PSYCH 3420
Cognitive Development in Childhood
Spring 2018

Instructor: Dr. Yuyan Luo
Office hours: M/W 11-11:30 am or by appointment
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Teaching Assistant: Office hours: by appointment

Class: Tu/Th 11-12:15; 105 Strickland


Article Summaries:
Each student is required to read 10 journal articles on different topics of cognitive development selected from a list given by the instructor (at the end of the syllabus) and write a 150- to 250-word summary for each article. This needs to be in your own words, not from the Abstract section of the article. This summary should include the following: Purpose of the Research (about 1-2 sentences); Description of Methods (about 2-3 sentences); Description of Results (about 2-3 sentences); Description of Conclusion (about 2 sentences).

These summaries must be in your own words and you must hand in a copy of the journal abstract with your summary IN CLASS. You are encouraged to bring to class questions you have about the article you read. These questions can be about anything you did not understand in the journal article including: methods, procedures, statistics, or problems with interpretation.

Grading: Each article summary is worth 4 points: one point each for descriptions of research purposes, methods, results, and conclusions. Half a point off for a summary turned in one day late, one point off for two days late, and so on.

There are twelve days in the semester when you can turn in an article summary. Ten article summaries count towards the grade.

Exams:
There will be 4 in-class exams. Each exam has multiple-choice questions and short-answer questions and is worth 20 points. Your highest three scores out of the four exams count towards the total score of your exams. If you do very well in three exams, you are not required to take all four exams. Therefore, there is no makeup exam!

Grading: Each article summary is 4 points. You are required to do 10. The total is 40 points.

Each exam is 20 points. We use the three highest scores, as described above. The total is 60 points.

There are 5 bonus points from random in-class assignments throughout the semester (no makeup!).

How to calculate your grade:
N1= out of 40 (article summaries)
N2= out of 60 (exams)
N3= out of 5 (random in-class assignments)
Grade = N1 + N2 + N3

**Grading Scale:**
A+: 97+; A: 93-96.9; A-: 90-92.9; B+: 87-89.9; B: 83-86.9; B-: 80-82.9 …

**Tentative Course Outline**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>Introduction to class</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/18</td>
<td>Piaget’s theory</td>
<td>1st Article Summary Due</td>
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<td>1/23</td>
<td>Piaget Revisited</td>
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<td>Socio-cultural approach</td>
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<td>2/8</td>
<td>Infants’ physical knowledge</td>
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<td>3/6</td>
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<td>Spatial Cognition and Problem Solving</td>
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<td>Naïve Physics</td>
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<td>3/29</td>
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<td>Theory of Mind</td>
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**List of journal articles to choose from:**


Statement for Academic Dishonesty. Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person’s work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

Students with Disabilities: If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Office of Disability Services (http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu), S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.