

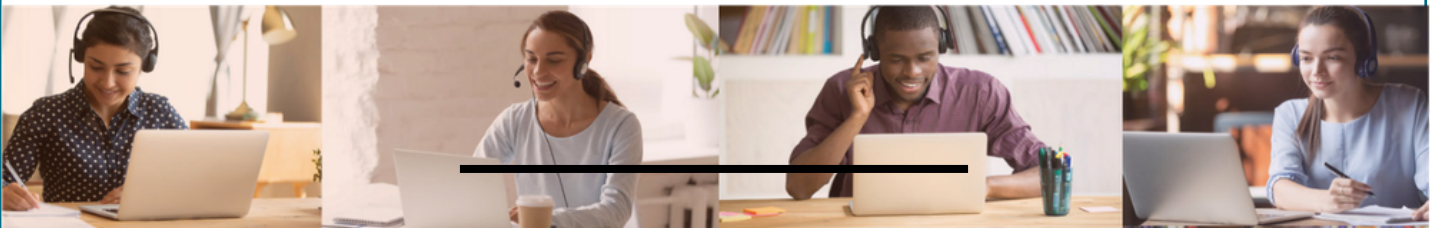
CROSS-CULTURAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME

We are regularly approached by researchers seeking to understand the background of national dimension scores and apply them to their own cross-cultural projects. To address this, we offer a three-session workshop on cross-cultural research in psychology and culture, in cooperation with the University of Tilburg (Netherlands), combining a conceptual and a statistical approach.

The programme is led by three renowned scholars, each anchoring one day:

- Day 1, Dr. Michael Bender: study design and the individual level
- Day 2, Prof. Ronald Fischer: making comparisons across cultures
- Day 3, Dr. Plamen Akaliyski: the national level / comparative culturology

Cross-cultural research is a booming field for academics and practitioners alike. As our knowledge expands, we are increasingly aware of the field's complexity and the need for researchers to appreciate the numerous controversies that characterise it.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

This programme is designed for advanced Master's students, PhD students, and young researchers, but is open to all. In previous years we have welcomed great diversity across ages and professional backgrounds, and we don't restrict access to the course.

CONTENT

Module 1: Study design and the individual level (Dr. Michael Bender)

We open with the conceptual ground for everything that follows: what culture is, where differences come from, and how to design a study.

- **Definitions of culture:** What is culture, and what is not? Where does it come from? What creates cultural differences?
- **Data collection:** Which participants and survey items work (and which don't), how to adapt tests across languages and cultural contexts, and the foundations of individual-level analysis.

Module 2: Making comparisons across cultures (Prof. Ronald Fischer)

We move from designing studies to the question that decides whether cross-cultural comparisons are meaningful at all: do our measures mean the same thing in different places?

- **Levels of analysis:** the difference between studying individuals and societies.
- **Measurement invariance:** what it is, why it matters, and when it is (and isn't) needed.
- **Hands-on demonstration** of invariance testing in R, with takeaway materials for participants who want to apply the techniques to their own data.

Module 3: The national level, comparative culturology (Dr. Plamen Akaliyski)

On day 3 we turn to cultural differences between nations: why societies differ so strikingly, how those differences can be studied scientifically, and what they reveal about human societies.

- **Measuring cultural differences:** classic frameworks, their evolution, revision, and newer approaches.
- **Origins of cultural differences:** explanations of cross-national variation and cultural change.
- **Consequences of culture:** what cultural differences predict, and how they shape societies.
- **Hands-on demonstration** of how national cultural indices are constructed.

Participants don't need advanced statistics knowledge, but should be familiar with a few basics such as correlation between variables and statistical significance.

R is a statistical software and will be used for demonstrations in the second module. We aim to make the demonstrations useful for both participants with R knowledge and those without.

We reserve the right to adjust the course dates if they can't be aligned with a lecturer's teaching schedule, which is only confirmed at the start of the semester. Participants who can't make the new dates will of course be refunded. Full terms and conditions: [here](#).

WHAT YOU RECEIVE

During the programme you get:

- A pre-course questionnaire, so the lecturers can tailor examples to your project and statistical experience.
- An SPSS dataset with country scores on all popular dimensions of national culture (Hofstede's, Inglehart's, Bond's, Project GLOBE's, and more), plus various national indicators: World Values Survey data, GDP per person across years, national educational achievement and national IQ, a rule-of-law index, and more.
- Access to session recordings for up to three months after the workshop.

APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP

The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP) sponsors the workshop with a scholarship to facilitate participation from low-income contexts, particularly early-career researchers or students.

The registration fee is waived, and includes a year-long membership in the IACCP, which means you get access to the journal (JCCP), very reduced fees for upcoming IACCP activities, and other member benefits. The IACCP Scholarship is only available before the course is filled. Applications should include information on the prospective participants' career status and background (an academic cv is typically sufficient).

The application deadline is one month before the course.

Applicants will be informed a few days after that.

Michael Bender (m.bender@uvt.nl) can be contacted for questions, and to mail your application for the scholarship (1 scholarship available).