



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

PS/SO300 – Are Individuals the Same in the East and West? Cultural Differences in Social Psychological Processes

Prof. CLAUDIA MANZI

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We live in a world defined by cultural diversity, and, thus, multicultural experiences and identities have become a regular component of many individuals' lives. Cultural psychology has uncovered that culture plays crucial roles in psychological processes: patterns of individual behavior and underlying psychological processes are shaped within specific cultural contexts.

The course aims to examine how topics fundamental to psychology—identity and social relations, the self, cognition, emotion and motivation, and development—are influenced by cultural meanings and practices. The goal is to explain the ways in which human cultural constructions organize and direct human acting, feeling, and thinking in different social contexts.

PREREQUISITES

A background in Social Psychology and Research Methods may prove helpful, but it is not compulsory.

METHOD OF TEACHING

Lecture and Seminar

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students have to comply with the following requirements:

- a. Students are expected to regularly attend class sessions and actively contribute to in-class debate.
- b. Students are expected to study in advance the assigned course readings.
- c. Students will have to take two written exams: a mid-term test and a final test, at the end of the teaching period.
- d. Students are required to do a short presentation on a course-related topic.

The use of the mobile phone is not allowed during the class.

CREDITS

6 ECTS



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GRADING

Attendance and class participation	20 % of final grade
Group assignments + class presentation	20 % of final grade
Midterm test	30 % of final grade
Final written exam	30 % of final grade

COURSE READINGS AND MATERIALS

All the readings will be available in a course pack and the lecturer's slides will be available on Blackboard.

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Claudia Manzi is Assistant Professor of Social Psychology at the Catholic University of Milan. Her research focuses on how people develop their identity in different cultural context. She is part of several international research teams on psychosocial cross-cultural studies. She is author of many articles and international academic papers.

E-MAIL ADDRESS

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