

Yukiko Uchida Lab Information

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Research field information

This is a Cultural Psychology Research Lab. The methodology used is similar to Social Psychology, which includes experiments and surveys. International scholars conduct comparison research as well as field work at locations across Japan, such as in farming and fishing villages. Because cross-cultural collaboration is a main part of our research, we have many foreign students and short-term/long-term visiting scholars, and seminars are now conducted mainly in English. Recent research themes include well-being and happiness, the relationship between social-cultural environment and the mind, cultural change, social structure (social hierarchy) and cognition, the learning process of different cultural-cognitive styles, organizational culture, and regional culture.

Practical information and Entrance Examination

Students need to have sufficient Japanese language ability to live in Japan and to take university classes in Japanese (JLPT N2 / N1 recommended).

Students need to take the entrance exam for the Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies at Kyoto University where professor Uchida is affiliated. The exam for Psychology will be given in Japanese, so sufficient knowledge of the field as well as of the language is required.

For details please visit the website: <http://www.h.kyoto-u.ac.jp/jinkan/entrance/>

Regarding Graduation with a Master's Degree Only:

In the Uchida Laboratory, we also engage in approaches using theories and methods of cultural and social psychology to address real-world issues such as well-being in communities, companies, and organizations. We welcome those who are considering a career path where they can apply the theories and methods of cultural and social psychology learned through involvement in such projects during their master's program in the real world after graduation.

However, we are not accepting students who do not have experience in writing a research paper in empirical psychology dealing with data or who do not plan to do so before entering graduate school.

Regarding Transfer to Doctoral Program:

As a general rule, we primarily provide a five-year continuous graduate education starting from the master's program, and priority is given to internal students advancing from the master's program

and government-sponsored international students for the doctoral program, so we generally do not accept transfers (exceptions may be made for those who have completed master's program in a Cultural Psychology/Experimental Social Psychology area).

Scholarship and funding:

Candidates are strongly recommended to apply for a scholarship in order to receive funding to study in Japan. Scholarships from other countries, companies, or the MEXT scholarship from the Japanese government are suitable for this purpose.

The MEXT scholarship (embassy recommendation) is recommended for those who wish to pursue studies in this lab. With this scholarship, students are able to stay in Japan before the entrance exam as "research students" and take classes to improve their Japanese level.

In the case of the MEXT scholarship, contact the lab only after the primary screening (written examination and interview).

For details please visit the website:

<https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/smap-stopj-applications-research.html>

We do not accept "research students" without funding.

Please contact us via this form: <http://goo.gl/forms/DKaHhP3fsy>

Current members in Uchida lab (August 2023)

Professor 1

Lecturer 2

Post-Doc Researchers 2

PhD candidates 3

Master student 1

MEXT scholarship Research Student 1

Visiting scholars 2

The following books/papers will provide an introduction to the work conducted by our lab

Books

Uchida, Y.; Rappleye, J. (2023). Happiness: A World Map. In An Interdependent Approach to Happiness and Well-Being (pp. 19-33). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-26260-9>

“Cultural Psychology” by Steven J Heine

“Culture of Honor” by Nisbett & Cohen

“Research Design Explained” by Mitchell & Jolley

「社会心理学概論」 北村英哉・内田由紀子 ナカニシヤ出版

「社会心理学キーワード」 山岸俊男 有斐閣

Papers

- Markus, H. R., & Kitayama, S. (1991). Culture and the self: Implications for cognition, emotion, and motivation. *Psychological review*, 98, 224-253
- Kitayama, S., Park, H., Sevincer, A. T., Karasawa, M., & Uskul, A. K. (2009). A cultural task analysis of implicit independence: comparing North America, Western Europe, and East Asia. *Journal of personality and social psychology*, 97, 236-255
- Uskul, A. K., Kitayama, S., & Nisbett, R. E. (2008). Ecocultural basis of cognition: Farmers and fishermen are more holistic than herders. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 105, 8552-8556.
- Kitayama, S., Ishii, K., Imada, T., Takemura, K., & Ramaswamy, J. (2006). Voluntary settlement and the spirit of independence: Evidence from Japan's northern frontier. *Journal of personality and social psychology*, 91, 369-384
- Kitayama, S., Duffy, S., Kawamura, T., & Larsen, J. T. (2003). Perceiving an object and its context in different cultures A cultural look at new look. *Psychological Science*, 14, 201-206.
- Uchida, Y., Kitayama, S., Mesquita, B., Reyes, J. A. S., & Morling, B. (2008). Is perceived emotional support beneficial? Well-being and health in independent and interdependent cultures. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 34, 741-754.
- Uchida, Y., & Kitayama, S. (2009). Happiness and unhappiness in east and west: themes and variations. *Emotion*, 9, 441-456.
- Uchida, Y., & Ogihara, Y. (2012). Personal or interpersonal construal of happiness: A cultural psychological perspective. *International Journal of Wellbeing*, 2, 354-369.
- Norasakkunkit, V., & Uchida, Y. (2011). Psychological consequences of postindustrial anomie on self and motivation among Japanese youth. *Journal of Social Issues* 67, 774-786.
- Uchida, Y., Takemura, K., Fukushima, S., Saizen, I., Kawamura, Y., Hitokoto, H., Koizumi, N., & Yoshikawa, S. (2019). Farming cultivates a community-level shared culture through collective activities: Examining contextual effects with multilevel analyses. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 116(1), 1-14.

