



PSY 376: Child Development

Summer 2007

142 Straub, MTWR 2:00-3:50

Course Instructor: Jeff Loucks

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 1:00-2:00, or by appointment

Course Description:

This course is devoted to the study of psychological development, with a particular focus on how human social and cognitive skills arise throughout infancy and childhood. The class will explore different theoretical accounts of development, examining a range of psychological phenomena including memory, language, social cognition, parent-infant attachment, personality, temperament, and developmental disorders.

Developmental psychology is an exciting field, with an ever-increasing number of investigators benefiting from recent innovations in experimental techniques and theoretical advances aimed at elucidating the steps of human development, the reasons underlying individual differences, and the ways in which biology and environment interact across childhood. My hope is that you also will join in the current excitement for this fascinating discipline and find opportunities for challenge and learning.

Required Text:

Siegler, R., DeLoache, J., & Eisenberg, N. (2006). *How children develop* (2nd ed.). New York: Worth.

Copies are available at the University of Oregon bookstore; additionally, two copies are on reserve at Knight Library, limited to checkout periods of two hours.

There are also 3 additional required readings for week 2, on topics of particular interest that are not covered extensively in the book. These are available on the Blackboard site.

Important University Deadlines:

Deadline Last day to:

June 25	Drop this course (100% refund, no W recorded)
June 27	Drop this course (50% refund, no W recorded)
June 28	Add this course
July 2	Withdraw from this course (50% refund, W recorded)
July 12	Withdraw from this course (0% refund, W recorded)
July 12	Change grading option for this course

Blackboard:

The course Blackboard site will be a critical source of information throughout the term. All of the additional required readings for week 2 are already posted on the site. Following lecture, lecture slides will be posted on Blackboard. Any changes to the lecture or reading schedule will also be posted on this site in the form of

announcements. Please make sure you are able to view slides created in Powerpoint. You may need to download a Powerpoint viewer, available free from many sites including www.microsoft.com/downloads. Slides can be downloaded and printed using public computers at the University. You should already have a login ID and password through your university email account to access Blackboard. If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard or do not know your password, contact me as soon as possible.

Slides for each lecture will be made available following the lecture, by 5:00 pm. Lecture slides will be located under Course Documents.

Scores for quizzes will be posted on Blackboard throughout the course. Please do not wait until after final grades are submitted to dispute a grade; keep track of your scores as they are posted, and alert me in writing (e-mail is fine) as soon as possible if you think that there has been a mistake in quiz or paper grading.

Course Requirements:

- Four **in-class quizzes** (80% of the final grade, each quiz 20%)
- One short **writing assignment** (20% of the final grade)
- **HS pool extra credit** (to improve your final grade by up to 3%)

In-class quizzes:

Quizzes will take place at the beginning of class every Friday of this term. There is no exam for this class during finals week. Quizzes will consist of multiple-choice questions. Quizzes will be closed book. Each of the four quizzes will account for 20% of your final grade.

Quizzes are not cumulative; however, general principles and definitions discussed during the first week will be relevant throughout the course. Thus, understanding key concepts introduced early on will be required to do well on all exams.

Do not miss the day of the quiz! In 95% of cases, you will not be able to make up the quiz. Quizzes may ONLY be made up if you have appropriate documentation indicating that you were unable to attend the quiz on that day. Appropriate documentation consists of an official doctor's note testifying that you were unable to attend class on that specific day.

Writing assignment:

You will write one very short (5-7 page) paper, reviewing two empirical articles, and relating the results and discussion of these articles to how this research is described in a popular press article. The popular press article is provided for you, and is posted on Blackboard. Details on the assignment are provided in an additional handout, and will also be posted on Blackboard.

The deadline for completing the paper assignment is July 20th at 4:00 pm. You may turn in your paper as a hard copy in class or to my mailbox in Straub Hall. If you turn in a hard copy at Straub Hall, make sure that you turn it in to the Psychology department secretary, Cindy Salmon, and specify that you need the paper time-stamped and delivered to my mailbox.

Papers submitted beyond this date will not be accepted, unless you are deathly ill and provide appropriate documentation (see above). As you can complete this assignment at any point over the next 4 weeks, there should be extremely few reasons why it cannot be completed before the due date.

Extra credit

Extra credit may be gained through participation in the Psychology Department's Human Subjects Pool, along with a very brief description (1 page) of each study you participated in. Each credit that you earn and

assign to PSY 376 along with the description will result in your final grade being raised by 1% (with the exception of the pretest). Credits must be assigned to Psych 376 for them to count towards extra credit. Studies and study descriptions must be completed by, Friday, July 20th.

Study descriptions must be turned in as hard copies to my mailbox in Straub Hall by 4:00 pm on the 20th. Again, ensure that make sure that you turn it in to Cindy Salmon, and specify that you need the paper time-stamped and delivered to my mailbox.

If you have never used the Human Subjects Pool before, please see me – your instructor, as well as the Human Subjects Coordinator – for a handout on the process.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

June 25 th	Intro & Theories of Cognitive Development	Chapters 1 & 4
June 26 th	Infant Perception & Cognition	Chapter 5
June 27 th	Language Development	Chapter 6
June 28 th	Quiz 1 & Conceptual Development	Chapter 7
July 2 nd	Social Cognition & Theory of Mind	Reading 1
July 3 rd	Autism	Reading 2
July 4 th	NO CLASS	
July 5 th	Quiz 2 & Memory Development	Reading 3
July 9 th	Intelligence & Developmental Disabilities	Chapter 8
July 10 th	Theories of Social Development	Chapter 9
July 11 th	Temperament & Emotional Development	Chapter 10
July 12 th	Quiz 3 & Attachment & Self	Chapter 11
July 16 th	Parenting & Family	Chapter 12
July 17 th	Peers & Moral Development	Chapter 13 & 14
July 18 th	Gender Development	Chapter 15
July 19 th	Quiz 4	

FOUR IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Summer Classes: are a \$%#@load of work! We are cramming an entire 10 week course into a 4 week course, which is pretty darn intense. In order to pass this class, you will have to do your readings everyday, and come to class every single day, and study for and take a quiz every week. Falling behind in this course is not an option - doing so will result in a lower grade. Please take advantage of my office hours over the next four weeks when you need the extra help. That being said, if you do not think you can handle this pace of work, please do not risk it.

Academic Honesty: As a member of the university community you are expected to be honest and forthright in all your academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one's research, to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own, or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced. All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes published quarterly. Violations will be taken seriously, may be grounds for automatic failure of the course, and are

noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues as they pertain to this course, please consult with the instructor before you complete any relevant requirements of the course. (Text adopted here as recommended from the UO web site regarding academic honesty at: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~conduct>)

Specifically for this course: Group discussion outside of class is (of course!) encouraged. However, all written assignments must be done independently.

Students with Directory Restricted Access: This course includes required on-line participation that will involve use of electronic mail. If you have restricted access to your directory information and wish to have special arrangements made for this course, please notify the instructor immediately.

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with the instructor soon. It would be wise to contact Disability Services (164 Oregon Hall, 346-1155). Also please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities send a letter verifying your disability by contacting Counselor for Students with Disabilities: Molly Sirois, 346-3211, 164 Oregon Hall, 346-1073, sirois@uoregon.edu