

PSY410H5 – Special Topics in Developmental Psychology

Tuesday 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

DV1147 (Davis Building)

Contact Information

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Course Description

- This course will provide an in-depth examination of current issues and hot topics in developmental psychology. Readings will provide historical and theoretical background as well as highlight current and significant research in a number of topic areas. This course is a seminar class. As such, you are expected to attend every class and to participate actively in class discussions.
- This year's special topic is *intelligence*, focusing on the structure of intelligence, consistency over development, and correlates of intelligence.

Reading Material

- Mackintosh, N. J. (2011). *IQ and human intelligence* (2nd ed.). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Selected journal articles that are available electronically as PDF files from the U of T library (see outline).

Calculation of Grade

First essay	10%
Second essay	30%
First podcast	20%
Second podcast	20%
Class participation, attendance, discussion questions	20%

Classes:

The classes will be group discussions and all students should be prepared to participate. Assigned articles must be read carefully before class. Questions of clarification are encouraged during class but students are also expected to provide insightful comments and thoughtful critiques.

Discussion questions:

Discussion questions/comments about the assigned readings must be e-mailed to me before 9 AM on the days the class meets. The comments should make it clear that you have done the required readings and given them some careful thought. You should submit at least one question/comment per chapter or article.

Essays:

The two essays are due on February 16th and April 3rd by 5PM. The first essay is a “thought paper” on the utility of intelligence as a construct in today’s society. It should be 5-7 pages of double-spaced text. It does not need formal citations and can be written as a newspaper article. You can use the first person, anecdotes from your own life, and contractions, but the essay should be about a topic relevant to intelligence (e.g., testing “gifted” in elementary school) and contain no spelling or grammar mistakes. The second essay is a review paper written in APA format (no abstract, 10-15 pages of double-spaced text), which requires library searches, reading original research papers, and careful editing and re-writing. It should be on individual differences in intelligence (i.e., on one or more variables that are associated

with intelligence). I suggest choosing a relatively narrow/specific topic (e.g., sex differences in mental-rotation abilities) that can be covered thoroughly. The penalty for submitting essays late is 10% per day.

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Podcasts:

The podcasts are group efforts that will be submitted for grading *and* presented subsequently in class. Students should work in groups of 2 or 3 to produce podcasts of 10 or 15 minutes, respectively. The podcasts can be audio-only or audio-visual. They should discuss a research question of general interest, and set about exploring this question by describing a finding—or a body of findings—from the intelligence literature. The podcasts should be accessible and interesting to a broad audience, but at the same time demonstrating that you have a firm grasp of what the researchers did, why they did it, what they found, and what it means. Podcasts will be presented in class after the date they are due. The penalty for submitting podcasts late is 10% per day. To prevent extensive overlap among podcasts, students will propose topics in class 10 days before the podcasts are due. The text of the podcasts must be submitted as a Word document along with the actual podcasts.

Course Webpage

The website associated with this course is accessible via <http://portal.utoronto.ca>

Note: You don't need to create a new login for Blackboard; it already knows who you are. You just need your UTORid and password. This is the same login that gets you onto the wireless network with your laptop, and the same one that you use to check your email. If you're confused about your UTORid or don't remember your password, go to: <https://www.utorid.utoronto.ca/>

In order to access course material, monitor course information, and view your grades you must log into Blackboard. If you have any general questions regarding Blackboard, please visit the following help site:

<http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students>

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES **PLEASE READ**

Missed Test Special Consideration Request Process

No make-up tests are provided in this course

Students who miss a test due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g. illness or an accident) can request that the Department grant them special consideration. Students must present their case to the Department (NOT the Instructor) by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at:

<https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>.

Students are to submit original supporting documentation (e.g., medical certificates, accident reports, etc.) to the Psychology Academic Counselor or drop it in the drop box located outside the Psychology office, Deerfield Hall, 4th Floor. Students have up-to one week from the date of the missed test to submit request. Late submissions will NOT be considered without a letter of explanation specifying and documenting the reasons for the lateness.

Medical certificates or physician's notes must be completed by the Physician and MUST include the statement "This Student [name] was unable to write the test on [date(s)] for medical reasons". This documentation must show that the physician was consulted within one the day of the missed term test. A statement merely acknowledging a report of illness made by the student to the physician is NOT acceptable. For further information on this procedure please see:

<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/psychology/undergraduate-studies/missed-testslate-submissions>

If you missed your test/assignment deadline for a reason connected to your registered disability, please be advised that the department will accept documentation supplied by the UTM AccessAbility Resource Centre.

IMPORTANT: The Department of Psychology verifies the authenticity of medical certificates by contacting medical offices. Students are NOT to make any changes or alteration to completed medical certificates. Students who submit forged or altered documentation are subject to severe academic penalties.

If your request is approved by the department, your grade on the missed test will be estimated from your grades on the other tests.

Extension of Time Special Consideration Request Process

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete their term work beyond the due date without penalty, owing to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., illness, or an accident), must do so by submitting a request directly to the Instructor for the period up to and including the last day of the term. The decision as to whether or not to apply a penalty for the specified period rests with the Instructor.

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete term work beyond the last day of the term must submit their request directly to the Department. This request covers the period following the last day of classes and ends the last day of the exam period. This is done by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at <https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>.

You are advised to seek advising by the departmental Undergraduate Counsellor prior to the deadline.

Original supporting documentation (e.g., medical certificates, accident reports, etc.) must be submitted to the Psychology Academic Counselor or dropped off in the drop box located outside the Psychology office Deerfield Hall, 4th Floor. Students are expected to submit requests to the Department before the last day of the term, unless demonstrably serious reasons prevent them from doing so. In the event of an illness, medical certificates or doctor's notes must confirm that student was ill on the due date of the assignment (for a one-day extension). For a longer extension, documentation must specify the full duration during which academic work could not be carried out.

For extensions of time beyond the examination period you must submit a petition through the Office of the Registrar. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions>.

Penalties for Lateness

A penalty of 10% per calendar day (i.e., including week-ends and holidays, during which students are not able to submit term work) up to and including the last day of classes, will be applied by the Instructor. After the last day of classes, the penalty of 10% per calendar day will be applied by the Undergraduate Counsellor on behalf of the Department. No penalty will be assigned if request for special consideration, described above, was successful.

Academic Guidelines

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met all prerequisites listed in the UTM Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you WILL BE REMOVED from the course up until the last day to add a course. Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University of Toronto Mississauga Calendar at: <http://www.erin.utoronto.ca/regcal/>.

You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into trouble and need advice about studying, preparing for exams, note taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre at 905-828-5406.

AccessAbility Services

Students requiring academic accommodations for learning, physical, sensory, or mental health disabilities or medical conditions should contact the AccessAbility Office (2037B Davis Building), 905-828-3847.

<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Honesty and fairness are considered fundamental to the university's mission, and, as a result, all those who violate those principles are dealt with as if they were damaging the integrity of the university itself. When students are suspected of cheating or a similar academic offence, they are typically surprised at how formally and seriously the matter is dealt with -- and how severe the consequences can be if it is determined that cheating did occur. The University of Toronto treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Please take the time to review the Academic Integrity website: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/academic-integrity/students>.

Common trends in academic offences:

- Plagiarizing/concocted references
- Collaboration/unauthorized assistance
- Purchasing work
- Recycling work - "double-dipping"
- Resubmitting of altered work for re-grading
- Electronic devices (cell phones) or any unauthorized aids
- Altering medical certificates and UofT documents

From the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters: "It shall be an offence for a student to knowingly: represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism. Wherever in the Code an offence is described as depending on "knowing", the offence shall likewise be deemed to have been committed if the person ought reasonably to have known." All students must refer to this website to obtain information on what constitutes plagiarism. <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

If questions arise after reading the material on the website, consult your instructor. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated.**

Equity Statement

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at edo.utm@utoronto.ca or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at vpequity@utmsu.ca.

Academic Rights

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use turnitin.com (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth 25% or more in the last two weeks of class.
- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.
- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.

Course Outline

Date	Topic
Jan. 9	Introduction and Organization Demonstration/administration of Raven's Advanced Progressive Matrices
Jan. 16	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapters 1-2); O'Connell (2018) Discussion of topics for first podcast
Jan. 23	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapters 3-4); Gnamb & Appel (2017) Processing Speed demonstration/administration First podcast due 5 PM Friday, January 26th
Jan. 30	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapters 5-7); Giofré et al. (2017) Show podcasts in class
Feb. 6	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapters 8-9); Boutwell et al. (2017) Show podcasts in class
Feb. 13	Karwowski et al. (2017) Demonstration: WISC, WAIS, PPVT, etc. First essay due 5 PM Friday, Feb 16th
Feb. 27	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapter 10); Li et al. (2017)
March 6	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapter 11); Čukić et al. (2017) Discussion of topics for second podcast
March 13	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapter 12); Zheng et al. (2018) Second podcast due 5 PM Friday, March 16th
March 20	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapter 13); Wänström & Wegmann (2017) Show podcasts in class
March 27	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapter 14); Toivainen et al. (2017) Show podcasts in class
April 3	<i>IQ and human intelligence</i> (Chapter 15); Taylor et al. (2017) Second essay due 5 PM Tuesday, April 3rd