



CIEE Study Abroad

Course title:	Theory of Mind: Psychology of Social Insights
Course number:	PSYC 3008 CIEE
Programs offering course:	CIEE Summer Online
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Summer 2020

Course Description

The course examines the psychological construct of the Theory of Mind. It primarily focuses on the construction of one's thinking about their social world, from early childhood via adolescence through adulthood. Students learn about the developmental stages of the Theory-of-Mind (ToM) acquisition, the influences of language and executive functions on its development during ontogeny, and about the current theories of the ToM development. As ToM inherently reflects an interaction between genetic and environmental factors, the effect of social and communal cultural impact frequently resurfaces.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- demonstrate and defend their insights into what constitutes one's understanding of the social world around us;
- acquire a basis for critical thinking and learn to form new perspectives on the material discussed;
- critically reflect on their own experiences and their peers' contributions employing relevant course concepts;
- develop reading-comprehension skills adequate for scholarly literature in the field and an ability to engage in an academic dialogue.

Course Prerequisites

Although there are no prerequisites to the course, background in developmental science, psychology, linguistics, or language acquisition would be definite assets.

CIEE Summer Online courses will involve asynchronous instruction. Instructors will apply theory and deliver the learning objectives using a rich array of online teaching methods and resources from CIEE host countries and communities. Full details, including dates and deadlines for assessments, will be provided in the final syllabus shortly before online learning begins.