

GEM Trailblazer Summer Programme

DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Academic Year | : | AY2022-2023 |
| Session | : | Summer 2023 |
| Course Code & Title | : | HP3901 Cultural Psychology |
| Academic Units | : | 3 |
| Pre-requisite (if any) | : | NIL |
| Delivery mode | : | 100% online |
| Taught by | : | Albert (Kai Chung) Lee |

Brief Course Description

1. Intended Learning Objectives (ILOS)

Humans are social animals with a lot in common, but there are also remarkable differences across cultures whereby people do not think, feel, or behave in the same way. Why is it that people in some cultures have their first name listed before their last, while others do the reverse? Is the wisdom of “practice makes perfect” equally emphasized in different parts of the world? Some parents discipline their kids by threatening to disown them while others resort to grounding, why? You will find insight into these and other observations of culture and psychology in this course. Finally, you will receive progressive training on theoretical thinking, critical reasoning, and methodological designs.

The central theme of this course is the interplay between the basic principles of the human mind and culture. To fully understand the key aspects of human cognition, it is important to consider the relevance of cultural contexts in which people are embedded. Throughout this course, you will learn about 1) theories that describe and explain how culture evolves; 2) the strategies for conducting cross-cultural research scientifically; 3) cultural similarities and differences in various forms, from perception and judgments to emotion and morality; 4) how these cultural patterns can be explained and predicted by major theoretical models; and 5) the ways to derive novel cultural hypotheses from your daily observations and the knowledge you have acquired from other courses.

More broadly, this course is in deep connection with other key courses of the program such as Introduction to Psychology, Social Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Social Cognition, Developmental Psychology, Human Motivation, Laboratory in Social Psychology, Fundamentals of Social Science Research, and Research Design and Data Analysis in Psychology. The course forms part of the foundational training on

psychological knowledge, research capability, theoretical reasoning, and critical thinking.

2. Course Syllabus/Topics

| Lesson | Topic/s |
|--------|--|
| 1 | Introduction to Cultural Psychology |
| 2 | Cultural Evolution |
| 3 | Methods for Cultural Psychology |
| 4 | Self and Personality |
| 5 | Quiz 1 |
| 6 | Motivation |
| 7 | Cognition and Perception |
| 8 | Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships |
| 9 | Emotions |
| 10 | Quiz 2 |

3. Learning Outcomes

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

- 1) describe basic theories of cultural psychology
- 2) identify, compare, and contrast the conceptual properties of basic frameworks in cultural psychology
- 3) explain social phenomena in real life with basic frameworks in cultural psychology
- 4) evaluate socio-cultural phenomena with scientific and statistical evidence

4. Course Assessments

| Components | Group/Individual | Weighting |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Class participation | Individual | 10% |
| Quiz 1 | Individual | 20% |
| Group Project | group | 30% |
| Quiz 2 | Individual | 40% |
| Total | | 100% |

5. References

Textbook, Readings, and References

Heine, S. J. (2020). *Cultural Psychology, Fourth International Student Edition*. New York: Norton.

6. Other requirements

Students are required to have completed a course on Introductory psychology or social psychology, or both.

7. Instructor Details

| Instructor | Office | Email |
|------------------------|----------|--|
| Albert (Kai Chung) Lee | HSS04-09 | albertlee@ntu.edu.sg |