

**PSYC 4360—Topics in Psychology**  
**Topic: International Psychology & Diversity**  
**Summer 2023**  
**Professor: Lauren Thomas, MA**

*Instructor information:*

*Lauren Thomas*

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**Course Description (from catalog):** Thorough explorations of topics of substantial scholarly interest in psychology. Prerequisite: Senior standing in psychology or consent of instructor.

**Topic: International Psychology & Diversity**

This course explores theoretical and practical issues of international psychology. These issues will be considered as they relate to human behavior. American psychologists generally concentrated on developments in American psychology. This occurs even though many innovations are international. This course is a discussion of the state of psychology outside of the USA.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will demonstrate an ability to explain the practices (e.g. beliefs, values, perspectives, practices) of other cultures, nations, or regions.
- To learn how to read critically, analyze, and interpret international psychology and diversity research.
- Students will value difference among people and express an appreciation of cultures (language, art, music, religion, philosophy, family and community structures, and material culture).

**Required Texts:**

There will no texts that are required in this course.

Handouts of other assigned readings available on Canvas.

**Suggested Texts:**

Lonely Planet's Pocket London ISBN: 9781787017405

**Required Apps:**

To avoid possible confusion and getting lost while abroad, it will be required that students download **CityMaps2Go** app to their smart phone (if they have a smart phone). If you do not own a smart phone, you will be paired with someone in the course that has one. This app costs \$20 to download and is good "for life." You will be instructed to download the city map of London before your flight abroad. Once in London, you can view where you are in the city without internet or data usage.

**What's App:** Communication w/ Instructor in case of emergency

**Grade Breakdown:**

Reading Quizzes/Assignments	30%
Presentation	20%
Attendance/Participation	30%
Travel Journal	20%

- **Reading Quizzes:** Students will be quizzed on each new reading before class discussion. Quizzes may be multiple-choice questions, short answer, or short essay.
- **Presentation:** During the last class period in Tyler, students will be asked to give a 15 minute presentation on a famous Brit and their contribution to British culture. More information on this presentation will be posted on canvas.
- **Attendance/Participation:** Attendance in this class is not only mandatory but also very important. Your contributions will be invaluable and you need to be here every day. Each absence will result in a full letter-grade reduction (10%) of your grade. Obviously, this is a serious matter, so try to plan. Unquestioned absences include sickness, job interviews, personal matters, etc. Therefore, if you anticipate having to miss class at any point, please plan accordingly. If a University activity will cause you to miss more than two classes, please see your instructor. Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform me before the class begins. Attendance will be counted at both the Tyler location and mandatory events/excursions while in England.
- **Travel Journal:** While participating in the travel study portion of the class, students will keep a journal. This journal will contain responses to prompts that the instructor gives throughout the course. You will turn in your journal once you return to the United States or at the concluding dinner in England.

**Grading Scale:** 100–90%=A, 89–80%=B, 79–70%=C, 69–60%=D, and any grade below 60%=F.

**Make-up and Late Work:** Deadlines and times are firm. Late assignments will not be accepted or awarded any credit.

## Schedule and Assignment List for Tyler, Texas

*Pre-travel Meetings will be held at various times during the spring semester in order to prep for class to begin on May 8, 2023. **We will meet in HPR 252 from 9:30am-1:30pm Monday-Friday (May 8-12).***

### Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

- Topics to cover: Syllabus, expectations for course; What is Cultural Psychology?
- Guest Lecture: Dr. Amy Hayes; Human Development and Culture
- Readings: Culture and Psychology; Culture and Development
- Assignments due: Pre-Travel Quiz (in class), Reading Writing Assignment #1

### Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

- Topics to cover: Cultural Differences (Health, Mental Health, Social, Behavior, Morality)
- Readings: Cultural Differences
- Assignments due: Reading Writing Assignment #2

### Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

- Topics to cover: Diversity Abroad, Diversity Issues, Identity & Personality
- Readings: Prejudice, Discrimination, Stereotypes; Personality, Identity, the Self
- Assignments due: Reading Writing Assignment #3

### Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

- Topics to cover: Culture and Sexuality
- Guest Lecture: Kristie Allen; Culture and Relationships
- Readings: Culture and Sexuality; TBD Reading from K. Allen
- Assignments due: Reading Writing Assignment #4

### Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>

- London Culture
- Class Presentations!
  - Discussion (Participation required)
- Final day to make sure all questions are answered, apps are downloaded, etc.

## Schedule and Assignment List for London, England

Fly to London on May 14<sup>th</sup> → Arrive in UK on May 15<sup>th</sup> (morning)  
Transfer to Hotel on May 15, 2023

### Hotel information:

London: [Royal National Hotel](#)

Bath: [Premier Inn Bath City Centre](#)

## **Classes in London**

- Tuesday, May 16
  - Living in a Multicultural World
- Wednesday, May 17
  - Guest Speaker
- Monday, May 22
  - Guest Lecture
- Thursday, May 25
  - Psychology of Peace
  - Acclimating back to Texas life
  - Tolerance
  - Trip to Speaker's Corner as a Group
- Friday, May 26
  - Camden Market, time to soak in the culture

Fly back to Texas: Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>