

University of Waterloo
Department of Psychology
PSYCH 211-001
Developmental Psychology
Fall 2019
Mondays, Wednesdays, 2:30-3:50, AL 116

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

Instructor and T.A. Information

Instructors: Brandon Goulding, McLennon Wilson
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Office Hours: By appointment
Email: b2gouldi@uwaterloo.ca, m36wilso@uwaterloo.ca

T.A.	Paige Holmes	Linda Sosa-Hernandez	Laura Colucci
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Office	PAS 4212	PAS 4214	PAS 3029
Office Hours	By appointment	By appointment	By appointment

Course Description

This course provides a topically-organized overview of child psychological development from the prenatal period through adolescence. Influential theoretical approaches to the study of child development will be discussed and applied to the study of physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Summarize and apply their understanding of a broad array of topics pertinent to children's psychological development
- B. Critically evaluate methods and approaches used in developmental research
- C. Read, interpret, and communicate the methods and findings of academic research papers
- D. Apply their knowledge of developmental processes in childhood to their own lives

Required Text

Siegler, R., Saffran, J. R., Eisenberg, N., DeLoache, J., Gerchoff, E., & Leaper, C. (2017). How Children Develop, Fifth Edition. New York: Worth Publishers [ISBN-13: 978-1-319-01423-0]

The “official” edition of the text used in this course is the American fifth edition. If we reference page or figure numbers in the syllabus, lectures, or other course materials, this is the edition being referenced. Two copies of the official course text are available at the Dana Porter Library for short-term borrowing. The Canadian fifth edition contains much of the same material as the American fifth edition (with some variations), and earlier editions of the text likely contain much of the same material. That being said, if you elect to use an alternative version of the text, **it is your responsibility to identify any discrepancies between your version of the text and the official edition being used in this course.** We are happy to answer any questions regarding potential discrepancies, however **we will not accept responsibility for any mistakes or confusion arising from students using alternative versions of the text.**

Readings Available on LEARN

Some additional readings not found in the text will occasionally be posted on Learn. Attention will be drawn to these readings in lecture and through announcements on Learn.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Exam 1	October 2 (in class)	26.66%
Exam 2	November 6 (in class)	26.66%
Developmental Article Summary		
Submit article to TAs for approval	November 3 (11:59 PM)	2%
Submit completed summary	November 24 (11:59 PM)	18%
Exam 3	TBD (During exam period)	26.66%
Total		100%

Attendance Policy

While there will be significant overlap between text and lecture content, lectures will often present additional content not found in the textbook. As such, regular class attendance will be essential for students hoping to excel in this course. To help guide your studying, PDF versions of lecture slides will be published on Learn. However, animations and other dynamic aspects of the slides may be lost in translation, so again, regular class attendance is highly encouraged.

Exams (26.66% each)

There will be three non-cumulative exams each worth 28.33% of your final grade. Each exam will cover all material presented since the last exam (or the beginning of the course in the case of the first exam). The first two exams will be held in class on the dates listed above. The third exam will be held during the final exam period at the time arranged by the Registrar's Office, specific date and time TBD. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions and will cover material presented in the textbook, lectures, and (occasionally) through assigned readings posted on Learn. Students who miss a midterm will not be able to make it up unless the student is absent for an excusable reason, as defined in sections below. In the case of a missed exam for a valid reason (e.g, documented illness or bereavement), the exam will be deferred to a later date. Given the non-cumulative nature of the exams, later exams cannot be reweighted to account for missed exams, and thus students must ultimately write all three exams in order to be fully assessed on the course's materials.

Developmental Article Summary (20%)

The purpose of this assignment is to give you the opportunity to learn more about a topic that particularly interests you, and to give you experience reading, interpreting, and summarizing the most important aspects of a research article. Assignments must be submitted electronically on Learn no later than 11:59pm on the due date.

Submitting your article for approval (2%). Using the University of Waterloo's library resources, find an article presenting original research pertaining to one of the topics listed below. Be sure to submit your article electronically on Learn **no later than Nov. 3 at 11:59 PM**. This dropbox will be open from the first day of class, so we encourage you to do so well before Nov. 3. **Late article submissions will not be graded, resulting in 0% for this section.**

The article you choose must follow these guidelines:

- Must be directly related to developmental psychology (can include adults, but *must* include children)
- Cannot be a meta-analysis, review of other research, or theoretical paper; if it doesn't have Methods and Results sections, it is not an acceptable article.
- Must have been published **within the last 2 years** (i.e., 2017 or later).
- Cannot be an article discussed at length in the textbook or during lectures – we'll check.
- Presents materials you find interesting *and* understandable. There are thousands of interesting studies out there that have contributed to our understanding of development. Don't feel obliged to pick a highly complex study that you might have difficulty summarizing succinctly. A short article with a clear, straightforward design is equally appropriate.

Summary and discussion (18%). Describe the main research question, methodology, and results of the paper *in your own words*, and share some of your own thoughts on the study– what's a practical application, and what's a follow-up question you might have? A more detailed outline for completing the assignment will be described in class and shared on Learn early in the semester.

Submit your assignment on Learn by 11:59 PM on Nov. 24. A penalty of 10% per day will be applied to late submissions.

Course Outline

The topics of each lecture are subject to change. Materials to be covered in each exam will be confirmed a week prior to each exam, both in class and on Learn.

Lecture	Date	Topic	Textbook Chapter
1	Sept. 3	Course Overview; Methods in Dev. Psych	Ch.1
2	Sept. 9	Prenatal/Newborn Development	Ch.2
3	Sept. 11	Biology and Behavior	Ch.3
4	Sept. 16	Cognitive Development	Ch.4
5	Sept. 18	Cognitive Development	Ch.4
6	Sept. 23	Seeing, Thinking, and Doing	Ch.5
7	Sept. 25	Seeing, Thinking, and Doing	Ch.5
8	Sept. 30	Language	Ch.6
	Oct. 2	EXAM 1 (Lectures 1-7)	
9	Oct. 7	Language	Ch.6
10	Oct. 9	Conceptual Development	Ch.7
	Oct. 14	*Reading Week - No class*	
	Oct. 16	*Reading Week - No class*	
11	Oct. 21	Conceptual Development	Ch.7
12	Oct. 23	Moral Development	Ch.14
13	Oct. 28	Moral Development	Ch.14
14	Oct. 30	Intelligence and Achievement	Ch.8
15	Nov. 4	Theories of Social Development	Ch.9
	Nov. 6	EXAM 2 (Lectures 8-14)	
16	Nov. 11	Theories of Social Development	Ch.9
17	Nov. 13	Emotional Development	Ch.10
18	Nov. 18	Emotional Development	Ch.10
19	Nov. 20	Attachment	Ch.11
20	Nov. 25	Development of the Self	Ch.11
21	Nov. 27	Gender Development	Ch.15
22	Dec. 2	The roles of family and peers	Ch.12-13
	TBD	EXAM 3 (Lectures 15-22)	

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [Office of Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (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 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Concerns about a Course Policy or Decision

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 (Richard Eibach) is available for consultation and to mediate a resolution between the student and instructor: Email: reibach@uwaterloo.ca; Ph 519-888-4567 ext. 38790

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 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact Richard Eibach, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs who will provide further assistance; reibach@uwaterloo.ca.

Appeals. A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Note for Students with Disabilities

The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), 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 AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Accommodation for course requirements

For security purposes, the Psychology Department does not allow students to write tests, quizzes, or final exams for Psychology courses prior to the date/time scheduled for the course.

Elective arrangements such as travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting accommodations to course requirements per the [uWaterloo Examination Regulations and Related Matters](#).

Accommodations for students with disabilities: [The Access-Ability Services Office](#) (located in Needles Hall extension, Room 1401) 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 Access-Ability Services Office at the beginning of each academic term.

[In-class, online, test/exam accommodations for students with disabilities](#)

Accommodation requests based on religious/cultural grounds

Requests for alternate sittings for tests, quizzes, or final exams based on religious/cultural grounds must be made to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies for the Faculty of Arts (currently Bill Chesney) in writing by the following deadlines:

- for final exams: within one week of the [final exam schedule being posted by the Registrar's Office](#).
- for tests or quizzes: before the 'drop - no penalty period' ends (see [Important Dates](#))

The Associate Dean will contact the instructor on the student's behalf to request an alternate sitting for the test, quiz, or final exam.

Students requesting accommodation for course requirements in Psychology courses due to illness should do the following:

- seek medical treatment as soon as possible and obtain a completed University of Waterloo [Verification of Illness Form](#)
- submit that form to the instructor within 48 hours. Students in Centre for Extended Learning (CEL) courses must submit their confirmation of the illness to CEL.
- (if possible) inform the instructor by the due date for the course requirement that you will be unable to meet the deadline and that documentation will be forthcoming.

In the case of a missed final exam due to illness, the instructor and student will negotiate an extension for the final exam which will typically be written as soon as possible, but no later than the next offering of the course.

In the case of bereavement, the instructor will provide similar accommodations to those for illness. Appropriate documentation to support the request will be required.

Students who are experiencing extenuating circumstances should also inform their academic advisors regarding their personal difficulties.

Policies of the Psychology department pertaining to course requirements are available on the [department website](#).

Mental Health Services

Mental Health Services aim is to provide holistic programming and services to help you lead a healthy and balanced life. We strive to provide a secure, supportive environment for students of all orientations and backgrounds.

Students suffering from problems with anxiety, depression, problems with sleep, attention, obsessions or compulsions, relationship difficulties, severe winter blues, etc., may make an appointment by phone or in person. Appointments are usually available within two days of initial contact with one of our medical doctors. All contacts are completely confidential.

Contact Health Services:

Health Services Building

Call 519-888-4096 to schedule an appointment

Call 1-866-797-0000 for free 24/7 advice from a health professional

Contact Counselling Services

Needles Hall Addition, NH 2401

Call 519-888-4567 x 32655 to schedule an appointment

counserv@uwaterloo.ca