

**POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN ETHNOLOGY AT THE VILNIUS
UNIVERSITY, THE INSTITUTE OF LITHUANIAN LITERATURE AND
FOLKLORE, AND THE LITHUANIAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND
THEATRE: THE COURSE ITINERARY**

Subject	Research area (branch), code	Institution	Department
CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY	Ethnology H006	VU	Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies
Form of study	Duration	Form of study	Duration
lecture:	10	consultation	10
independent study:	170	seminar:	10
Credit hours:	8		
Course description			
<p>The aim of the course is to provide an introduction to and a critical assessment of contemporary psychological research on culture, to describe the different dimensions of Eastern and Western cultures. To analyse their impact on people's thinking and behaviour, to analyse the impact of culture on people's traits and emotions, on the perception of values, on health, and on subjective well-being, to compare the features of communication in different cultures and the reasons behind them, and to discuss the patterns of cross-cultural communication. The course develops the ability to understand the diversity of psychological and empirical/experimental research on culture, highlights the multifaceted impact of culture on the individual, develops interdisciplinary problem-oriented analytical skills, and broadens cognitive and communicative skills for a more adequate and sensitive understanding of other cultures in the socio-cultural processes of a global world.</p>			
<p>Subject objectives and competences: Doctoral students will have an understanding of the different disciplines dealing with the relationship between culture and psychology; be able to describe and critically evaluate psychological research on culture; be able to insightfully describe the different dimensions of culture and analyze their influence on human thinking and behaviour; be able to sensitively compare the characteristics and causes of communication in different cultures; be able to analyze the impact of culture on people's emotions, values, understanding of health and subjective well-being; understand the patterns of intercultural communication; and acquire systemic competences, which require the holistic skills and abilities of combining intercultural understanding, sensitivity and knowledge.</p>			
<p>Course content:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Culture and human nature: between universalism, relativism and absolutism. The cultural evolution of humanity. 2. The relationship and aims of the study of culture and psychology; the relationship with other sciences (cross-cultural psychology, ethnopsychology, cultural anthropology, developmental psychology). 3. Methods, theoretical and methodological issues in cultural psychology 4. Culture, human development and socialisation. Sensitive periods of cultural socialisation. Language, childhood experience, adolescence, education. 5. The self in cultures: between individualism and collectivism; the autonomous and the interdependent self. Subjective and objective self-consciousness; the five-factor model of 			

personality.

6. Existential motivation, self-control, self-esteem and self-respect across cultures. Strategies for rebuilding self-esteem. Religion and motivation. Primary and secondary control. Choice and powerlessness. Adaptation and disengagement.
7. Cultural dimensions of morality and religion. Kohlberg's stages of moral development.
8. Ethics of autonomy, community and divinity. Between orthodoxy and liberalism. Thinking and morality. Culture and the concept of justice.
9. Experience, emotions and their expression in cultures. James-Lang and two-factor theories of emotions. Emotion and rationalisation. Emotion and facial expressions. Between experience and demonstration. Cultural variation in the experience of intense emotions. Emotion and language.
10. Thinking, language and cognition in different cultures. Analytical and holistic thinking. Selectivity of attention. Thinking and verbal articulation. Linguistic relativism.
11. Concepts of mental and physical wellness in cultures; illness and abnormal behaviour. Socioeconomic status and health. Ethnicity and health. Height and culture.
12. Food and nutrition in cultures. Diet, body and weight. Eating disorders in cultures.
13. Culture and psychopathology. Culturally determined disorders of Koro, Amok and others. Depression: between somatisation and psychologisation. Social phobias and suicide. Schizophrenia.
14. Interpersonal, group, intergroup relations; intercultural communication. Group identification. Four elementary forms of relationships. Social facilitation and loafing. Struggle versus co-option.
15. Culture and the concept of gender roles. Love and sexuality in cultures. Attraction and distance.
17. Multiculturalism, adaptation, enculturation and acculturation. Dangers of acculturation. Monoculturalism and biculturalism. From honeymoon to self-isolation.

Reading list

Key readings:

1. Berry, J.W., Poortinga, Y.H., Segall M.H., Dasen, P.R. (ed.) *Cross-Cultural Psychology. Research and Applications*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2002
2. Heine, Steven J. *Cultural psychology*. (Fifth edition) New York, London: W.W. Norton. 2016.
3. Kitayama, Shinobu; Cohen, Dov (ed.) *Handbook of Cultural Psychology*. New York [N.Y.]; London : The Guilford Press. 2010.
4. Richard Nisbett. *The Geography of Thought: How Asian and Westerners think differently... and Why?* New York: The Free Press. 2003.
5. Matsumoto, David (ed.). *The Handbook of Culture and Psychology*. Oxford [N.Y.]: Oxford University Press. 2001
6. Shweder, Richard A. *Thinking through cultures: expeditions in cultural psychology*. Cambridge [Mass.]: Harvard University Press. 1991.

Additional readings:

1. H.R. Markus, Sh. Kitayama. "Culture and the Self: Implications for Cognition, Emotion, and Motivation", *Psychological Review*. Vol. 98, No. 2, 1991. pp.224-253
2. Dinesh Bhugra, Kamaldeep Bhui (eds.), *Textbook of Cultural Psychiatry*. Cambridge University Press. 2007.
3. Kavolis, Vytautas. *Kultūrinė psichologija: straipsnių rinkinys*. Vilnius: Baltos lankos. 1995.
4. Beinorius, Audrius. „Vakarų psichologija ir Indija“ in *Indija ir Vakarai: kultūrų sąveikos pjuviai*, Vilnius: VU leidykla. 2012. p. 318-399.
5. Hall, Lena E. *Dictionary of Multicultural Psychology: Issues, Terms, and Concepts*. California: Thousand Oaks. 2005
6. Uichol Kim, Kuo-Shu Yang, Kwang-Kuo Hwang. *Indigenous and Cultural Psychology Understanding People in Context*. Springer. 2006.
7. Leary, Mark R.; Tangney, June Price (ed.). *Handbook of Self and Identity*. New York [N.Y.]; London : The Guilford Press. 2005.
8. Berniūnas, Renatas; Beinorius, Audrius; Dranseika, Vilius; Silius, Vytis; Rimkevičius, Paulius. "The weirdness of belief in free will", *Consciousness and cognition*, 2021. vol. 87, art. no. 103054, pp. 1-15.
(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1053810020305213?via%3Dihub>)
9. William J. Chopik, Ed O'Brien, and Sara H. Konrath. "Differences in Empathic Concern and Perspective Taking Across 63 Countries", *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*. 2016 Vol. 48, Issue 1, 2017, pp.1-16.
(<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0022022116673910>)
10. Laungani, P.D. *Understanding Cross-Cultural Psychology. Eastern and Western Perspectives*. New Delhi: SAGE Publications. 2007.

Advisers: academic degree, name and surname	Major research published in the last 5 years in the field (branch)
Audrius Beinorius, prof.dr. (HP)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beinorius, Audrius. "Sanskrit and Lithuania: On Linguistic, Religious and Cultural Proximity", in <i>Sanskrit and European Languages</i>. Ed. Prof. Shashi Bala, New Delhi: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2020, p. 28-58. ISBN 978-81-938679-8-3. 2. Beinorius, Audrius. "Psychoanalytic theory in postcolonial discourse: comparing Octave Mannoni, Frantz Fanon and Homi K. Bhaba.", <i>Dialogue and Universalism, Warsaw, Polish Academy of Sciences</i>, No.3/2020, p.123-140. ISSN 1234-5792 3. Beinorius, Audrius; Berniūnas, Renatas; Dranseika, Vilius; Silius, Vytis; Rimkevičius, Paulius. "The weirdness of belief in free will", <i>Consciousness and cognition</i>. San Diego, CA : Academic Press. ISSN 1053-8100. eISSN 1090-2376. 2020, vol. 87, art. no. 103054, p. [1-15]. DOI: 10.1016/j.concog.2020.103054 4. Beinorius, Audrius. „Constructing Otherness: On the Early Perception of Buddhism in the West“, in <i>The Spread of Buddhist Thought</i>. Edited by Upendra Rao, New Delhi: Eastern Book Linkers. 2022. p.1-18; 251-253 ISBN 978-8178544236. 5. Beinorius, Audrius. "Teosofinis orientalizmas ir Indija: transkultūrinės Vakarų ezoterizmo transformacijos (Theosophical Orientalism and India: Transcultural Transformations of Western Esotericism)", in <i>Ezoterizmo fenomenas: tarp Rytų ir Vakarų (The Phenomenon of Esotericism: between East and West)</i>, Vilnius: VU leidykla, 2023, p.189-226. ISBN: ISBN 978-609-07-0903-0

	<p>6. Beinorius, Audrius. “Ezoterizmas – globalus ar lokalus (Introduction: Esotericism – Local or Global?)”, in <i>Ezoterizmo fenomenas: tarp Rytų ir Vakarų, (The Phenomenon of Esotericism: between East and West)</i>, Vilnius: VU leidykla, 2023, pp.7-22. ISBN 978-609-07-0903-0.</p> <p>7. Beinorius, Audrius (0,1 dalis); Berniūnas, Renatas; Dranseika, Vilius; Silius, Vytis; Rimkevičius, Paulius. “Bound to Share or Not to Care. The Force of Fate, Gods, Luck, Chance and Choice across Cultures”, <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> (September 2023), 23: 451–475; DOI: 10.1163/15685373-12340172</p> <p>8. Beinorius, Audrius. “Lunar Constellations (nakshatras) and Name Giving Tradition in Ancient India”, <i>Rocznik Orientalistyczny/Yearbook of Oriental Studies</i>, T. LXXVI, Z. 2, 2023, (s. 5–19) DOI: 10.24425/ro.2023.148339 (https://journals.pan.pl/dlibra/publication/148339/edition/129895/content)</p> <p>9. Beinorius, Audrius (0,1 dalis); Berniūnas, Renatas; Dranseika, Vilius; Silius, Vytis; Rimkevičius, Paulius. “Being prosocial and happy, and believing in life-determining forces across cultures”. <i>Journal of Cultural Cognitive Science</i>, Published: 06 February 2024. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s41809-023-00139-x</p> <p>10. Beinorius, Audrius. (2024) “Kāla: laiko veidai klasikiniėje Indijos filosofijoje”, <i>Problemos</i> 105, p. 21–31. doi:10.15388/Problemos.2024.105.2</p>
<p>Approved at the meeting of the Ethnology Doctoral Committee of VU, LLTI and LMTA on October 15, 2024, No. R6-7.</p>	
<p>Chair of the Doctoral Committee</p>	<p>dr. Daiva Vaitkevičienė</p>