



UNIVERSITI PERUBATAN ANTARABANGSA
INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
MALAYSIA

CENTRE FOR BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES

**Bachelor of
Medicine & Surgery and Dental Surgery**

Cultures of the world

MPU 3372
(2 credits)

Semester 3

2022

Module Guide

TITLE: CULTURES OF THE WORLD

COURSE CODE: MPU 3372

PROGRAMME: MEDICINE & SURGERY, DENTISRTY

LEVEL: 3

CONTENT SYNOPSIS

This module covers topics related to cultures of the world selected from the main continents. The cultures will be explored to uncover the traditions, customs, beliefs and practices unique to them. Through an investigation of this nature, students will be exposed to a variety of thought patterns and mandates that govern the cultures. It will also expose students to a deeper appreciation and understanding of the human race. Critical analysis of issues raised while examining each culture will be presented by students in academic discussions orally and through essays. Activities will be conducted in small groups to encourage teamwork and professional communication. Upon completing this course, students will have learned that the culture able to influence their views, values, loyalties toward their inner character and perception.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this module are to introduce students to:

1. Develop understanding of the practices of the cultures and traditions
2. Enhance understanding of multi-cultures differences
3. Critically explore issues related to social and cultural aspects within the context of medicine and health

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

On completion of this module, students should be able to:

CLO1. Identify the customs and traditions of the selected cultures;

CL02. Compare and contrast the different practices of the selected cultures;

CLO3. Critically analyse issues related to social and cultural aspects within a given context;

CLO4. Evaluate issues related to culture and thought patterns and justify decision making.

LEARNING HOURS

CONTACT HOURS:

Lectures	7 hours
Tutorial	7 hours
Workshops	6 hours
Presentation	1 hour

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS:

Lectures	7 hours
Tutorial	7 hours
Workshops	6 hours
Group Presentation	1 hour
Written assignment	20 hours
Written Examination	1.5 hours
Independent Learning	37.5 hours

TOTAL CONTACT HOURS 21 hours

TOTAL LEARNING HOURS 80 hours

ASSESSMENTS

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Written assignment (40%)

Students are to produce an essay of 1500 words. Five (5) questions will be posted and students need to choose one (1) question to write an essay about it.

The aim of this assignment is to enable students to develop a creative and critical analysis towards sensitive issues that exist in selected culture. Students are able to apply the positive technique in encountering the diversity of norms and cultural practice in the selected continent.

Group Project (30%)

Students are to work in groups of 5-6 to create 15-20-minutes presentation that are related to the culture differences in the selected continent. Students can compare two cultures from two different continents to show the differences and solve the culture issues that can avoid conflict among ethnicities. The aim of this assignment is to encourage students to do research, discuss and work together as a team and communicate and educate others on culture-related matters.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

In-Course-Examination

Written Examination (30%)

The written examination lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes. The paper consists of Section A and B. Section A is 20 MCQ's and Section B is Short Essays. Students are required to choose two questions from three options given.

MODULE COORDINATOR: Thulasimani Munohsamy

LECTURER: Ms Thulasimani Munohsamy

SYLLABUS:

- 1. Introduction to the approach in studying a culture** (*Lecture – 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Definition of culture
 - b. Function of culture
 - c. Basic elements of culture
- 2. Asian Culture** (*Lecture- 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Language and symbols
 - b. Social organisation
 - c. Norms and beliefs (custom/tradition)
 - d. Art and literature
- 3. European Culture** (*Lecture- 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Language and symbol
 - b. Social organisation
 - c. Norms and beliefs (custom/tradition)
 - d. Art and literature
- 4. African Culture** (*Lecture – 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Language and symbol
 - b. Social organisation
 - c. Norms and beliefs (custom/tradition)
 - d. Art and literature
- 5. Australian Culture** (*Lecture – 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Language and symbol
 - b. Social organisation
 - c. Norms and beliefs (custom/tradition)
 - d. Art and literature
- 6. South American Culture** (*Lecture – 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Language and symbol
 - b. Social organisation
 - c. Norms and beliefs (custom/tradition)
 - d. Art and literature
- 7. North American Culture** (*Lecture – 1 hr, Tutorial – 1 hr*)
 - a. Language and symbol
 - b. Social organisation
 - c. Norms and beliefs (custom/tradition)
 - d. Art and literature
- 8. Workshop** (*3 hours*)

Group Presentation (Preparation)

9. **Workshop** (3 hours)
Seminar: The role of culture in medicine and health profession.
10. Group Project Presentation – (3 hours)

ATTENDANCE RELATED REQUIREMENTS

This module has a total of 10 sessions for teaching and learning including presentations. If students miss more than two sessions without providing documentation such as a medical certificate to cover their absences, they will be considered at risk of failing the module.

READING LIST:

- 1 Robinson, Thomas A. & Rodrigues, Hillary P. 2014. *World Religions: A Guide to the Essentials*. Baker Academic. USA.
- 2 Kendall, Diana. 2011. *Sociology in Our Times*. Wadsworth Cengage Learning. Canada.
- 3 Meredith, Susan & le Rolland, Leonard. 2015. *The Usborne Encyclopedia of World Religions*. Publisher Usborne Publishing Ltd GB.