

Psychology 453
Honours Seminar in Developmental Psychology:
The Social Foundations of Thought and Language
Winter Term 2009

Instructor: Jerry Anglin, PAS 4019 (email address: jmanclin@watarts.uwaterloo.ca)

Place and Time: PAS 4288, Tuesdays, 12:30-2:20

Course Requirements: You will have a choice of doing either a term paper or a take-home final exam due April 7, 2009. If you choose the take-home final exam you will be given a set of several essay questions by March 10, 2009, and you will be asked to choose four of the essay questions provided and to write an essay of no more than five typed pages on each of the four essay topics. Each of these four essays will account for 20% of your final grade (all four would account for 80% of your final grade).

If you choose to do a term paper rather than the take-home exam, as long as your paper is somewhat relevant to the topic of this course (“The social foundations of thought and language”) that would be fine. And please feel free to discuss your topic with me if you are in doubt about its appropriateness for this course. The term paper would also be due on April 7, 2009, and it would account for 80% of your final grade.

The remaining 20% of your final grade will be based on your class participation in the weekly seminar meeting.

Book for the Course (available at the bookstore and on reserve at the Arts Library):

1. Bjorklund, D.F. (2005). **Children’s Thinking: Cognitive Development and Individual Differences** (fourth edition). Toronto: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Schedule of Topics and Reading Assignments:

Jan. 6	Introduction and Organizational Meeting	
Jan. 13	Issues in the Study of Cognitive Development Bjorklund (2005): Chapters 1 and 2	
Jan. 20	Sociocultural and Piagetian Theories of Cognitive Development Bjorklund (2005): Chapters 3 and 4	
Jan. 27	Information Processing Theories and Strategy Development Bjorklund (2005): Chapters 5 and 6	
Feb. 3	Perceptual Development in Infancy; Mental Representation Bjorklund (2005): Chapters 7 and 9	
Feb. 10	Memory Development; Language Development Bjorklund (2005): Chapters 10 and 11	
Feb. 17	Reading week (No Class)	(over)

- Feb. 24 **Language Development (continued); Problem Solving**
Recent papers by J. M. Anglin; Bjorklund (2005): Chapter 12
- Mar. 3 **Social Cognitive Development; Education and Cognitive Development**
Bjorklund (2005): Chapters 13 and 14
- Mar. 10 **Cognitive Development Processes; The Social Foundations of Thought and Language**
Bjorklund (2005): Pp. 499-50. Recent papers on the Social Foundations of Thought and Language
- Mar. 17 **The Social Foundations of Thought and Language**
Recent papers on the Social Foundations of Thought and Language
- Mar. 24 **The Social Foundations of Thought and Language**
Recent papers on the Social Foundations of Thought and Language
- Mar. 31 **The Social Foundations of Thought and Language**
Recent papers on the Social Foundations of Thought and Language

The Official Version of the Course Outline

If there is a discrepancy between the hard copy outline (*i.e., if students were provided with a hard copy at the first class*) and the outline posted on UW-ACE, the outline on UW-ACE will be deemed the official version. Outlines on UW-ACE may change as instructors develop a course, but they become final as of the first class meeting for the term.

Students with Disabilities

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Concerns About the Course or Instructor (Informal Stage)

We in the Psychology Department take great pride in the high quality of our program and our instructors. Though infrequent, we know that students occasionally find themselves in situations of conflict with their instructors over course policies or grade assessments. If such a conflict arises, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs (Dr. Colin Ellard) is available for consultation and to mediate a resolution between the student and instructor. Dr. Ellard's contact information is as follows:

Email: cellard@uwaterloo.ca
Ph 519-888- 4567 ext 36852

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. See Policy 70 and 71 below for further details.

Academic Integrity, Academic Offenses, Grievance, and Appeals

To protect course integrity, as well as to provide appropriate guidance to students, course outlines in the Faculty of Arts incorporate the following note on avoidance of academic offenses:

Academic Integrity: in order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for

initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm) - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about 'rules' for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under [Policy 71](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm) - Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm) - Student Discipline, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under [Policy 70](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm) - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or [Policy 71](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm) - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read [Policy 72](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm) - Student Appeals, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>

For further advice from the Faculty of Arts on the avoidance of academic offenses, see the following website:
http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html