

SYLLABUS

This syllabus is tentative. It may change.

Class

Psychology 393, Research in Developmental Psychology, Fall Term 2007
Mon & Wed., 12:30 - 2:20 p.m., PAS 4288

Instructor

Dr. Ori Friedman (PAS 4014)
Potential meeting times: Fri anytime between 10 am - 5pm.

Teaching Assistant

Marcia Gordeyko (PAS ???)
Potential meeting times: ???.

Contacting the Instructor and Teaching Assistant

Please use UW-ACE to send e-mails connected with the class. If you have any issues or questions, you should generally contact the TA first, and only contact the instructor if additional help is needed. To set up a meeting, send an e-mail proposing a meeting time based on the **potential meeting times** listed above. Then we will either confirm the proposed time or propose another time.

Course description

This course is on Research in Developmental Psychology. To succeed in this class you will need to attend class, read assigned articles, and complete a series of assignments. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting information about what you missed from other students. The instructor and TA do not provide notes or outlines to students who have missed classes. You should read assigned readings before the corresponding class.

Course requirements and grading

Your final grade will be based on assignments (80%) and class participation (20%). Class participation includes (but is not limited to) attendance.

All written assignments will be uploaded to UW-ACE and handed in as hard copies (i.e. printed out on paper). Uploaded assignments should be in MS word or RTF format. All assignments should be written in 12pt Times New Roman font, double spaced, with all margins set at 1 inch (2.54 cm). Page limits do not include title pages.

Lab Days and the Early Childhood Education Centre (ECEC)

Classes will occasionally be replaced by 'lab days', during which assignments will be completed outside of class. To complete some assignments you will need to go to the [ECEC](#) to observe children in 'free play'. The ECEC is located in the basement of PAS, and free play takes place between 10:30 - 11:15 am and 2:30 - 3:15 pm, although there is no afternoon shift on Fridays. To observe free play for assignments call Dianne Foreman at 33167 and let her know when to expect you.

Summary of Assignments

1. Statement of interest. Max pages = 2. Worth 10%
2. Bibliography Assignment. Worth 10%
3. Open-ended Observation in ECEC and paper. Max Pages = 4. Worth 10%
4. Observational Experiment and Group Oral presentation. Worth 10%
5. Presentations. Max time per presentation is 15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions. Worth 10%
6. Final Project: Worth 40%
 - a) First draft.
 - b) Write two anonymous reviews. Max pages = 3 per review. Worth = 5% (i.e. 2.5% each)
 - c) Final draft of paper. Max pages = ????. Worth 30%
 - d) Letter responding to reviewers. Worth 5%

Note on APA format

Many of the assignments will require you to use APA (American Psychological Association) format. i.e. the style described in the 5th edition of the *APA Publication Manual* (2001). Copies of the manual are reserved at the Dana Porter Library. You can either get a copy from the main circulation desk or from the Information Desk. (Call Number is **BF76.7 .P83 2001**). You can also learn much about APA style by downloading the APA minimanual PDF (under the Lessons Tab).

Policy on late assignments

Assignments **MUST** be turned in when due. The corresponding files should be uploaded to UW-ACE before class on the date due. Unless you have an appropriate doctor's note, or there is a death in your family (or some equally severe situation) assignments will not be accepted late.

[No broken printers, no hard-drives failures, computer crashes. Save it often, e-mail it to yourself as an attachment to have a backup, etc.]

Note on avoidance of academic offences

All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offence, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offence is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>). If you need help in learning how to avoid offences such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your TA or course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>.

Also see "Avoiding Academic Offences" (http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Statement of interest. Max pages = 2. Worth 10%

Describe a topic that you might be interested in investigating as a Developmental Psychologist. This might be a topic you've always been interested in, one you heard about in a class, or maybe something you just think about in trying to write the assignment. It does not need to be an established topic. Beyond saying what the topic is, you should specify why you find it interesting, and what you'd want to discover about it.

2. Bibliography assignment. Worth 10%

This assignment, conducted on computers, will test your ability to find citations.

3. Open-ended Observation in ECEC and reflection paper. Max Pages = 4. Worth 10%

You will observe children's free play in the ECEC for a minimum of half an hour. Then write up a reflection paper. This paper should describe something you observed, including a reflection on its significance. You do not need to summarize everything you observe. For example, you can write about something that happened in the span of 5 minutes, or maybe some general feature of children's play that you noticed. It really depends on what catches your attention, and what you find interesting. But remember, the paper should not be merely descriptive. For example, you might stress why you find what you observed interesting, or discuss questions that your observations raise.

4. Observational Experiment and Group Oral presentation. Worth 10%.

Working in teams you will come up with an observational scoring method, and then use it across two ECEC sessions. You will present your experiment in groups.

5. Presentations. Max time per presentation is 15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions. Worth 10%

You will pick a research paper based on your own interests, and present it to the class. You should do the presentation in power point, summarizing and assessing the paper. Tell us what you liked, what didn't you like, and possible follow-up work that might be conducted. Please let me know as soon as you have decided which paper to present. If the paper has already been reserved by someone else, then you will need to select a different paper.

6. Final Project: Worth 50% overall

a) Write up a first draft as an APA style paper.

b) **Two anonymous reviews. Max pages = 2 per review. Worth = 5% (i.e. 2.5% each).** Each paper will be assigned two anonymous reviewers, and you will each review two papers.

c) **Final draft of paper. Max pages = ???.** Worth 35%. Revise paper in response to reviews to arrive at a final draft.

d) **Letter responding to reviewers. Worth 5%.** Write a letter explaining your responses to the reviewers' concerns.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE (This schedule may change!!!)

Week 1	Sep 10 Mon	Discuss course. Give A1 Statement of Interest.
	Sep 12 Wed	Discuss Statement of Interest assignment, while doing introductions.
Week 2	Sep 17 Mon	**Meet in PAS 1237
	Sep 19 Wed	**Meet in PAS 1237
Week 3	Sep 24 Mon	**Meet in PAS 1237 - A2 Bibliography.
	Sep 26 Wed	Discuss methods in class. Introduce A3 Open-ended observation in ECEC & reflection paper
Week 4	Oct 1 Mon	**Lab day: Open-ended observation in ECEC – class cancelled.
	Oct 3 Wed	A3 reflection paper due; discuss. Assign observational paper(s) to read.
Week 5	Oct 8 Mon	*** THANKSGIVING ***
	Oct 10 Wed	Discuss observational papers. Form groups (5 groups of 5?), & each comes up with topic and co
Week 6	Oct 15 Mon	**Lab day: Observation in lab – class cancelled.
	Oct 17 Wed	**Lab day: Observation in lab – class cancelled.
Week 7	Oct 22 Mon	A4 group presentations, part 1.
	Oct 24 Wed	A4 group presentations, part 2. Talk about experimental techniques. Give out final assignment...
Week 8	Oct 29 Mon	A5 paper presentations 1/8.
	Oct 31 Wed	A5 paper presentations 2/8.
Week 9	Nov 5 Mon	Everyone administers tests on everyone else. Copies of each test handed in (word format prefer
	Nov 7 Wed	Continue administering tests.
Week 10	Nov 12 Mon	Continue administering tests (if needed); A5 paper presentations, 3/8.
	Nov 14 Wed	A5 paper presentations 4/8.
Week 11	Nov 19 Mon	A5 paper presentations 5/8. 1st draft of A6 paper handed in; papers disseminated to anonymous
	Nov 21 Wed	A5 paper presentations 6/8. A6 anonymous reviews due (2 per person), & given to authors.
Week 12	Nov 26 Mon	A5 Paper presentations 7/8
	Nov 28 Wed	A5 Paper presentations 8/8.
Week 13	Dec 3 Mon	A6 Final papers due, including letter responding to anonymous reviews

