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Final Project Guidelines and Rubric



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PSY 324 Final Project Guidelines and Rubric

Overview

The final project for this course is the creation of an **analysis paper**. In the paper, you will analyze a particular culture from the perspective of a cultural psychologist. This project challenges you to apply what you have learned in this course to an investigation of a minority cultural or a minority ethnic group of your choice. The project assesses your ability to analyze different cultures using a psychological approach and to draw conclusions based on research on that culture.

Module Seven

Prompt

Submit a three- to five-page analysis paper in which you analyze a culture you choose. Write the paper from the perspective of a cultural psychologist. Analyze the culture in terms of its location on specific cultural dimensions; for example, power distance, uncertainty avoidance, and individualism. Explain how these dimensions affect the psychology of the group. Address at least **five** of the following questions or areas in your paper:

- What predictions can be made about the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of this group in light of their unique cultural background?
- How would a cross-cultural psychologist expect the group to perform on various psychological measures (e.g., a Big Five personality test with strangers)?
- How might social values of this group affect attributions?
- Investigate this culture's view on psychological disorders, most commonly diagnosed ones, and treatment methods.
- Identify specific communication patterns and their effect on others or the self.
- Address the group's values regarding autonomy.
- Examine unique life states and their effects on the psyche.
- Investigate sources of perception and stereotypes.
- Analyze this culture's view of intelligence and methods of measure. Address any conflicts this may have with traditional views.
- Describe how the group's cultural norms regulate an individual's display of emotions.
- Explain cultural influences on decision making.
- Provide examples of behavior that might arise based on the type of uncertainty avoidance in this cultural setting.
- Describe how cultural beliefs related to death might affect medical decisions and grieving.
- Discuss the cultural factors that influence one's likeliness to seek social support in times of stress.

- What cultural factors influence likeliness to conform, and in what situations?

Specifically, you must address the following **critical elements** in your analysis paper:

- I. **Depth of Reflection:** Demonstrate a general reflection on, and personalization of, the theories, concepts, or strategies presented in the course materials to date; viewpoints and interpretations are insightful and well supported; clear, detailed examples from the text and/or personal reflections are provided, as applicable.
- II. **Required Components:** Include all components and meet all requirements of the five questions or areas addressed, as indicated in the instructions; each of the questions or areas from the prompt is addressed thoroughly; follows directions exceptionally well.
- III. **Evidence and Practice:** Show evidence in your writing of the synthesis of ideas presented and insights gained through some level of detail. Demonstrate the ability to think like a psychologist.
 - A. You must integrate concepts from the text, define all terminology, and document your sources using APA format. Revise your work as needed.

What to Submit

The final project submission must follow these formatting guidelines: three to five pages in length, double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, and one-inch margins.

Final Project Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (85%)	Needs Improvement
Depth of Reflection	Response demonstrates an in-depth reflection on, and personalization of, the theories, concepts, and/or strategies presented in the course materials to date; viewpoints and interpretations are insightful and well supported; clear, detailed examples from the text and/or personal reflections are provided, as applicable	Response demonstrates a general reflection on, and personalization of, the theories, concepts, and/or strategies presented in the course materials to date; viewpoints and interpretations are supported; appropriate examples are provided, as applicable	Response demonstrates minimal reflection on, and personalization of, the theories, concepts, and/or strategies presented in the course materials to date; viewpoints and interpretations are unsupported or supported with flawed arguments; examples, when applicable, are not provided or are irrelevant to the assignment
Required Components	Response includes all components and meets or exceeds all requirements of five questions or areas, as indicated in the instructions; each of the questions or areas from the prompt is addressed thoroughly; follows directions exceptionally well	Response includes all components and meets the requirements of five questions or areas addressed, as indicated in the instructions; each of the questions or areas from the prompt is addressed; follows directions carefully	Response is missing some components or does not meet the requirement of addressing five questions or areas, as indicated in the instructions; some questions or parts of the assignment are not addressed; directions were mostly followed, but there were some areas that didn't match the directions

			Directions
Evidence and Practice	Response shows great integration of module information and strong evidence of synthesis of ideas presented and insights gained throughout the entire course, including applicable and thoroughly detailed implications that demonstrate the ability to truly think like a psychologist	Response shows evidence of synthesis of ideas presented and insights gained throughout the entire course, integrates information from course modules with some level of detail, and demonstrates the ability to think like a psychologist	Response shows little evidence of synthesis of ideas presented and insights gained throughout the entire course, with very little integration of course module information and detail or understanding of how a psychologist would think
Writing	Writing is clear, concise, and well organized with excellent sentence and paragraph construction; thoughts are expressed in a coherent and logical manner; there are no more than three spelling, grammar, or syntax errors per page of writing; no issues with APA style	Writing is mostly clear, concise, and well organized, with good sentence and paragraph construction; thoughts are expressed in a coherent and logical manner; there are no more than five spelling, grammar, or syntax errors per page of writing; some issues with APA style	Writing is often unclear and disorganized; thoughts are not expressed in a logical manner; there are more than five spelling, grammar, or syntax errors per page of writing; issues with APA style



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