



**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
OF CYPRUS**

Course Code PSS 201	Course Name Psychology of Space	ECTS Credit 6
Pre-Requisite -	Course Type Compulsory	Language of Instruction English
Year of Study 2 nd	Level of Course 4 th Semester	Mode of Delivery On Campus

Course Objectives:

Each place forms sensory landscapes (acoustic, visual, etc.), but beyond that, it functions as a scene of action, as an area of expression, in other words, the place where we live is a constant stimulus of the mind via social behaviors. Sexual inequality, wars, major climate change, and the latest coronavirus pandemic emergency, put us face to face with the need to redefine spaces, which can be themes of this lesson to identify the psychology of place. After all, every place with speech and myth creates its speech and myth, on a logical, spiritual, and emotional level, creating an identity. Identity is something broader than space, it is the result of a collective historical experience of many sectors and people, creating a common set of values. The coexistence of people, constituting this value and social groups is the creation of a city, a place. As a place of interaction and experience of a value ensemble, a city is always a "moving" organization, that gathers citizens and through their cooperation helps them develop individual consciences, which leads to the collective consciousness of the place

Learning Outcomes:

- Identify basic concepts and research findings and give examples of psychology's integrative themes.
- Apply psychological principles to the experience of different places
- Understand research in psychology, see social influences on everyday behaviors, and develop a greater understanding of other people
- Draw appropriate, logical, and objective conclusions about behavior and mental processes from empirical evidence.
- Design, conduct, or evaluate social actions in everyday life
- Create a narration of a social action in a place, through time and behaviors of people

Teaching Methodology:

The course is based on illustrated lectures and oral and case studies. Students engage in critical discussions and group dialogue.

Course Content:

The main theme of this lesson is the study of place with social actions as an effort to identify the psychology of the place, through bibliographic and practical research. The students will be called to first create teams and then select a case study. The case study will include a place and a social action (drugs, social communities, social participation, trafficking, LGBTQI+, etc). The lesson will be divided in the following steps:

1. Introduction to the psychology of space (literature, examples, social actors)
2. Representative case studies of a social action
3. Selection of the case study: Interviews in person with actors, Bibliographic and practical research

Assessment Methods:

50% Final multiple choice test (Main themes of the lesson) 50% Short paper (team of 3 or 4 students) Case study

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year
City rhythms and events. Annals of Tourism Research	Antchak, V.,		2018
Taboos and Identity: Considering the Unthinkable.	Fershtman, C., Gneezy, U., Hoffman, M.	American Economic Journal: Microeconomics	2011
The role of ontologies in publishing and analyzing city indicators	Fox, M., 2015.		2015
The Basic Writings of Sigmund Freud (Psychopathology of Everyday Life, the Interpretation of Dreams, and Three Contributions To the Theory of Sex).	Freud, S		1995
Totem and Taboo. Moffat, Yard and Company	Freud, S		1918
Entertainment, Culture, Ideology, and Myth	Gaines, E		2010
Baudelaire's Media Aesthetics The Gaze of the Flâneur and 19th-Century Media	Grotta, M		2015