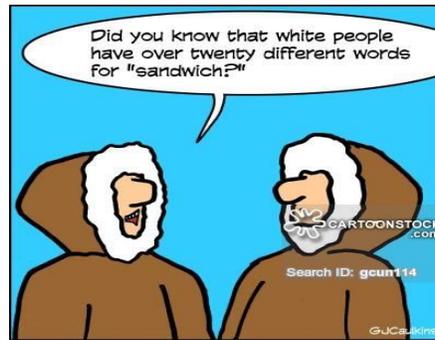




The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community.  
(<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>)



## **Psy 410 Cultural Psychology**

CRN: 20410 Section: 01 Credit Hours: 3.0

**Spring 2019**

**Admin 302**

**Mon/Wed/Fri 10:00-10:50am**

**Dr. Karen Griffee, Professor**

### **How to contact me:**

**Email:** [griffeek@concord.edu](mailto:griffeek@concord.edu) is the best way to reach me quickly outside of office hours.

**Office:** Admin 118

### **Office Hours:**

Mon Weds 12:00-1:00pm

Tues 12:15-1:15pm

Thurs 1:45-2:45pm

Fri 9-10am

...and by appointment

**Phone:** (304) 384-5201      **Fax:** (304) 384-6091

Division of Social Sciences Website Address: <http://www.concord.edu/social-sciences/node/8>

Psychology Program Website Address: <http://www.concord.edu/psychology>

## **Course Prerequisites:** Intro to Learning

### **Text requirement:**

Clash! 8 Cultural Conflicts that Make Us Who We Are by Markus and Conner. I will also provide additional photocopied materials (mostly research and theoretical articles) for this course, which will be distributed throughout the semester. I suggest that you obtain a small binder in which to keep the photocopied articles and your notes for this class. Finally, video materials will also be presented frequently in class and you will be responsible for the content of that material. I believe that you **MUST** read the book to do well in this class.

I plan to use **Blackboard** online for this class, but mostly for announcements (which should also go to your Concord email) and the gradebook. Exams, assignments, and lecture materials will typically be presented in class. Occasionally I will use online materials like video links, and I'll post those on Blackboard with my announcements.

### **Course Description:**

Psychology is the science of human behavior, including the behavior of humans from all cultures in the world. For this science to be universally valid, both cultural variations and consistencies in human behavior must be understood. It is the purpose of this course to first explore scientific approaches to understanding these cultural variations and consistencies, in particular biological, evolutionary, and basic learning (behavior-analytic) approaches. We will then take several of the primary topic areas in psychology and explore them from a multicultural, multi-ethnic perspective. These primary topic areas include basic learning, memory, and cognition processes, psychopathology, and social-spiritual engagement in religion, politics, love relationships, and other values-based interactions. Finally, we will consider some contemporary, science-based attempts at planned cultural change, both small and grand.

The main **Concord University Educational Goals addressed by this course is "Skill #3 and #4"**: Students will gain the ability to employ appropriate methods and technologies for conducting empirical and scholarly research in psychology, to interpret research findings, and to use insights gained from such research as a basis for informed decision making. It is also expected that students will gain the ability to analyze, synthesize, and integrate elements, information and ideas in psychology. No **National Standards** are required for this course.

### **Course Requirements:**

There will be 5 unit exams, a comprehensive final exam, and about 5 written assignments.

The unit exams will be multiple-choice and essay. Exams will cover lecture material and the assigned readings and class video material. The unit exams will be "worth" 100 points each. See schedule below.

The final exam will be multiple choice and will be taken directly from the unit exams. It will be worth 200 points. See schedule below.

The written assignments will be worth 10 points. Due dates will be announced when the assignments are distributed.

Some extra credit will be available, primarily by attending psychology-related events during the semester such as Undergraduate Research Day..

**Attendance:** Regular attendance is expected to be necessary in order to pass the course, because topic material will be presented in lecture which does not appear in the readings. In addition, required assignments and additional text materials will be presented in class; students are responsible for these and “make-up” up materials may not be given to students missing class. Attendance will be considered when assigning final grades. **Attendance is absolutely required during the scheduled exam times. Absolutely NO makeup tests will be given except for the following reasons:** a) you are hospitalized during the test period, b) there is a death in your immediate family, c) you have a Concord-sponsored activity excuse, or d) you make arrangements with me early in the semester to accommodate a major life event (eg you are getting married or your spouse is having a baby). Absence from a test for other reasons will normally result in a grade of zero for that test. **If you wish any absence to be considered for a make-up test, you MUST contact me via email, voice mail, or a dated message left with the Social Sciences office within 24 hours of the exam.**

#### **Make-up Policy:**

**Make up exams** ONLY ONE make up exam will be given over the course of the semester, even for emergency reasons; any further missed exams will receive a grade of zero. Make up exams will be given on the last regular class period before final exams (see course schedule, below). If you have to take a make-up exam, I will gladly give you a copy of the original exam to study for the final.

**Late work:** Assignments must be turned in via hard-copy no later than the class period during which they are due. If you cannot come to class on the due date, you may email me the assignment by class time for it to be counted “on time”, but you still must turn in a hard copy for me to grade within 2 weeks or you will earn a zero for that assignment. Late assignments will lose a letter grade and must be turned in before finals week.

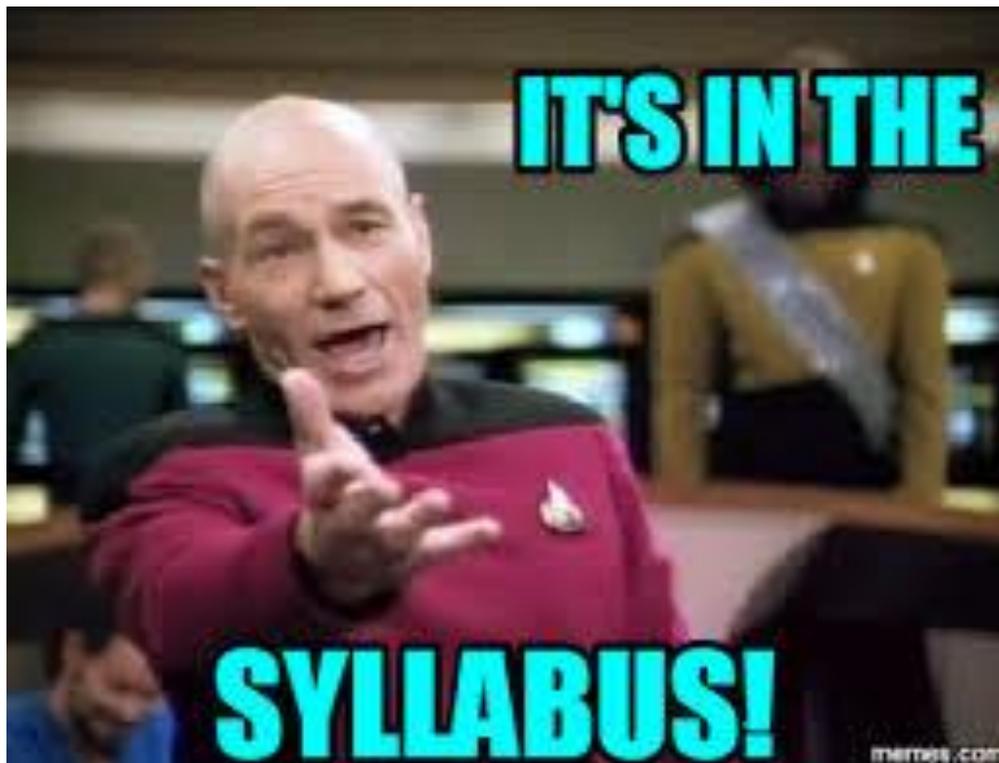
#### **Grading Policy and Scale:**

FINAL GRADES will be based primarily on the unit exams, assignments, and the final exam. Attendance, and maintaining a reasonable standard of conduct during the class and during office hours may affect your grade if your grade is “on the edge”. You can generally figure your current grade in the class at any point during the semester by dividing the number of points you have earned thus far by the number of points possible thus far. The resulting percentages will earn the following letter grades:

90-100%=A; 80-89%=B; 70-79%=C ; 60-69%=D; 59% and below=F.

**Course Timeline:**

This course schedule on the next page is perfectly formatted to pin to a bulletin board or magnet onto a refrigerator or tape into a notebook. Please use it.



## **Cultural Psychology Tentative Course Schedule**

### **Topic/Assignment & Dates**

Defining “culture” Part 1: Behavior analysis and other learning perspectives on culture  
Defining “culture” Part 2: Evolutionary and other biological perspectives on culture

**Assigned reading handouts, text chapters 1 and 2, video presentations**

**Wednesday February 6                      Exam 1**

Two big topics: Race/Ethnicity and Gender.

Making sense of stereotypes and addressing real group differences in behavior, values, and attitudes. These behaviors, values, and attitudes include several, basic psychology topics: cross-cultural theories and research on race and gender differences in basic learning, memory, and cognitive processes; psychopathology; sexual attraction and sexual relationships; friendship and family relationships.

**Assigned reading handouts, text chapters 3 and 4, video presentations**

**Wednesday February 27                      Exam 2**

Two more critical issues related to culture: Money and Place.

Making sense of stereotypes and addressing real group differences in the behavior, values, and attitudes that vary along with socioeconomic status and US regional affiliation/upbringing.

**Assigned reading handouts, text chapters 5 and 6, video presentations**

**Monday March 25                              Exam 3**

Forbidden topics at a dinner party but not in class: Religion and Politics.

Making sense of stereotypes and addressing real group differences in the behavior, values, and attitudes that vary along with religious and political beliefs and affiliations.

**Assigned reading handouts, text chapter 7, video presentations**

**Friday April 12                                Exam 4**

1) Workplaces, global businesses and economies, governments and social structures: from workplace cultures to cultures of the global north and south.

2) Science-based, planned cultural change: from college campuses to countries

3) “Self-Made: The Culture of You”

**Assigned reading handouts, text chapters 8, 9, and 10, video presentations**

**Wednesday May 1                              Exam 5**

(Thursday 11/30 I will return your graded Exam 5 & give make up exams if approved)

**Friday, April 10 at 9am                      Cumulative Final Exam**

**Accessibility/Accommodations:**

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

**Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

**Concord University Honor Code**

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

*"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."*

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

**Class/Online Attendance Policy**

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

**Emergency Alert System**

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

**Emergency Information**

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will

provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:

<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

### **Inclement Weather Policy**

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

#### University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

#### Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

#### Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

*\*Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

### **Student Conduct**

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

### **Sexual Harassment & Assault**

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or [titleix@concord.edu](mailto:titleix@concord.edu). Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

### **Technology Services**

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu).

### **Syllabus Disclaimer**

**This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly.**

**Sources of Help:**

*Drop-In Tutoring:* free tutoring is available in the Library, Student Center Study Lounge (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), and Rahall atrium. For specific information, contact the Academic Success Center ([asc@concord.edu](mailto:asc@concord.edu) or 304 384-6074)

*SMARTHINKING:* free online tutoring in most subjects is available 24/7. You may sign up through the MyCU Student Tab.