

CULTURE AND BEHAVIOR (PSY 443)

2000-2001

Dr. Bilge Ataca

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Office Hours: Tuesday 13:00-15:00

Thursday 11:00-12:00

Readings:

Cushner, K., & Brislin, R. W. (1996). Intercultural interactions: A practical guide (2nd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Gabrenya, W. K. Jr. (1998). The intercultural interview. In T. Singelis (Ed.), Teaching about culture, ethnicity, and diversity (pp. 57-63). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Kagitçbasi, Ç. (1990). Family and socialization in cross-cultural perspective: A model of change. In J. Berman (Ed.), Cross-cultural perspectives: Nebraska symposium on motivation, 1989 (pp.135-200). Lincoln, NE: Nebraska University Press.

Kagitçbasi, Ç., & Sunar, D. (1992). Family and socialization in Turkey. In J. P. Roopnarine & D. B. Carter (Eds.), Parent child relations in diverse cultural settings: Socialization for instrumental competency. New Jersey: Ablex.

Lonner, W. J., & Malpass, R. (Eds.) (1994). Psychology and culture. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Matsumoto, D. (2000). Culture and psychology: People around the world (2nd Ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Segall, M. H., Dasen, P. R., Berry, J. W., & Poortinga, Y. H. (1999). Human behavior in global perspective (2nd Ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. Kagitçbasi, Ç. (1996). Family and human development across cultures-A view from the other side. Mahwah: Lawrence Erlbaum.

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to give you an understanding of the variety of human behavior as it emerges in the cultural context, of the development of certain individual characteristics in relation to cultural factors, and of what happens to individuals as their cultural system undergoes significant change.

Syllabus:

1. Introduction: What is cross-cultural psychology and what are its goals? How does it relate to Psychology in general and to Anthropology?
2. Methodology: How do we work and how do we interpret our data? How do we use the comparative method?
3. Variations in Behavior across Cultures: What is known about similarities and differences in human development, perception, cognition and social behavior in different cultures?
4. Applications: How can theory in cross-cultural psychology be applied in order to solve the problems of individuals? How can psychology be made relevant to the needs of nations in the developing world?

Format:

This course will be conducted in both a lecture and a discussion format. Attendance is required for this course. You will be expected to read the assigned readings before each class. Everyone will be required to generate two thought questions concerning the readings. These questions will be due at the beginning of the first class on Tuesdays.

Additionally, I would like you to conduct a brief interview with an international student at Bo_aziçi University who is native to a culture different from your own. The interview should focus on the respondent's subjective experience of being in Turkey, psychologically important differences between the home and the host societies, problems encountered by the person in adjusting to Turkish society, etc. I would like you to write a short description of your findings (no more than 5 double-spaced pages). More detail will be provided later. The interviews will be presented to the class towards the end of the term.

There will be two films shown during the term. You will be responsible for writing a reaction paper (2-3 double spaced pages) about each film. Each of these papers will address an issue specified by the instructor. Reaction papers will be due the following class.

Grading:

Midterm exam.....	30%
Final exam	30%
Interview	15%
Reaction papers	10%
Attendance & participation ..	15%
(including thought questions)	

Readings:

Week	Month	Day	Topic	Readings
1	Sept.	26 28	Introduction Culture	L & M Intro, 6, 9
2	Oct.	3 5	Culture Cross-cultural psychology	Matsumoto 2
3	Oct	10 12	Emic, etic, 3 orientations Ecocultural Framework	Segall et al. 2
4	Oct.	17 19	Methodology	Matsumoto 5
5	Oct.	24 26	Development	Matsumoto 7 Kagitçibasi Kagitçibasi & Sunar
6	Oct. Nov.	31 2		L & M 13, 16, 21, 23
7	Nov.	7 9	Basic psychological processes (perception, cognition, consciousness, intelligence)	Matsumoto 6 L & M 19, 20
8	Nov.	14 16	Midterm	
9	Nov.	21 23	Personality	Matsumoto 15
10	Nov.	28 30	Social behavior	Matsumoto 16
11	Dec.	5 7	Health	Matsumoto 9, 10 L & M 38, 39, 40, 41
12	Dec.	12 14	Acculturation	Segall et al. 11 Cushner & Brislin 1,5 Matsumoto 18
13	Dec.	19 21	Interviews class presentation	Gabrenya 8