

***Culture and Social-Personality
Processes: Conceptual and
Methodological Issues***



Instructor: Veronica Benet-Martinez, Ph.D. / [ICREA](#) Professor at [Pompeu Fabra University](#) / email: veronica.benet@upf.edu / Research output: <https://scholar.google.es/citations?user=tI2CqJsAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

Dates & Times: September 29, 30, October 1 2021 -- 10h-17h

Location: University of Lausanne. Room: W: Geo-2121, T: Geo-2230 & F: GEO-2227

Overall Description: This workshop will examine a selection of issues related to the study of culture/ethnicity and social-personality processes (e.g., social cognition, attribution, values, personality broadly defined, identity, well-being, etc.). The seminars will summarize the state of the art work on these issues conducted by Verónica Benet-Martínez and other researchers, with a special emphasis on methodological issues and recent theoretical developments (e.g., switch from a focus on between-group cultural differences to within-individual cultural dynamics, impact of multiculturalism and globalization on the individual, etc.).

Specific Goals: This workshop will provide interested PhD students and postdocs with an opportunity to (1) meet Prof. Benet-Martinez and learn about her cultural social-personality research, (2) learn about the state of the art in cultural/cross-cultural psychology, (3) give attendees an opportunity to incorporate questions pertaining to culture/ethnicity/diversity into their own research activities, and (4) discuss more practical and professional issues related to doing research across cultures and ethnicities? (e.g., how to enlist relevant cultural informants/collaborators, consideration of ethics, measurement equivalence issues, replicability concerns).

Format: Lectures, discussions, and student-lead presentations.

What is (Cross)Cultural Psychology?

Cultural psychology, a thriving field within psychology, examines how culture and ethnicity influence psychological processes such as social cognition, emotion, motivation, personality, self-concept, and interpersonal behavior (i.e., *how culture makes who you are*). Cultural psychology also examines how individuals, in turn, construct culture individually and collectively (i.e., *how you make culture*).

Long-standing migration trends, rapid globalization, and the speed of travel and communication have brought unprecedented levels of cultural diversity. As a consequence, many individuals are no longer socialized in and exposed to a single culture. This means that cultural psychology is also increasingly concerned with the study of globalization and *multicultural identity and experiences*.

Ultimately, cultural psychology helps us gain a better appreciation for the ways in which culture and human psyche mutually constitute each other, and enhances your ability to deal with and understand variations in human behavior across cultures and ethnic groups.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE & ACTIVITIES¹

Wednesday September 29, 2021 (GEO-2121)

10-11:30: Introductions; Foundational/Definitional Issues: What is culture (vs. ethnicity, race), its functions, and origins and dynamics; Many forms of culture; Basic dimensions of cultural difference.

11:30-11:45: BREAK

11:45-13: Methodological considerations: Types of questions, sampling of cultures and participants; Linguistic issues; Ethics; Emic vs. etic debate and solutions.

13-14: LUNCH

14-15:30: Culture and cognition: Reasoning, categorization; Analytic vs. holistic cognition; Attributional styles.

15:30-15:45: BREAK

15:45-17: Culture and the self: Self-concept; Emotion; Wellbeing

Obligatory Readings:

Cohen, A. B. (2009). Many forms of culture. *American Psychologist*, 64, 194-204.

Benet-Martínez, V. (2008). Cross-cultural (personality) research: Conceptual and methodological issues. In R.W. Robins, R.C. Fraley, & R. Krueger (Eds.), *Handbook of research methods in personality psychology*. New York, NY: Guildford Press.

Markus, H. R., & Kitayama, S. (2010). Cultures and selves: A cycle of mutual constitution. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 5, 420-430.

Mesquita, B., Boiger, M., & De Leersnyder, J. (2017). Doing emotions: The role of culture in everyday emotions. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 28, 95-133.

Thursday September 30, 2021 (GEO-2230)

10-11:30: Culture and social behavior: Cultural logics of honor, dignity, and face; Tightness vs. looseness; Intersubjective culture

11:30-11:45: BREAK

11:45-13: Culture and personality: Cultural, cross-cultural, and ecological perspectives.

13-14: LUNCH

¹ Subject to changes. Please check with Professor on first day of workshop.

14-15:30: Acculturation: Psychological changes due to cultural contact; Acculturation dimensions and modes; Acculturation and adjustment.

15:30-15:45: BREAK

15:45-17: Multiculturalism: Cultural dynamics within the individual; Cultural frame-switching; Identity Integration; Psychological responses to globalization.

Obligatory Readings:

Leung, A. K. Y., & Cohen, D. (2011). Within-and between-culture variation: Individual differences and the cultural logics of honor, face, and dignity cultures. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 100, 507.

Oishi, S., Kushlev, K., & Benet-Martínez, V. (2021). Culture and personality. In O.P. John & R.W. Robins (Eds.), *Handbook of personality: Theory and research* (4th edition). New York, NY: Guilford Press.

Benet-Martínez, V. (2018). Multicultural identity and experiences: Cultural, social, and personality processes. In K. Deaux & M. Snyder (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Personality and Social Psychology* (2nd edition). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Morris, M. W., Chiu, C. Y., & Liu, Z. (2015). Polycultural psychology. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 66, 631-659.

Friday October 1, 2021 (GEO-2227)

10-11:30: Student presentations of their research proposal ideas & feedback.

11:30-12:15: LUNCH (catered)

12:15-13:45: PLENARY TALK by Prof. Veronica Benet - GEO-1620

Title: *The Multi-Cultural Mind and Self: Social, Personality, and Cultural Processes*

14-16:30: Student presentations of research proposal ideas & feedback.

APPENDIX: Expanded list of relevant literature

TOPICS	SELECTED RELEVANT READINGS (*essential)
<p><u>Foundational/Definitional Issues: What is culture</u>, its functions, and origins and dynamics; Many forms of culture; Basic dimensions of cultural difference</p>	<p>*Henrich, J., Heine, S. J., & Norenzayan, A. (2010). Most people are not WEIRD. <i>Nature</i>, 466, 29-29.</p> <p>*Cohen, A. B. (2009). Many forms of culture. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 64, 194-204.</p> <p>*Sng, O., Neuberg, S. L., Varnum, M. E. W., & Kenrick, D. T. (2018). The behavioral ecology of cultural psychological variation. <i>Psychological Review</i>, 125, 714-743.</p> <p>Gobel, M., Benet-Martinez, V., Mesquita, B., & Uskul, A. (2018). Europe's culture(s): Negotiating cultural meanings, values, and identities in the European context. <i>Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology</i>, 49, 858-867.</p> <p>Oyserman, D. (2016). Culture three ways: Culture and subcultures within countries. <i>Annual Review of Psychology</i>, 68, 435-463.</p>
<p><u>Methodological issues in (cross)cultural research</u></p>	<p>*Benet-Martínez, V. (2008). Cross-cultural (personality) research: Conceptual and methodological issues. In R.W. Robins, R.C. Fraley, & R. Krueger (Eds.), <i>Handbook of research methods in personality psychology</i>. New York, NY: Guildford Press.</p> <p>*Na, J., Grossmann, I., Varnum, M. E., Kitayama, S., Gonzalez, R., & Nisbett, R. E. (2010). Cultural differences are not always reducible to individual differences. <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i>.</p> <p>Heine, S. J., Buchtel, E. E., & Norenzayan, A. (2008). What do cross-national comparisons of personality traits tell us? The case of conscientiousness. <i>Psychological Science</i>, 19, 309-313.</p> <p>Milfont, T. L., & Klein, R. A. (2018). Replication and reproducibility in cross-cultural psychology. <i>Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology</i>, 49, 735-750.</p> <p>Hanel, P. H. P., Maio, G. R., & Manstead, A. S. R. (2019). A new way to look at the data: Similarities between groups of people are large and important. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 116, 541-562.</p>

<p><u>The inseparability of psyche and culture: Cognition & motivation.</u></p>	<p>*Varnum, M. E., Grossmann, I., Kitayama, S., & Nisbett, R. E. (2010). The origin of cultural differences in cognition: The social orientation hypothesis. <i>Current Directions in Psychological Science</i>, 19, 9-13.</p> <p>*Lee, H., Shimizu, Y., Masuda, T., & Uleman, J. S. (2017). Cultural differences in spontaneous trait and situation inferences. <i>Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology</i>, 48, 627-643.</p> <p>Iyengar, S. S., & Lepper, M. R. (1999). Rethinking the value of choice: a cultural perspective on intrinsic motivation. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 76, 349.</p> <p>Markus, H. R. (2016). What moves people to action? Culture and motivation. <i>Current Opinion in Psychology</i>, 8, 161-166.</p> <p>Miyamoto, Y., Nisbett, R. E., & Masuda, T. (2006). Culture and the physical environment: Holistic versus analytic perceptual affordances. <i>Psychological Science</i>, 17, 113-119.</p>
<p><u>The inseparability of psyche and culture: The self & emotions.</u></p>	<p>*Markus, H. R., & Kitayama, S. (2010). Cultures and selves: A cycle of mutual constitution. <i>Perspectives on Psychological Science</i>, 5, 420-430.</p> <p>*Mesquita, B., Boiger, M., & De Leersnyder, J. (2017). Doing emotions: The role of culture in everyday emotions. <i>European Review of Social Psychology</i>, 28, 95-133.</p> <p>Kitayama, S., Markus, H. R., Matsumoto, H., & Norasakkunkit, V. (1997). Individual and collective processes in the construction of the self: self-enhancement in the United States and self-criticism in Japan. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 72, 1245.</p> <p>Oishi, S., & Gilbert, E. A. (2016). Current and future directions in culture and happiness research. <i>Current Opinion in Psychology</i>, 8, 54-58.</p> <p>Ford, B. Q., et al. T. (2015). Culture shapes whether the pursuit of happiness predicts higher or lower well-being. <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: General</i>, 144, 1053.</p> <p>Grossmann, I., Huynh, A. C., & Ellsworth, P. C. (2016). Emotional complexity: Clarifying definitions and cultural correlates. <i>Journal of personality and social psychology</i>, 111, 895.</p>

<p><u>Culture and social behavior: Social norms, values, and relationships</u></p>	<p>*Leung, A. K. Y., & Cohen, D. (2011). Within-and between-culture variation: Individual differences and the cultural logics of honor, face, and dignity cultures. <i>Journal of personality and social psychology</i>, 100, 507.</p> <p>*Gelfand, M. J. et al. (2011). Differences between tight and loose cultures: A 33-nation study. <i>Science</i>, 332, 1100-1104.</p> <p>Chiu, C. Y., Gelfand, M. J., Yamagishi, T., Shteynberg, G., & Wan, C. (2010). Intersubjective culture: The role of intersubjective perceptions in cross-cultural research. <i>Perspectives on Psychological Science</i>, 5, 482-493.</p> <p>Morris, M. W. (2014). Values as the essence of culture: Foundation or fallacy? <i>Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology</i>, 45, 14-24.</p> <p>Kim, H. S., Sherman, D. K., & Taylor, S. E. (2008). Culture and social support. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 63, 518.</p>
<p><u>Culture and personality: Cultural, cross-cultural, and ecological perspectives.</u></p>	<p>*Oishi, S., Kushlev, K., & Benet-Martínez, V. (2021). Culture and personality. In O.P. John & R.W. Robins (Eds.), <i>Handbook of personality: Theory and research</i> (4th edition). New York, NY: Guilford Press.</p> <p>*Benet-Martinez, V. (2021). Culture and personality processes: Some basic tenets and current directions. In Rauthmann, J. (Ed.), <i>Handbook of personality dynamics and processes</i>. Elsevier Press.</p> <p>Church, A. T. (2016). Personality traits across cultures. <i>Current Opinion in Psychology</i>, 8, 22-30.</p> <p>Götz, F. M., Stieger, S., Gosling, S. D., Potter, J., & Rentfrow, P. J. (2020). Physical topography is associated with human personality. <i>Nature Human Behaviour</i>, 4, 1135-1144.</p> <p>Fulmer et al.. (2010). On “feeling right” in cultural contexts: How person-culture match affects self-esteem and subjective well-being. <i>Psychological Science</i>, 21, 1563-1569.</p>

<p><u>Acculturation: Living between cultures</u></p>	<p>*Schwartz, S., Unger, J., Zamboanga, B., & Szapocznik, J. (2010). Rethinking the concept of acculturation: Implications for theory and research. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 65, 237–251.</p> <p>*Nguyen, A.M., & Benet-Martínez, V. (2013). Biculturalism and adjustment: A meta-analysis. <i>Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology</i>. 44, 122-159.</p> <p>Ward, C., & Geeraert, N. (2016). Advancing acculturation theory and research: The acculturation process in its ecological context. <i>Current Opinion in Psychology</i>, 8, 98-104.</p> <p>Ferguson, G. M. (2013). The big difference a small island can make: How Jamaican adolescents are advancing acculturation science. <i>Child Development Perspectives</i>, 7, 248-254.</p>
<p><u>Multiculturalism: Globalization & interculturalism</u></p>	<p>*Benet-Martínez, V. (2018). Multicultural identity and experiences: Cultural, social, and personality processes. In K. Deaux & M. Snyder (Eds.), <i>The Oxford Handbook of Personality and Social Psychology</i> (2nd edition). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>*Morris, M. W., Chiu, C. Y., & Liu, Z. (2015). Polycultural Psychology. <i>Annual Review of Psychology</i>, 66, 631-659.</p> <p>*Hong, Y., Morris, M., Chiu, C., & Benet-Martinez, V. (2000). Multicultural minds: A dynamic constructivist approach to culture and cognition. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 55, 709-720.</p> <p>Chiu, C. Y., & Kwan, L. Y. Y. (2016). Globalization and psychology. <i>Current opinion in psychology</i>, 8, 44-48.</p> <p>Ramirez-Esparza, N., Gosling, S., Benet-Martínez, V., Potter, J. & Pennebaker, J. (2006). Do bilinguals have two personalities? A special case of cultural frame-switching. <i>Journal of Research in Personality</i>, 40, 99-120.</p> <p>Varnum, M. E., & Grossmann, I. (2017). Cultural change: The how and the why. <i>Perspectives on Psychological Science</i>, 12, 956-972</p>

The future: How to integrate (multi)cultural psychology into your academic and professional lives

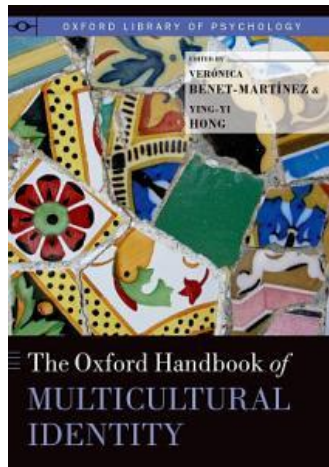
*Wang, Q. (2016). Why should we all be cultural psychologists? Lessons from the study of social cognition. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 15, 583-596.

*Galinsky, A. D., Todd, A. R., Homan, A. C., Phillips, K. W. et al. (2015). Maximizing the gains and minimizing the pains of diversity: A policy perspective. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 10, 742-748.

Shavitt, S., & Cho, H. (2016). Culture and consumer behavior: the role of horizontal and vertical cultural factors. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 8, 149-154.

Stephens, N. M., Markus, H. R., & Fryberg, S. A. (2012). Social class disparities in health and education: Reducing inequality by applying a sociocultural self model of behavior. *Psychological Review*, 119, 723-744.

Kirmayer, L. J., & Ryder, A. G. (2016). Culture and psychopathology. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 8, 143-148.



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