

## **CALL FOR CHAPTERS: A Critical Introduction to Psychology**

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*A Critical Introduction to Psychology* is the first book to critique mainstream (Euro-American) psychology from a critical psychological perspective with a special emphasis on Global Southern alternatives (e.g., feminist, postcolonial, and liberation psychologies). The Global South is both a politico-economic and a geographical designation, which refers to “transmodern” (Dussel, 2012) countries in the continents of South America, Africa, and Asia. However, the Global South also refers to ‘outsiders within’—that is, anti-capitalist, “decolonial” (Mignolo, 2007) subcultures that exist within Euro-America.

The inspiration behind the book came to me while teaching Introduction to Psychology over the last 3 years. I noticed at least two things: (1) the course is called Introduction to Psychology and not Introduction to Euro-American Psychology and (2) many of the students did not feel represented by the introductory psychology textbooks because of differences in ‘race’/ethnicity, sex, and/or national origin, which gave them the impression that the typical psychologist is ‘White’, male, and Euro-American. To correct this (mis)representation, I believe that we, as (critical) psychologists, have a responsibility to put forth a global, inclusive vision of psychology and to do this by including voices of psychologists or theorists from all over the world. In other words, the question of a universal psychology is not to be dismissed, but the ‘dirty work’ of critique must be done first.

The aim of the book then is twofold: (1) critiquing and decolonizing the typical chapters that students in an ‘introduction to psychology’ course are usually exposed to and (2) proposing a critical psychological alternative, which takes into account theories, philosophies, and/or histories from the Global South—that is, transmodern and/or decolonial alternatives.

The book aspires to target (under)graduate students, as well as scholar-activists, in the humanities and social sciences, who are interested in a transdisciplinary and critical approach to general psychology. If you choose to accept contributing a chapter to my edited book then please write your chapter in reaction to the relevant chapter in a best-selling introductory psychology textbook--for a list see Warne, Astle, and Hill (2018).

I choose Griggs (2017) not because it is a particularly good or bad book--I actually personally like it a lot and have used it for years--, but because it is representative of a typical introductory psychology textbook that happens to be concise. Also, by having all authors react to the same textbook, the edited volume will have an overall consistency to it. The easiest way to get a copy of Griggs (2017) is to request a free exam copy from [www.macmillanlearning.com](http://www.macmillanlearning.com)

I want to note though that the edited book is not a critique or review of Griggs (2017). I am using Griggs (2017) mainly for *structural purposes*--that is, to see how knowledge is (re)presented in a sequential fashion and what gets included/excluded. In other words, you can respond to the structural aspects of a chapter in Griggs (2017) without even mentioning his name because it is not about him. But a response to a similar chapter in any of the best-selling introductory psychology textbooks fulfills the same goal.

**Proposal:**

Chapters should be written in APA-style (i.e, 12-font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, etc.). The length of each chapter (inclusive of references) should be between 2,500 and 5,000

words, or 10 to 20 pages. A draft of the chapter is due on December 21, 2018. I will then provide you with my feedback. The revised chapter is due on May 1, 2019. Chapters must be emailed as a single Word file document to Robert K. Beshara ([besharaster@gmail.com](mailto:besharaster@gmail.com)). I will submit the edited book to the publishers sometime in July 2019.

Once you have agreed to write a chapter, we will discuss your vision for the chapter and what I had in mind for you. And then I will send you some paperwork for you to sign. After that, you will start the writing process. Finally, instead of including copyrighted material, such as figures, please redraw figures whenever possible.

If you have any question, please let me know. I will also be more than happy to provide you with references that I think are relevant to the edited book. I look forward to collaborating with you!

## References

- Dussel, E. D. (2012). Transmodernity and interculturality: An interpretation from the perspective of philosophy of liberation. *Transmodernity, 1*(3), 28-59.
- Griggs, R. A. (2017). *Psychology: A concise introduction* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.
- Mignolo, W. D. (2007). Delinking: The rhetoric of modernity, the logic of coloniality and the grammar of de-coloniality. *Cultural Studies, 21*(2-3), 449-514.
- Warne, R. T., Astle, M. C., & Hill, J. C. (2018). What do undergraduates learn about human intelligence? An analysis of introductory psychology textbooks. *Archives of Scientific Psychology, 6*(1), 32.