

University of Alberta
Psychology 305 B1: Special Topics in Psychology I
Culture and Cognition
Winter 2012: January 9-April 13

Class times: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 pm – 10:50 pm @ BSP116

Course Website: <http://www.ualberta.ca/WEBCT/>

Instructor: Takahiko Masuda, Ph. D.

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Office hours: Friday 2 pm – 3 pm

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(Please *always* put PSYCO 305 under the subject heading.)

T.A.: Michelle Yeung

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Office hours: Wednesday 9am-10am

Textbook: Heine, S. J. (2008). Cultural Psychology: Second Edition. New York: W. W. Norton and company, Inc. Available @ U of A bookstore.

Course Description: Our behavior is inherently socio-cultural. PSYCO 305 presents an introduction to a number of topics in experimental cultural psychology, as well as research relevant to some of the major problems in this field. We will cover the issues of culture & the self, culture & motivation, culture & cognition, and culture & perception. We also discuss various issues of our multi-cultural society.

Prerequisites: PSYCO 104, PSYCO 105, and at least one 200 level PSYCO courses.

Course Structure: In my lectures I will be introducing, clarifying, and elaborating on material related to the course, some of it in the text and some not. Lecture time is limited. *You will be responsible for a great deal of the information in the text on your own.* Just because I haven't lectured on it doesn't mean you aren't responsible for it.

Evaluations:

Class Participation & Discussion: To better understand materials, the class attendance is mandatory. We will have 20-30 min group discussion sessions in some of the class. Their active participation in discussion (speak up in class) will be also counted as bonus points.

Exams. Exams will be based on the textbook, assigned articles, and lecture materials. Each Midterm exam will include only the readings and the lecture material covered immediately preceding that exam, which is worth 30% of the total grade. The final exam ***will be cumulative for all lecture materials from the beginning of the course.*** You will have 2 hours to complete the final, which is worth 35% of the total grade. The format of the exam is open-ended questions, multiple-choice questions, and short essay questions.

The final grade will be based on three exams and the bonus points.

Midterm 1:	Feb 16 (Th)	in class	30% of the grade
Midterm 2:	Mar 22 (Th)	in class	30% of the grade
Final:	Apr 20 (F)	in class	35% of the grade
Bonus Points	(Class Discussions)		5% of the grade
Total			100% of the grade

Absence from exams: If an examination is missed due to a serious medical condition verified by University Health Services or a personal physician, a make-up exam will be offered. In order to exercise this option, however, the instructor must be contacted within 48 hours of the scheduled examination time and date. If the final examination is missed, the deferred examination will be held on **Monday, May 7, 2012** (the location and time will be announced).

SSDS Support: If you are hampered by visual or auditory limitations, or if you have a learning disability, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities in SUB. It is possible both to get help with note taking in class.

Academic Offences: The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behavior and avoid any behavior which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University. (online at www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm)

Final Grades: Final grades are reported using letter grades. Final grades are determined after combining students' class performance (active participation in discussion), quizzes, and the final paper. Students are ranked in order of total scores and a grade is assigned so that the class average falls approximately within the University-suggested ranges for the third-year level students (shown below):

Letter Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
Distribution	6%	9%	14%	16%	18%	14%	9%	6%	4%	2%	1%	1%

