

2023

Cross-Cultural Psychology - Fundamentals and Ethnic Differences (FSWP-MINOR-6B)

Practical information

Course ID

FSWP-MINOR-6B

Credits

15 EC

Instruction language

English

Themes

- Exchange Bachelor
- Minor
- Minor ESSB

Course description

Content

With ever-increasing globalization, we are getting in touch with different cultures more and more. In a city such as Rotterdam, where people from over 100 countries live and work, knowledge and skills in cross-cultural contacts have become essential. This minor deals with various important themes across psychological subdisciplines, including emotions, identity and psychopathology in different cultures, cultural differences in education and in attachment, working in intercultural teams, well-being of expatriates and immigrants, and problems in conducting cross-cultural research and assessment.

This minor is intended for all students who are interested in intercultural issues and in psychology. The minor aims to increase students' awareness of cultural differences and contributes to the development of a broader academic attitude. Working during the course with students from diverse cultural backgrounds will deepen students' knowledge through experiencing different cultural backgrounds and viewpoints themselves.

The minor will be open for international students. For this reason, all the material and activities will be in English. The language used in all tutorial groups will therefore be English. It will be possible to answer open ended questions on the exam in Dutch.

Students from all educational backgrounds are admissible for this minor. Students who do not have a background in psychology need to be aware they may need to put in extra effort in order to master the material and understand the

underlying psychological principles. This course uses a problem-based learning (PBL) approach. Students who do not have a background in PBL will receive an online training to learn how to work with this didactical model. This short digital training needs to be completed before the minor starts.

Overview minor modules:

1. Fundamentals in Cross-Cultural Psychology
2. Ethnic Differences

Module 1: Fundamentals in Cross-Cultural Psychology

In Module 1 (Part 1), we will study the main themes within cross-cultural psychology. Classic concepts in this domain will be discussed, as well as the factors that need to be considered when performing and interpreting cross-cultural research. Themes that are subsequently treated are: cultural differences and similarities in cognitions, emotions and autobiographical memory, how normal and abnormal behavior is perceived in different cultures, and cross-cultural issues related to society and work. Examples belonging to this last theme are experiences of expatriates, and preferred leadership styles across cultures.

Module 2: Ethnic Differences

In Module 2 (Part 2), students learn about psychological aspects related to living in a multicultural society. This module deals with more fundamental issues, such as stereotyping and prejudice, acculturation strategies and multicultural identity development. In addition, this module addresses issues that professionals may encounter when dealing with people from different cultural backgrounds in practice. Here one can think of topics such as: the role of ethnicity in diagnostics and treatment of psychopathology, immigrants' study success, the influence of migration on mental health, discrimination at work and team performance.

- Teaching method(s): Problem Based learning: Tutorial groups, self-study and lectures.
- Teaching materials: Recent journal articles and book chapters, provided on the internet.
- Contact hours: 8 hours per week
- Self study: 32 hours per week

Modules 1 and 2 will be closed with a separate exam each. The exam consists of true/false statements and (short-answer) open-end questions. In addition, during Module 2 you will work in couples to prepare a presentation. During the last tutorial meeting of Module 2, you will give this presentation to the students in your tutorial group.

The final grade will be a weighted average of both Exam Part 1 and Exam Part 2, plus the grade for the presentation (weights 2 + 2 + 1).

In order to pass the course, the minimum weighted average of both Exam Part 1 and Exam Part 2 must be a 5.5. Each exam separately (Part 1 and Part 2) needs to be graded with a 5.0 at minimum. That means students can to some extent compensate an insufficient grade for one part of the minor. In addition, the assessment of the final presentation needs to be a grade of 5.5 or higher.

Students will be offered the possibility to review their answers for each part of the exam shortly after the grades have been announced.

Learning goals

Concrete learning objectives:

- Students gain insight into the following overarching themes: cross-cultural differences in child development, cognitions, emotions, personality, intelligence, psychopathology and the meaning of working.
- Students gain insight into methodological issues that play a role when conducting cross-cultural research.
- Students gain insight into ethnic differences and similarities in the domains of (mental) health care, education and the labour market.
- Students gain insight into the processes playing a role in stereotyping and discrimination.
- Students gain insight into multicultural identity development and acculturation strategies.
- Students gain insight into effective behaviour in intercultural situations.

Good to know

The minor will be open for international students. For this reason, all the material and activities will be in English. The language used in all tutorial groups will therefore be English. It will be possible to answer open ended questions on the exam in Dutch.

Be aware that to be able to participate in this minor, a good command of English is essential.

Study materials

Recommended material

- Internetsite
Recent journal articles and book chapters, provided on the internet.

Instructional modes

Instructional modes

- Lecture
- Self study
- Tutorial group

Period

Enrolment periods

- Block BLOK M 1
Start courses
4 September 2023

Lecturers

Contactperson for the course

- dr. MJ Gorgievski
- prof.dr. MPh Born

Coordinator

- dr. MJ Gorgievski
- prof.dr. MPh Born

Lecturer

- dr. MJ Gorgievski
- prof.dr. MPh Born

Assessment

Assessments (result in OSIRIS)

- Examination
 - Part examination 1
 - Test weight
 - 50
 - Part examination 2
 - Test weight
 - 50
- Attendance
 - Test weight
 - 0
- Presentation
 - Test weight
 - 20