



PSY 376: Child Development

Summer 2008

105 Esslinger, Monday-Thursday 2:00-3:50

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Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 4:00-5:00, 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 benefitting 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.

Readings:

All readings will be made available as pdf documents on blackboard under Course Documents and will be posted prior to the week they are due. Please ensure that you have the means to open and view documents in pdf format; if you find yourself having trouble viewing the readings, please let me know as soon as possible. Public computers available in computer labs and all University of Oregon libraries can be used to open and print these documents if you are having difficulty.

Course Prerequisites:

None

Blackboard: The course blackboard site will be a critical source of information throughout the term. As noted above, assigned readings will be available on blackboard, and any changes to the lecture or reading schedule will be posted on this site in the form of announcements. Major changes to assignments will also be communicated via e-mail. In addition, slides to accompany lectures, review questions for quizzes, assigned short paper topics, and scores will be posted there. 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. Alternatively, 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 by 10 am the day of lecture. Lecture slides will be located under Course Documents.

Course Requirements:

Grades for the course will be based on

- Four **in-class quizzes** (60% of the final grade, with the best three grades each counting 20% and the lowest quiz grade dropped)
- Two **short papers** (4-5 double-spaced pages each) addressing assigned topics (30% of the final grade, with each paper worth 15%)
- Four **reading responses** (2 double-spaced pages each) addressing weekly assigned readings (10% of the final grade, with each response worth 2.5%)
- Extra credit** (to improve your final grade by up to 2%) can be gained through participation in Psychology Department research (via the Psychology Department's human subjects pool, or HSP). You must assign credits to 376 in order for them to count toward extra credit. Studies must be completed by the last day of classes, Thursday, July 17th.

In-class multiple-choice quizzes will take place the first hour of class every Thursday. The second hour of class on Thursday will be lecture, and the material discussed that day will be covered by the following week's quiz. Review questions will be posted after class on Tuesday and updated on Wednesday to reflect the material covered in class on Wednesday; more information on the quizzes will also be given in class as their scheduled day approaches.

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 quizzes.

Missing Quizzes: Quizzes may be made up if you have appropriate documentation indicating that you were unable to attend class (e.g., a doctor's note). However, in order to make up a quiz, you must contact me prior to or on the day of the missed quiz through e-mail or phone. If you do not contact me on or before the day of the missed quiz, you will not be able to make up that quiz.

Two short papers (each 4-5 pages) will be due on the dates given below. Papers must address topics described in Paper Topics under Course Documents on the blackboard course website. For each paper, you will write a 4-5-page double-spaced discussion of the assigned topic. Guidelines for paper formatting and stylistic conventions are available on blackboard under Course Documents as well. Topics will be posted on blackboard as the due date for the papers approach.

Papers are due by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 10th (Paper 1) and 4:00 p.m. Friday, July 18th (Paper 2). Turn them in as a hard copy to the main psychology office in Straub Hall with the request that they be placed in my mailbox. There are several Meyers/Myers/Meyer/Mayr (!) staff in our department, so it's a good idea to write my full name on the first page of the paper to make sure it makes its way into my box.

Late papers will have a letter grade deducted every day that they are late unless a doctor's note or similar documentation is given demonstrating why you were unable to write/turn in your paper.

Reading Responses

Each week, you are responsible for selecting one article assigned for that week and writing a 2-page double-spaced response to be turned in at the beginning of class on Thursday. The article for which you write a response is your choice, as long as it was assigned for the week you're turning it in. Responses should demonstrate 1) that you have read the article and 2) your thoughts and reactions to the content. Your grade will be based on both components. A good format for a response would consist of 2-3 paragraphs of summarizing followed by 2-3 paragraphs of your own thoughts on the article. Your own thoughts may connect material you learned in lecture to the article, provide personal stories or anecdotes that bear on the article, or just your opinion on the importance or quality of the article.

Extra credit to improve your overall grade by up to 2% can be earned by participating in Psychology Department research through the Psychology Department Human Subjects Pool. For each hour of participation you can earn a 1% improvement to your mark as long as you assign the credit to this class. The coordinator of the Human Subjects Pool, Adam Kramer, will be providing our class with handouts containing details regarding your possible participation, and you can also gain information by contacting him at hcoord@uoregon.edu. You can also find additional information by going to the HSP website at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~hcoord>.

How to participate in human subjects' research: The psychology department maintains an online human subjects sign-up system. You can participate in studies by following these steps:

1. Go to: <https://uopsych.sona-systems.com/>
2. If you are a new participant, click the "new participant" link on the left-hand side to create your username and get assigned a password. If you have already participated in the HSP before, use your original login information.
3. Once you have logged into the system, you will find a list of studies that you can complete. Sometimes studies are online and can be completed at any time; other times, studies are run by experimenters in Straub Hall, and you will need to sign up for a particular time. Make sure to pay attention to WHERE and WHEN your study is scheduled.
4. You can cancel a study sign-up as long as you do so by 6:00 pm the day before your appointment. If you do not show up for a scheduled appointment, you will receive a penalty of -1 credits.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS, READINGS, and ASSIGNMENTS

<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>	<u>Reading Due</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>
6/23	Introduction	--	--
6/24	Infancy I	Wingert & Brant, 2005 Cashon & Cohen, 2006 pp. 218-228	--
6/25	Infancy II	Pascalis, deHaan, & Nelson, 2002 Talbot, 2006	--
6/26	Quiz 1 Language I	--	Response 1 (due beginning of class)
<u>Week 2</u>			
6/30	Language II	Hoff, 2005 Kuhl, 2003 Talbot, 2008a (optional: Colapinto, 2007)	--
7/1	Theory of Mind I	Lillard, 1997 Callaghan et al., 2005	--
7/2	Theory of Mind II	Preissler & Carey, 2005 Haddon, 2003 Kalb, 2005	--
7/3	Quiz Memory & Self	Fivush & Nelson, 2004 Bruck & Ceci, 2004	Response 2 (due beginning of class)
<u>Week 3</u>			
7/7	Attachment	Talbot, 2008b Johnson, Dweck, & Chen, 2007	
7/8	Parenting	Patterson, 2006 Deater-Deckard, Dodge, Bates, & Pettit, 1996	
7/9	Temperament	Rothbart, Ahadi, & Evans, 2000	
7/10	Quiz 3 Social Concepts	Gelman & Heyman, 1999 Bigler & Liben, 2007	Response 3 (due beginning of class) Paper 1 (due 4 p.m., Straub psychology office)

Week 4

7/14	Education, Self-Esteem, Motivation, and Intelligence	Heyman & Dweck, 1998 Cimpian, Arce, Markman, & Dweck, 2007	--
7/15	Moral and Prosocial Reasoning, Bullying	Killen, 2007 Talbot, 2002 Olweus, 2003	--
7/16	Developmental Psychopathology	Dobbs, 2007 Carmichael, 2008 Carey, 2006	--
7/17	Quiz 4 (no lecture follows)		Response 4 (due beginning of class) Paper 2 (due 4:00 p.m., Straub psychology office) by FRIDAY 7/18

THREE IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL NOTES:

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. ANY DIRECT QUOTES (i.e., using material taken word-for-word from another source) MUST BE OFFSET BY QUOTATION MARKS; otherwise this will be considered plagiarism. 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 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

Olympic Trials: Access to Straub Hall is limited during the Olympic Trials. The only door that will be unlocked is the door that leads to the main office. This door is located to the north of the main Straub doors, and you will need to use that door to turn in your papers to my mailbox.