

## COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

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| <b>Academic School / Department:</b> | CASS   |
| <b>Programme:</b>                    | Psychology   |
| <b>FHEQ Level:</b>                   | 5  |
| <b>Course Title:</b>                 | Cross Cultural Psychology                            |
| <b>Course Code:</b>                  | PSY 5835   |
| <b>Course Leader:</b>                | Dr Ira Konstantinou                                  |
| <b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>     | 120  |
| Lectures:                            | 30   |
| Seminar / Tutorials:                 | 15   |
| Independent / Guided Learning:       | 75   |
| <b>Semester:</b>                     | Choose an item.                                      |
| <b>Credits:</b>                      | 12 UK CATS credits<br>6 ECTS credits<br>3 US credits |

### **Course Description:**

ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY. This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to explore the relationship between psychology and culture by examining the theoretical and methodological issues in cross-cultural psychology. This course aims to provide students with the tools to critically evaluate traditional psychological research and theories in key areas of psychology from a cross-cultural perspective. Students will be expected to question which traditional models and theories may be universally applied. Students are encouraged to develop an understanding of ethnocentrism and the extent to which this contributes to the 'lenses' worn by psychologists when conducting research and developing theories. The topics covered will include the effect of culture on mental health, gender, psychological disorders.

### **Prerequisites:**

PSY 3100 Foundation of Psychology

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- a) To provide students with knowledge with a variety of orientations to understanding culture
- b) To provide students with knowledge of the cross-cultural approach to research
- c) To familiarize students with the constructs of emic and etic principles.

- d) To enable students to evaluate cross-cultural research findings with respect to both methodology and explanatory power
- e) To allow students to develop a critical and culturally aware approach to the evaluation and application of research findings in cross-cultural psychology.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A5i, A5iii, C5i, C5iii, D5i

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- form an understanding of major theoretical and methodological approaches to culture and psychology and the experience of being a cultural participant.
- develop an understanding of the diverse theoretical positions within the discipline.
- develop an understanding of the evolution of cross-cultural psychological theories and research.
- appreciate the connections between theories and their applications and to be able to critically evaluate these within the context of culture.
- gain an insight into the ways in which different cross-cultural methodologies are used best when specific phenomena are examined.

**Indicative Content:**

- Understanding and defining culture
- Research methods in cross-cultural psychology
- Culture and identity
- Enculturation and acculturation
- Culture and mental health
- Culture and gender
- Culture and approaches to psychological disorders
- Culture and organisations

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

**Teaching Methodology:**

The course material will be covered in the following ways:

- I. Lectures on key topics
- II. Group discussions on the reading material
- III. Films/videos on key topics

**Indicative Text(s):**

Matsumoto, D, & Juang, L. (2013) (5th Ed.). **Culture and Psychology.**

**Journals**

American Psychologist  
Cross-Cultural Studies of Personality, Attitudes and Cognition  
Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology  
International Journal of Intercultural Relations  
Psychological Review

**Web Sites**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

See syllabus for complete reading list

**Change Log for this CSD:**

| Nature of Change | Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB) | Change Actioned by Registry |
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