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**Ethnopsychology and Individual Differences**  
**Final Exam**  
**Summer 2019**  
**Professor Edward Stephenson**

Do a cultural analysis in which you describe the beliefs, values, worldviews and cultural practices that are associated with a particular cultural or ethnic group. You may choose one of the more traditional ethnic groups in the United States such as African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, Native-Americans, or Anglo-Americans. Your choice may also extend to cultures outside the United States as well as other minority cultures and identities such as Biracial individuals, Women, Gays, Lesbians, the Handicapped or the Elderly. In previous classes, students have chosen to write about such alternative cultures or subcultures as Gypsies, Bhuddist monks, Catholic Nuns, etc.

In your analysis, discuss the group's experience as well as the social, historical and political forces that shaped the group's cultural orientation and its particular mode of adaption, i.e. integration, separation, marginalization or assimilation. You may also want to consider the various stages of cultural identity development as a basis of intra-group variations.

While this paper may be descriptive, I also **expect that you will apply the relevant theoretical concepts and perspectives which we have learned in the course.** In so doing, you are expected to go beyond simply description to a more analytical level whereby you apply the relevant theoretical concepts. Your grade will be highly contingent on you doing so. The paper should be ten pages in length and conform to APA guidelines. I require you to cite your sources and use references in the body of the paper. You should also include a bibliography at the end. **(use only journal articles).** You may turn in an early draft that you may then revise before receiving a final grade. **You may use the internet in preparing for your class presentation. However, Internet references for your papers are not acceptable.**

## **Suggested Outline for Paper**

### **1) Introduction**

Describe the demographic characteristics of the population i.e. How many people constitute the population, their various nationalities or subgroups, their primary locations, the various waves of immigration they have experienced etc. The historical and social experiences of the group.

### **Cultural characteristics**

- 2) Discuss the cultural characteristics of the group. In so doing provide a definition of culture, describe the various dimensions and models of culture i.e. surface vs. deep dimensions (ontology, axiology, epistemology), worldview, tight vs. loose, male vs. female, collectivism vs. individualism, subculture vs. dominant culture, Kluckholm's model of culture etc.

### **3) Acculturation**

Describe the acculturation experiences of the group and in so doing, apply the model of acculturation presented in class. This includes talking about stages such as pre-contact, contact etc. Also describe the particular mode of acculturation such as assimilation, integration, marginalization etc. In addition, discuss the moderator variables that influence the acculturation process i.e. socio-economic status, cultural characteristics, experiences of discrimination etc. Finally describe some of the outcomes of acculturation. For instance, negative mental health outcomes etc.

### **4) The Influence of Minority Status**

Define the term minority and describe the various characteristics. Say in what ways that the group represents a minority and how it's minority status shapes the group members experiences in the United States. Describe the group's experiences of prejudice and discrimination and the traditional ways in which it responds. In addition describe the effects that such discrimination may have on the psychological wellbeing of its members. You may also want to explain the causes of prejudice by incorporating the various theories that were presented in class. The historical and social experiences of the group. Finally, say how the group relates to members of the dominant culture vs. other minorities.

### **5) Racial/Ethnic Identity/ gender identity/sexual identity etc**

Describe the models of racial identity presented in class and in the readings. In doing so, describe how these models may be applied in describing how group members perceive themselves as racial beings.