Instructor: Alicia Nijdam-Jones, MA
Office: TBD
Email: anijdamjones@fordham.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 12:00-1:00pm (or by appointment)

Overview & Goals
Historically, psychology focused on racial/ethnic majority and heteronormative samples of the population in the development and practice of research, treatment approaches, and the acquisition of normative data for psychological testing. Neglect of minority identity persons in the aforementioned areas of psychological science and practice has limited the field’s generalizability to the entire population. In the last decade, multicultural issues have been an increasing area of focus across the field and Multicultural Psychology is a burgeoning subfield. The purpose of this course is to examine the psychological science and theory related to majority and minority-identity group members. Such examination will be guided by real-world application of material covered in class and required readings.

Course Objectives
• To provide an overview of core themes and concepts within multicultural psychology.
• To critically review current research and perspectives in order to deepen understanding of core concepts and future directions.
• To critically evaluate and understand competing worldviews.
• To develop multicultural competence related to both to concepts in psychology and an applied social context.
• Throughout the course, sensitivity to studying and working with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures will be emphasized.

Required readings
• Journal articles listed in the course schedule (available on Blackboard).
• APA Online Resource: Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) accessed via: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/

Course Evaluation
  Attendance and Participation (10%; 50 pts.)
  Discussion Leader (10%; 50 pts.)
  Random Reading Quizzes [5] (15%; 5 x 15 pts. each)
  Midterm Exam (20%; 100 pts.)
  Final Exam (20%; 100 pts.)
  Final Paper (25%; 125 pts.)

All course requirements must be fulfilled in order to receive a passing grade.

Final grades will be determined as follows:
A = 93% and above (465 to 500 total points)          B = 84 to 86.9% (415 to 434.5)
A- = 90 to 92.9% (450 to 464.5)                      B- = 80 to 83.9% (400 to 414.5)
B+ = 87 to 89.9% (435 to 449.5)                      C+ = 77 to 79.9% (385 to 399.5)
C = 74 to 76.9% (365 to 384.5)  
C- = 70 to 73.9% (350 to 364.5) 
D = 60 to 69.9% (300 to 349.5) 
F = Below 60% (0 to 299.5)

Attendance and Participation
Attendance is expected so that you can learn the material, ask questions, and participate in discussions. This element will be assessed according to your regular attendance and the quality of your contributions in class. To excel in this element, it requires that you read the assigned materials, raise and discuss issues, and fully engage with the class.

Email requests to excuse an absence will not be accepted. Only written notification from, for example, a medical professional or an academic dean will constitute an excused absence. Students are responsible for providing this documentation. All documentation must be submitted within one week from the missed class. Students are responsible for all material covered and activities during missed classes. After two unexcused absences or repeated lateness, each subsequent absence will result in a letter grade drop (e.g., A to a B) for the attendance portion of your grade.

Discussion Leader
For the classes indicated on the class schedule, one student will lead a discussion for 30 minutes based on the assigned readings and topic for the class period. Students will be responsible for selecting an article from the supplemental reading list or an empirical journal and facilitate a discussion with the class based on the reading. Students must email me one week prior to their assigned class in order to confirm the topic of discussion.

Exams
There will be two exams with the final exam being non-cumulative. The midterm will cover lecture material and readings for the first half of the semester, and the final exam will cover material from the second half of the semester. Exams will be a combination short-answer and essay questions. While supplemental readings are not required, they will aid in mastering the course material.

All students are expected to take course exams according to this schedule. If a student misses an exam, a make-up will only be administered after the student provides an appropriate written notice (e.g., signed memo from an academic dean or medical professional verifying the date and reason for the student’s absence). No electronic devices permitted during exams.

Final Paper
Considering the topics presented in the course, you will be asked to explore one of the topics discussed in class in greater depth. This is an opportunity to research this topic in greater depth and should include three sections: b) the history of the issue, b) 3 contemporary research on the issue, c) future directions. Final papers should be 8 to 10 pages double-spaced (not including title page, abstract, and references) and must adhere to APA format (in-text citations, reference list). Each paper should include at least five peer-reviewed readings on the topic that were not assigned for class.

The paper topic and outline is due via e-mail to me on TBD. Final papers (paper copy!) are due in-class AND on SafeAssign by Monday, TBD.
- Topic and outline due: TBD
- Paper due: TBD

Late papers will be penalized 5% for each day they are late, including weekends. E-mailed assignments will not be accepted. Inability to attend exams or to meet deadlines requires advance notification as well as appropriate documentation. All students are responsible for keeping backups of written
assignments while they are in progress, as computer crashes and viruses are not acceptable excuses for late papers.

**Academic Integrity**

Fordham Academic Integrity Statement: As a student of Fordham University, I recognize that I am part of a community dedicated to the disciplined and rigorous pursuit of knowledge and communication of truth. I therefore commit myself to the University Code of Conduct and upholding the highest standards of academic integrity. Any work that I claim to be my own will be my own; I will give appropriate credit where credit is due; I will be fair and honest in all of my interactions with members of the Fordham community.

Fordham University’s Arts and Sciences Policy on Academic Integrity will be strictly enforced in this class. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Plagiarism (representing someone else’s academic writing as your own)
- Repeat submission of assignments without prior approval from instructor
- Submitting assignments which were purchased or written by someone other than the student
- Using / attempting to use the answers of other students or providing answers to other students
- Submitting identical or virtually identical assignments by students who studied together
- Submitting false written or oral records or information (includes fabricated data and false documentation to obtain an extension on an assignment)
- Stealing or destroying the work of another student
- Cheating during examinations (use of unauthorized materials or equipment)
- Impersonating a student or having someone write an exam on someone else’s behalf

If in doubt regarding any Academic Integrity Policies or guidelines for proper citations, please ask. Penalties from the Arts and Sciences Policy on Academic Integrity can include an F in the course, documentation of the incident in your official student record, suspension, and expulsion. For a review of Fordham’s expectations regarding this issue and the repercussions of a failure to do so, please visit the following website: [http://www.fordham.edu/info/25380/undergraduate_academic_integrity_policy](http://www.fordham.edu/info/25380/undergraduate_academic_integrity_policy) If you have ANY questions regarding any of these terms, please approach me BEFORE problems arise. The policy is very clear and will be enforced.

**Email Policy**

It is **STRONGLY DISCOURAGED** to use e-mail in lieu of office hour visits. This does not mean that you cannot contact me via email but please ensure that you are using this medium suitably. When using e-mail to ask a question, when appropriate, tell me what you think the answer is. Please make sure the subject line in your email is **Pyc 3600** and that you sign your email; this will ensure a quicker response. Remember to allow at least **24 hours** for a response to an email and do not expect that the I will be checking emails on evenings or over the weekend.

**Students with Disabilities**

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, all students, with or without disabilities, are entitled to equal access to the programs and activities of Fordham University. If you believe that you have a disabling condition that may interfere with your ability to participate in the activities, coursework, or assessment of the object of this course, you may be entitled to accommodations. Please schedule an appointment to speak with someone at the Office of Disability Services, disabilityservices@fordham.edu.
Use of Electronic Devices
Please turn off all cell phones and refrain from using laptops for chatting or checking email. If laptops are being used for these means you will be asked to refrain from bringing your laptop to class. If you need to keep your phone on because you are expecting an important call/text regarding, for example, a family emergency, you should let me know prior to class.

Mandatory Reporting Obligations
As Fordham faculty, I MUST report the following incidents to the Department of Public Safety, the Dean of Students, or the Title IX Coordinator when a student is a victim/survivor and I observe, obtain knowledge, learn of, or reasonably suspect: any form of sexual harassment (verbal or physical); rape/sexual assault; dating and domestic violence; stalking; sexual exploitation, including forcible touching; other sexual misconduct. Students have the right to speak to a confidential counselor who is not obligated to report the information to the University:

- Counseling & Psychological Services: LC, 212-636-6225; RH, 718-817-3725
- Office of Campus Ministry: LC, 212-636-6267; RH, 718-817-4500

Guidelines for Class and Reading
1. In order to maintain an open and safe environment in which students’ opinions are valued, it is important to consider and respect alternative points of view. Thoughtful critiques and feedback are welcome and encouraged, but negative criticism is not.
2. As a psychology course in a Jesuit institution, discrimination, harassment, and global generalizations against others on the basis of race, creed, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression will not be tolerated.
3. Think about the material as you are reading it. Thinking without reading and reading without thinking will be less effective.
4. Please make use of office hours if you have any questions, concerns, or difficulties with any of the class material. I am here as a resource for you. Remember, ask questions and participate!
**Course Schedule (TBD)**

Knowing and understanding the text and readings is essential for understanding and contributing to class and group discussions, performing well on your exams, and completing your final paper. A preliminary schedule of course readings is included in the course outline below. You are expected to do the assigned reading ahead of the class/tutorial for which the reading is scheduled to be discussed, and to participate in discussion.

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*Class schedule is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. Required readings will be revised as the semester progresses, with advance notice given by the instructor.*