possession until appropriate disciplinary action is completed if found to contain material that could give the candidate an unfair advantage.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Students may be granted a deferred examination only if they perform satisfactorily on all other assessment items. Any deferred examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.
- 10 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner.
- 11 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 12 The examiner will only accept assessments that have been typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 13 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.
- 14 Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.
- 15 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 16 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete - Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

- 17 As there are resources cited in the Study Materials that are available on the World Wide Web, and a discussion group that will be used throughout the course, it is required that students undertaking this course have access to computer and Internet facilities which will enable them to participate fully in the course.
- 18 Assignments submitted more than one week after the due date, without an extension approved by the Examiner, will attract a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded. Extensions will usually not be granted for workload reasons unless it can be shown that your work commitments prior to the due date for the assignment were above and beyond your normal duties or responsibilities. In such cases, a letter from your employer would be required. If you think you have grounds for an extension, you must apply in advance. A covering letter and appropriate documentation must be submitted with the assignment. No assignment will be accepted after marked copies have been returned to students.
- 19 Only assessments that have been typed or printed on paper as per the specific guidelines outlined in the course materials will be accepted. Assignments submitted by facsimile or email will NOT be accepted.