

ET116-30 Culture, Cognition and Society

23/24

Department

Applied Linguistics

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Clay Beckner

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

50% coursework, 50% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

Is human cognition (the way the mind works) universal? Or do culture and society affect how we see the world? How do we understand (or misunderstand) each other in a multi-cultural society? In this module you will first learn about important aspects of cognition, such as perception, attention and memory before going on to examine the extent to which cognition is influenced by culture and society.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module aims to provide students with a thorough and critical understanding of concepts, theories and research findings of cognitive and social psychology and how these apply across different cultures.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be

covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY AND CULTURE

Psychology and culture

Perception

Attention

Memory

CULTURE AND COGNITION

Concepts

Individual differences in cognition

Thinking and reasoning

Emotion

CULTURE AND SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Conformity, compliance and obedience

Stereotypes and prejudices

Social and cultural identity

CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION

Culture and language

Non-verbal communication

Multilingualism and multiculturalism

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Provide a thorough grounding in theories and research findings related to intercultural interaction and linguistics. Provide a solid foundation in relevant research skills and methods, both quantitative and qualitative; Enable students to analyse cross-linguistic features and contexts, and authentic cross-cultural and intercultural discourses using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Enable students to undertake an in-depth study of issues relating to intercultural linguistics.

Indicative reading list

Matsumoto, D. & Juang, L. (2013). Culture and psychology. Fifth Edition. Cengage Learning

Berry, J. W., Poortinga, Y. H., Breugelmans, S. M., Chasiotis, A., Sam, D. L. (2011) Cross-cultural psychology: Research and applications. Third Edition. Cambridge: CUP.

Hewstone, M., Stroebe, W., & Jonas, K. (2015) An introduction to social psychology. Sixth Edition. Wiley.

Galotti, K. M. (2014) Cognitive psychology in and out of the laboratory. Fifth edition. Sage.

Heine, S. (2011). Cultural psychology. Second Edition. Cengage Learning

Research element

Students in this module will read and critically analyse empirical studies of culture, cognition, and society. For summative essays, students should conduct independent research into studies in

these areas.

Interdisciplinary

The module integrates theories and findings from linguistics, cognitive psychology, social psychology, anthropology, intercultural communication studies, and other fields.

International

This module incorporates theories and examples from multiple national, cultural, and linguistic contexts. The module also promotes active learning and intercultural reflection amongst a highly international cohort of students.

Subject specific skills

Understand and explain key concepts, models and research findings relating to culture, cognition and society

Understand and explain similarities and differences in cognition and behaviour across cultures

Understand and explain key concepts, models and research findings relating to attitudes, beliefs and values in the field of cross-cultural psychology

Be familiar with the main concepts and terminology of cognitive psychology, social psychology and cross-cultural psychology

Understand and explain similarities and differences in cognition and behaviour across cultures

Understand and explain key concepts, models and research findings relating to attitudes, beliefs and values in the field of cross-cultural psychology.

Transferable skills

Communicate effectively in English in mixed cross-cultural groups

Work effectively with others in group work

Use a range of tools and resources effectively in the preparation of coursework

Retrieve, evaluate critically and select relevant information to support coherent arguments

Critically evaluate key concepts, models and research findings relating to culture, cognition and society.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	18 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Other activity	4 hours (1%)
Total	300 hours

Type	Required
Private study	242 hours (81%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Reading subject materials
Homework tasks
Assignments
Revision

Other activity description

Revision sessions

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group C3

	Weighting	Study time
1st 1500 word essay (term 1)	25%	
2nd 1500 word essay (term 2)	25%	
Online Examination	50%	
~Platforms - AEP		

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback on the assignment will be provided on the Centre's standard feedback sheets, which conform to Faculty regulations. This will include both summary and detailed feedback. Where appropriate, additional feedback may be provided via personal meetings with the tutor.

[Past exam papers for ET116](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UETA-X3Q5 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication
- Year 1 of UETA-X3Q8 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A9 Undergraduate Linguistics with Arabic (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A7 Undergraduate Linguistics with Chinese (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A3 Undergraduate Linguistics with Italian(with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A8 Undergraduate Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A5 Undergraduate Linguistics with Portuguese (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A6 Undergraduate Linguistics with Russian (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UETA-Q1A4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercalated Year)