

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2020-2021

Cross-Cultural Psychology (H001993)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 4.0 Study time 120 h Contact hrs 30.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2021-2022

A (semester 2) English Gent lecture 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022

Fontaine, Johnny	PP09 lect	lecturer-in-charge	
Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022	cr	dts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Psychology (main subject Education)		4	Α
Bachelor of Science in Psychology (main subject Personnel Managem Psychology)	nent and Industrial	4	Α
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences		4	Α
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy		4	Α
Bachelor of Science in Sociology		4	Α
Master of Science in Nursing and Midwifery		4	Α
Exchange programme in Economics and Business Administration		4	Α
Exchange Programme in Psychology		4	Α
Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences		4	Α
Linking Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Person Industrial Psychology)	nel Management and	4	Α
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Pe and Industrial Psychology)	ersonnel Management	4	Α

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

culture, behaviour

Position of the course

This course gives an introduction in the cultural variability of human behaviour. First, cultural differences and similarities in basic psychological processes are being presented, like in cognition, emotion and perception. Then various theoretical frameworks about culture-behaviour relationships are discussed. Finally, it is shown how insights from cross-cultural psychology can be applied in practice (e.g., in the multicultural society and diverse work contexts). This course contributes to insight into the role of psychological processes in our contemporary super-diverse society.

Contents

This educational component starts with a description of the domain of cross-cultural psychology. More specifically, the definitions of and the central theme's of debate in the research domain are presented. Next, we plumb the depths of the cross-cultural perspective for seven basic domains of psychological functioning, to wit: development, social behaviour, personality, cognition, language, emotion, and perception. For each of these domains, there is an initial brush-up of what has already been discussed in other components, in order to go deeper into the specific cross-cultural perspective. Each time, we present the current debate in these domains. The substantive overview of cross-cultural research findings and debates leads up to a higher level of abstraction that focuses on several models for the relations between

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behaviour and culture. Consecutively, we discuss the cultural-anthropological perspective, the evolutionary biological perspective, and the methodological bottlenecks of cross-cultural research. These discussions end up in an overarching theoretical frame of relations between culture and behaviour. To conclude, we apply the acquired knowledge to one domain of cultural diversity here in Belgium, that is, the acculturation of immigrants.

Initial competences

Final competences of the relevant Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

Final competences

- 1 Developing insight in similarities and differences between cultural groups in basic psychological processes (perception, cognition, emotion, language).
- 2 Developing insight in similarities and differences between cultural groups in development, social functioning, and personality.
- 3 Knowing and being able to critically reflect on the three main approaches in cross-cultural psychology (the cultural comparative, the cultural and the indigenous approach).
- 4 Being able to identify and deal with the methodological pitfalls of cross-cultural research.
- 5 Understand both the social and cultural anthropological as well as the evolutionary biological basis of cross-cultural psychology.
- 6 Knowing the basic principles of acculturation of immigrants as well as the multicultural orientations of receiving communities.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture

Learning materials and price

Berry, J. W., Poortinga, Y. H., Breugelmans, S. M., Chasiotis, A., & Sam, D. L. (2011). Cross-cultural psychology: Research and applications (3rd Ed.). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Estimated cost: 65 EUR

References

Berry, J. W., Poortinga, Y. H., & Pandey, J. (Eds.) (1997). Handbook of cross-cultural psychology: Theory and Method (Vol. 1) (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
Berry, J. W., Dasen, P. R., & Saraswathi, T. S. (Eds.) (1997). Handbook of cross-cultural psychology: Basic Processes and Human Development (Vol. 2) (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Berry, J. W., Segall, M. H., & Kagitçibasi, C. (Eds.) (1997). Handbook of cross-cultural psychology: Social behavior and applications (Vol. 3) (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon. Kitayama, S., & Cohen, D. (Eds.) (2007). *Handbook of cultural psychology*. New York: Guildford Press.

Course content-related study coaching

Support via Ufora. By appointment.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

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Extra information on the examination methods

Written closed-book exam consisting of 20 multiple-choice questions and two open questions.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodic assessment (100 %)

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