

PSY 355: Psychology and Culture – Winter 2018
Wolfgang Friedlmeier

ASH 2119 (2)
11:00-11:50

ASH 2146 (1)
12:00-12:50

Instructor

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331-2415
Email: friedlmw@gvsu.edu

Office hours:
MWF: 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Textbook

Gardiner, H. W. (2018, 6th ed.). *Lives across cultures. Cross-cultural human development*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Further Readings

American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fifth Edition). Washington, D.C.: APA.

Friedlmeier, W. (Ed.). (2012). Online Readings in Psychology and Culture. <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/orpc/>

Friedlmeier, W., Chakkarath, P., & Schwarz, B. (Eds.). (2005). Culture and human development. The importance of cross-cultural research for social sciences. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

Friedlmeier, W., Corapci, F., & Cole, P. M. (2011). Socialization of emotions in cross-cultural perspective. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass*, 5, 410–427. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1751-9004.2011.00362.x>

Friedlmeier, W., Corapci, F., & Benga, O. (2014). Cultural perspective on emotional development in early childhood. In L. Jensen (Ed.), *Oxford handbook of culture and development* (pp. 127-148). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Holodynski, M. & Friedlmeier, W. (2006). *Development of emotions and emotion regulation*. New York: Springer.

Horace, M. (1956). Body ritual among the Nacirema. *American Anthropologist*, 58, 503-507.

Markus, H. R. & Kitayama, S. (1991). Culture and self: Implications for cognition, emotion, and motivation. *Psychological Review*, 98, 224-253.

Mesquita, B. & Albert, D. (2008). The cultural regulation of emotions (pp. 486-503). In J. Gross (Ed.), *Handbook of emotion regulation* (pp. 486-503). New York: Guilford.

Valsiner, J. (2000). *Culture and human development*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

More readings will be announced in class. Most of the readings will be available on Electronic Course Reserve.

Course Overview

The aim of this course is to acquaint students with basic topics of cross-cultural psychology. Upon completion of this course you should have an understanding of the concept of culture, the relevance of cultural context for psychological research and some insights into universal and culture-specific aspects of psychological phenomena. Beside the basic textbook specific cross-cultural studies will be discussed. The semester schedule and the specific readings will be announced in the first week of the semester.

Prerequisites

PSY 101

General information

Withdrawal. The deadline for withdrawing from the class is **March 9, 5 p.m** , through one of the Student Assistance Centers.

Special needs. If there is any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical or other disability, please contact me or the Office of Academic Support (OAS) at 331-2490.

Plagiarism. “Any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. Offering the work of someone else as one’s own is plagiarism. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from books, periodical, speeches, or the writing of other students. The offering of materials assembled or collected by others in form of projects or collections without acknowledgement also is considered plagiarism. Any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for the ideas or materials that have been taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.” (GVSU, Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog 2004-2005, p. 91). **Plagiarism or cheating will result in an F for the course.**

Exams

There will be a midterm. The exam is comprised of multiple choice, essay and problem-based questions. The midterm exam will be on **Wednesday, February 21**. The final exam will consist of oral project presentations on **Wednesday, April 25**, from 10 to 11:50 (Section 2) and **Wednesday, April 25, from 2 to 3:50 pm** (Section 1).

If you do not participate in the midterm exam, you have to bring a written confirmation by the head of the department or by a physician. If you do not bring any document, I can decide to give you another written exam (maximal 70% of the points) or to do an oral exam.

Exercises

There will be several in class exercises and your active participation will be graded across these exercises. Some of these exercises will require some preparation outside of class.

Assignments

You will be required to fulfill five assignments. Some assignments will be submitted through assignment manager, some others will be submitted as hard copy in class at the day of the deadline. The deadline of assignments will be announced in the semester schedule.

Assignment 1: Anthropological descriptions (30 points)

Write a short paper about the Nacirema.

Assignment 2: Developmental niche (40 points)

Interview a person and write an essay related to the concept of developmental niche.

Assignment 3: Reflecting Culture and Developmental in Media (30 points)

You will be asked to reflect on a selected cultural movie.

Assignment 4: Research paper about a specific topic (30 points)

Write a research paper about a cross-cultural topic related to a project (see AS5).

Assignment 5: Oral presentation of a project in class (50 points)

Extra Credit

You can get extra credit by signing up for the subject pool for the semester (for more information see at the end of this syllabus) and by participating in studies for maximum of 2 hours. You get 5 points for each hour.

Grade Distribution

A	94 - 100%	A-	90 - 94.00%		
B+	87 - 90%	B	83 - 87%	B-	80 - 83%
C+	77 - 80%	C	73 - 77%	C-	70 - 73%
D+	64 - 70	D	60 - 64%	F	60% and lower

Evaluation and Grading

Your final grade in this class will be based upon the following achievements. Changes of the assignments and grading may occur during the semester and be announced in time:

Assignment 1: Anthropological description	30 points
Assignment 2: Developmental Niche	40 points
Assignment 3: Questions to films	30 points
Assignment 4: Research paper	30 points
Assignment 5: Oral presentation	50 points
Midterm Exam	40 points
Final Exam	40 points
Internal group evaluation	20 points
Contribution to class discussions	20 points
Total	300 points
Extra credit: Research participation	max. 10 points



This course is part of GVSU's General Education Program.

The goal of the program is to prepare you for intelligent participation in public dialogues that consider the issues of humane living and responsible action in local, national, and global communities.

The program is designed to increase your knowledge and skills in the following areas:

Knowledge Goals

1. The major areas of human investigation and accomplishment - the arts, the humanities, the mathematical sciences, the natural sciences, the social sciences, and writing.
2. An understanding of one's own culture and the cultures of others.

Skills goals

1. To engage in articulate expression through effective writing
2. To engage in articulate expression through effective speaking.
3. To think critically and creatively.
4. To locate, evaluate, and use information effectively.
5. To integrate different areas of knowledge and view ideas from multiple perspectives.

Ensuring that undergraduate students receive a broad general education has been a primary goal of colleges and universities since their inception. In this era of increasing specialization and growing demand for professional expertise, it is vital that we continue to emphasize the value of general learning.

GVSU maintains that a complete education involves more than preparation for a particular career. A career occurs in the context of a life, and a sound general education helps one "make a life" as well as "make a living." The university is committed to assuring that all undergraduate students, regardless of academic major, receive a broad education rooted in the arts and sciences.

Teaching in the liberal tradition is at the heart of Grand Valley's identity, and this focus is critical in our General Education Program. Liberal education transcends the acquisition of information; it goes beyond the factual to ask important evaluative and philosophical questions. Liberal learning holds the fundamental principles and suppositions of a body of knowledge up to inquiry, question, and discussion. It helps a person recognize the assumptions under which he or she operates and encourages the examination and questioning of those assumptions. Liberal learning begins in the General Education Program and continues through the more specialized studies comprising each student's major and minor areas of study.

Grand Valley State University educates students to shape their lives, their professions, and their societies.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH

Introduction

As part of the academic experience in this course, students may receive extra credit for participation in psychology research, to gain a deeper understanding of its nature and variety. Psychology Department faculty and their research assistants perform the studies, all of which have been reviewed and approved by the university's Institutional Review Board.

Establishing an Account Online

If you participated in the subject pool in Fall 2006 or later, please access your existing *Study Scheduling System* account. (See instructions below.)

If this is your first time participating in studies, request an account on the *Study Scheduling System*, accessible from the Psychology website (www.gvsu.edu/psychology; see the "Register for Psychology Studies" tab on the blue menu). The vendor maintains a strict policy protecting privacy and confidentiality. (This policy is available for review in the Psychology Office.) Navigating the *Study Scheduling System* is straightforward, and if you need guidance, detailed instructions are available on the Psychology website.

Accessing Your Account from a Previous Semester

Access the *Study Scheduling System* from the Psychology website (<http://www.gvsu.edu/psychology/>) and enter log-in and password. If you do not have these, select Forgot Your Password? Enter the email address you used in the previous semester. If you are unable to access your previous account, please contact Theodora Scott-Scheiern. **(Please do not open a second account.)**

Participating in Studies

Register for studies on the *Study Scheduling System*. To find available studies, check regularly, as new timeslots are added throughout the term. Before you sign up to participate in a study, review any listed restrictions (for example, "left-handed people only"). If you sign up for a study and you do not meet the eligibility restrictions, you will not receive credit for the study.

Arrive before the scheduled time, as studies start punctually. You will be given a description of what participating in the study will involve, and you will be asked for your consent before the study begins. If you then choose not to participate, you may leave without penalty.

When you complete a study, you will be given a debriefing document. You can check to see that you have received credit by selecting My Schedule/Credits, but please allow at least one week after a study before checking.

If you sign up for a study but cannot attend, please cancel your session on-line.

Under 18

Special rules apply to students who are under 18. If you are under 18, before participating in studies, see the Laboratory Coordinator, Jeff Nolan, for information about permission requirements.

Final Participation Date

The final date to participate in studies is Thursday, April 19.

Psychology Laboratory Coordinator

Jeff Nolan

Office Hours:

Tuesdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Phone: (616) 331-2195

Email: psychlab@gvsu.edu

Office: 2224 Au Sable Hall

(The Psychology Department Office)