

Professorship for Personality, Mental Health, and Culture
Masterprüfung Literature HS 2025

This list of reading is for the 8 ECTS Masterprüfung, to prepare for a thesis in this professorship. It is important to integrate your thesis reading with that on this reading list, for a well rounded understanding of these core topics. Your performance in the oral exam should show a synthesis of the ideas from this reading list with your thesis reading and work. Possible questions are given as examples to help you understand the typical level of analysis expected during the oral exam: Other questions can be asked.

Overview: the reason for and importance of a cultural perspective on psychology <i>Why is it important to take cultural context into account when studying psychological phenomena? How does culture impact psychology? What are the costs to ignoring cultural context in the study of psychology?</i>	Pages
Thalmayer, A. G., Toscanelli, C., & Arnett, J. J. (2021). The neglected 95% revisited: Is American psychology becoming less American? <i>American Psychologist</i> , 76(1), 116–129. https://doi.org/10.1037/amp0000622	10
Heine, S. J. (2020). <i>Cultural Psychology (Fourth edition)</i> . W. W. Norton. Chapter 2: Culture and human nature (pp. 36-66) and Chapter 3: Cultural Evolution (pp. 67- 112)	90
Kitayama, S., & Salvador, C. E. (2024). Cultural psychology: Beyond East and West. <i>Annual Review of Psychology</i> , 75(1). https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-psych-021723-063333	21
Henrich, J., Blasi, D., Curtain, C., Davis, H., Hong, Z., Kelly, D., & Kroupin, I. (2022). A Cultural Species and its Cognitive Phenotypes. <i>Review of Philosophy and Psychology</i> .	26
Defining Cross-Cultural Differences Possible questions: <i>What are definable ways that cultural groups differ psychologically? Where do such differences stem from and how do they come about? What is African psychology?</i>	
Leung, A. K. Y., & Cohen, D. (2011). Within-and between-culture variation: individual differences and the cultural logics of honor, face, and dignity cultures. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i> , 100(3), 507.	19
Gelfand, M. J., Raver, J. L., Nishii, L.,... & Yamaguchi, S. (2011). Differences between tight and loose cultures: A 33-nation study. <i>Science</i> , 332 (6033), 1100-1104	5
Heine, S. J. (2020). <i>Cultural Psychology</i> . W. W. Norton. Chapter 6: Individual differences (pp. 204-235 only) and Chapter 9: Cognition (pp. 334- 379)	80
Adjei, S. B. (2019). Conceptualising personhood, agency, and morality for African psychology. <i>Theory & Psychology</i> , 29(4), 484–505. Doi:10.1177/0959354319857473	10
Ratele, K. (2017). Frequently asked questions about African psychology. <i>South African Journal of Psychology</i> , 47(3), 273-279.	6
Sodi, T., Bopape, D., & Makgahlela, M. (2021). Botho as an essential ingredient of African psychology: An insider perspective. <i>South African Journal of Psychology</i> , 51(3), 441–452.	10
Mental Health across Cultures <i>Which aspects of mental disorders are universal, and which are culturally specific? Why is it important to take culture into account in the study, assessment and treatment of disorders? What is known about mental disorders and their treatment in Sub-Saharan African?</i>	
Heine, S. J. (2020). <i>Cultural Psychology</i> . W. W. Norton. Chapter 14: Mental Health	36
Kohrt, B. A., et al. (2014). Cultural concepts of distress and psychiatric disorders: literature review and research recommendations for global mental health epidemiology. <i>International Journal of Epidemiology</i> , 43(2), 365-406.	38
Bartholomew, T. T. (2016). Mental health in Namibia: Connecting discourses on psychological distress, western treatments and traditional healing. <i>Psychology and Developing Societies</i> , 28, 101-125. doi: 10.1177/0971333615622909	22
Watters, E. (2011). <i>Crazy like us: The globalization of the Western mind</i> . Hachette UK. (portion of choice)	100
Total Pages	480