

Psychology 493 (002): Psychology of the Chinese People

Instructor: Dr. Frederick Leong (fleong@msu.edu)
Office: Psychology Building Suite 136
Office Hours: Wed 1:00-2:00 pm or by appointment

Spring 2020
Class Meets: Tu & Th
12:40-2:00 pm
Psychology Bldg Rm 119

Course Objectives

With 1.5 billion people, the Chinese represent one-fifth of the world's population. Therefore, to prepare a globally minded population in the United States that is ready for this era of globalization will require that many of its citizens begin to learn about and understand the Chinese mind and behavior. The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the psychology of the Chinese people. It will begin with a review of the history of psychology in China and move towards the contemporary foci of the field in China today. It will cover the major areas of psychology from the Chinese perspective such as social, personality, cognitive, and abnormal psychology. In covering these areas, research on indigenous concepts such as filial piety, face, ren qing, quanxi, and traditionality will be emphasized. Audio-visual materials will also be included in the course to enable you to get a more experience-near exposure to the topics.

Course Requirements

There are four major course requirements: (a) a multiple-choice mid-term exam, (b) a multiple choice final exam held at the end of the semester during final examination week, (c) completion of a research term paper (8-12 pages including references), and (d) a brief 5-minute class presentation summarizing your term paper. Only medical and other emergency situations will warrant a re-scheduling of the mid-term and final exams. The term paper will constitute 30% of the course grade (10% each for the Outline, First Draft, and Final version) while the midterm and final exam will each constitute 30% of the final course grade. The class presentation will constitute the remaining 10% of your grade. **The final exam for this course has been schedule for Wednesday, April 29, 2020 10:00am - 12:00pm in 119 Psychology Bldg (same room as class meetings).**

Your term paper must cover some aspect of Chinese psychology (e.g., Chinese style of negotiation, Belief systems underlying Chinese medicine, How and why the Chinese think and reason differently from Westerners as has been illustrated in Richard Nisbet's book, *The Geography of Thought*, etc). You will be expected to turn in 3 versions of your term paper as hard copies: (a) an Outline, (b) First Draft, and (c) the Final version which is due **April 20, 2020** and must be submitted as a hard copy to the Instructor in class AND ALSO an electronic copy uploaded to D2L to be evaluated by TurnItIn (see below). You will receive feedback from your Outline and First Draft in order to improve your term paper. Late submission of the Outline and First Draft will result in not receiving any feedback and partial credit. The term papers will be evaluated for accuracy, clarity and comprehensiveness.

Textbooks

Sun, Catherine Tien-Lun, (2008). Themes in Chinese Psychology. Singapore: Cengage Learning-Asia (REQUIRED TEXT). (Abbreviated as Sun in your Reading Assignments)

Course Outline

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Topic/ Reading Assignments</u>
M Jan 6	Introduction to Chinese Psychology
W Jan 8	A History of Chinese Psychology
M Jan 13	A Psychology of Chinese History
W Jan 15	Sun, Ch. 1 Confucianism
M Jan 20	No class meeting—Martin Luther King Holiday
W Jan 22	Sun, Ch. 1 Confucianism
M Jan 27	Sun, Ch. 2 Taoism
W Jan 29	Sun, Ch. 3 Taoism
M Feb 3	Sun, Ch. 3 Buddhism
W Feb 5	Sun, Ch. 3 Buddhism
M Feb 10	Sun, Ch. 4 Social Psychology
W Feb 12	Sun, Ch. 4 Social Psychology
M Feb 17	Sun, Ch. 5 Filial Piety
W Feb 19	Sun, Ch. 5 Filial Piety
M Feb 24	Sun, Ch. 6 Yuan
W Feb 26	Sun, Ch. 6 Yuan
M Mar 2	SPRING BREAK WEEK
W Mar 4	SPRING BREAK WEEK
M Mar 9	Sun, Ch. 7 Face Management
W Mar 11	Sun, Ch. 7 Face Management (Outline of term paper due)

M Mar 16	Sun, Ch. 8 Gender Roles
W Mar 18	Sun, Ch. 8 Gender Roles
M Mar 23	Sun, Ch. 9 Emotions
W Mar 25	Sun, Ch. 9 Emotions
M Mar 30	Cognition (First Draft of Term Paper Due)
W Apr 1	Sun, Ch. 10 Psychopathology
M Apr 6	Sun, Ch. 10 Psychopathology
W Apr 8	Sun, Ch. 11 Values & Beliefs
M Apr 13	Sun, Ch. 11 Values & Beliefs
W Apr 15	CLASS PRESENTATIONS
M Apr 20	CLASS PRESENTATIONS FINAL TERM PAPERS DUE Course Review and Course Evaluation
W Apr 22	Class cancelled/Personal review for final exam

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 10:00am - 12:00pm in Psychology Bldg RM 119

Desire2Learn and TurnItIn

MSU has adopted the Desire2Learn platform for courses and it will be used in this particular course. Part of the Desire2Learn platform includes the TurnItIn tool which checks for plagiarism in term papers. The TurnItIn tool will be used by the instructor to check final term papers submitted for this course. The course instructor will make the final determination with regards to plagiarism.

NOTE: Students with disabilities

The publication/material required in this class are available in alternative formats upon request. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor, and seeking assistance, in a timely manner. Your instructor will be able to provide a departmental contact.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or *two weeks prior to the accommodation date* (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored. If you require testing accommodations (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.) you must contact me and present your VISA *at least two weeks before the exam date* to schedule an alternative exam. Typically, I will schedule for you to take the exam during a special exam sessions offered by the Psychology Department. Those exams occur in small group settings and are offered every Wednesday at 3:00pm and Friday at a location to be announced. If you are unable to make either of those times, or that option does not meet your VISA accommodations, you may be able to schedule to take your exam at the RCPD office. In either case, the exam must be scheduled well in advance, so you need to adhere to the two-week prior notification requirement.