

PSY312H5F – Children's Thinking: Cognitive Development in a Social World

LEC0101 Tuesday and Thursday 12:00pm – 2:00pm **IB 250 (Instructional Building)**

PRA0101 Tuesday and Thursday 3:00pm – 4:00pm **CC 1160 (CCT Building)**

Course Delivery

- **In-person – Returning to Campus Summer 2022**

In addition to the lecture component of the course, you are expected to attend 2 practical meetings each week. **You must make sure you register on ACORN for the PRA sections.** During the practical meetings, you will collaborate with your group on a major project for the course.

- **Learn Anywhere Guide for Students**

<https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/students/quercus/learn-anywhere>

University of Toronto tech [requirements for online learning](#)

Contact Information

Course Instructor:

Dr. Christine Burton

email: christine.burton@utoronto.ca

Teaching Assistant:

Tiana Simovic

tiana.simovic@mail.utoronto.ca

Office hours via Zoom

Sign-up for office hours required at

<https://calendly.com/christine-burton/office-hour-1>

Office hours TBA

All office hours will be individual 15-minute appointments during the following times :

Mondays and Fridays 9 am – 10 am

Wednesdays 2 pm – 3 pm

Course Description

This course examines human development in fundamental domains such as perception, memory, language, problem solving, and theory of mind through infancy and childhood. We will discuss theories and empirical evidence, with an emphasis on current experimental findings, and on how they address centuries-old debates surrounding the origin and nature of human knowledge.

Prerequisites: PSY201H5/equivalent, 210H5, 270H5

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you should be able to:

- Describe influential theoretical approaches and historical debates concerning how we acquire knowledge
- Understand the qualitative and quantitative changes across various cognitive domains
- Apply what you know about qualitative and quantitative changes that occur broadly to the development of individual children
- Apply research findings to real-world applications
- Collaborate creatively with classmates
- Effectively communicate your knowledge using written work

Reading Material

Required: All required readings will be posted on Quercus each week

Course Evaluation

Individual work			Group work		
Topic summaries	See Quercus for ongoing due dates	2 x 6% = 12%	Brainstorming draft	May 17	3%
Midterm test	May 26 120 minutes	25%	Product updates	Ongoing	12%
Final exam	TBA: June 22-24 120 minutes	25%	Participation	Ongoing	3%
			Dragon's playpen pitch	June 16	20%

Test and Exam

The midterm test and final exam will be held in person. The exam will be held during the exam period, as set by the registrar. The test and exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The exam is not cumulative so will only cover material from after the midterm.

Assignments

Throughout the term you will work individually and as part of a team toward one final project and presentation. Each group will choose a toy, tv show, book or children's event (the "product") to analyse with respect to an individual hypothetical child. Child profiles will be posted on Quercus and you will be able to sign up for a group based on the target child that interests you. You will work individually to write a summary that applies the lecture topics to your target child. **Each group member will be expected to write 2 summaries this term. Each summary is worth 6% each for a total of 12% of your final grade.**

You will work as a group to use the information from individuals to improve your product and create a presentation to pitch your product to the class (Dragon's Den style). Grades for this project will be based on your final presentation, how well your product is suited to your target child, and the group contributions to the product updates. **Detailed information about this assignment is available on Quercus.**

Course Webpage

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

Note: You don't need to create a new login for Canvas; 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 Canvas. If you have any general questions regarding Canvas, please visit the following help site:
<https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/faculty/canvas>

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES **PLEASE READ**

Email

The easiest way to get in touch with me outside of class time is email. Please include the course number (PSY312) in the subject line in all your emails about the course. **Please avoid sending me messages directly from Quercus/Canvas.** These messages always end up in my "other" folder so I may not get to them quickly.

Make sure you check your notification settings in Quercus to ensure you will receive email and announcement notifications

Requests for Re-grading

Any requests to re-grade tests or experiment reports should be made in a timely fashion. Requests to re-grade term tests must be made before the next scheduled test or exam. Requests to re-grade experiment reports must be made within 2 weeks of the return of the graded report. **Please direct all requests for re-grading directly to the TA who marked your work.** If you are dissatisfied after meeting with the TA you may submit your work to the instructor. Keep in mind that if you submit your work to be re-graded, your grade could go up or down. This policy applies to work submitted to the instructor or the TAs.

Missed Test Special Consideration Request Process

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>.

Important note: Once the test/exam is available online and you're unable to write or have an approved request to miss, **DO NOT** at any point attempt to access the test/exam. If at any time you access the test/exam, you will **NOT** be able to submit a special consideration and/or your request will be refused.

If your request is approved by the department, a make-up test will be offered. You will receive an email when a make-up date has been arranged. The department will try to give 2-3 days notice of make-up date, however this is sometimes is not possible. **Be prepared for the make-up.**

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.

Supporting Documentation

The University is temporarily suspending the need for a doctor's note or medical certificate for any absence from academic participation. However, you are required to use the Absence Declaration tool on ACORN found in the Profile and Settings menu to formally declare an absence from academic participation. The tool is to be used if you require consideration for missed academic work based on the procedures specific to our campus/department.

Missed Final Exam or Extension of Time beyond exam period

Missed final exams or 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> and follow their procedures.

Penalties for Lateness

A penalty of 5% per calendar day (i.e., including weekends 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

The University provides academic accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code. This occurs through a collaborative process that acknowledges a collective obligation to develop an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic requirements of the University's courses and programs. 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/>

Privacy and Copyright Disclaimer

Notice of video recording and sharing (Download permissible; re-use prohibited) if applicable

This course, including your participation, will be recorded on video and will be available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after each session. Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other source depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. In this course, you are permitted to download session videos and materials for your own academic use, but you should not copy, share, or use them for any other purpose without the explicit permission of the instructor. For questions about recording and use of videos in which you appear please contact your instructor.

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Copyright Act, RSC 1985, c C-42. Course materials such as PowerPoint slides and lecture recordings are made available to you for your own study purposes. These materials cannot be shared outside of the class or "published" in any way. Posting recordings or slides to other websites without the express permission of the instructor will constitute copyright infringement.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto Mississauga is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, UTM treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters outlines behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the process for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

1. Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
2. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
3. Making up sources or facts.
4. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

1. Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
2. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
3. Misrepresenting your identity.

In academic work:

1. Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
2. Falsifying or altering any documentation required, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

With regard to remote learning and online courses, UTM wishes to remind students that they are expected to adhere to **the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters** regardless of the course delivery method. By offering students the opportunity to learn remotely, UTM expects that students will maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting. Potential academic offences in a digital context include, but are not limited to:

Remote assessments:

1. Accessing unauthorized resources (search engines, chat rooms, Reddit, etc.) for assessments.
2. Using technological aids (e.g. software) beyond what is listed as permitted in an assessment.
3. Posting test, essay, or exam questions to message boards or social media.
4. Creating, accessing, and sharing assessment questions and answers in virtual "course groups."
5. Working collaboratively, in-person or online, with others on assessments that are expected to be completed individually.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

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 more than 25% 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.

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.

Course Outline

All assignments are due at 11:59 pm on Quercus, unless stated otherwise on the course outline below.

Date	Topic	Assignment
May 10	Introduction and themes	
May 12	Historical and theoretical frameworks	
May 17	The developing brain and cognitive neuroscience	Brainstorming draft due May 17 (group)
May 19	Perception	1. Topic summary due May 19 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due May 20 (group)
May 24	Memory	1. Topic summary due May 24 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due May 25 (group)
May 26	Midterm test	In-person test from 12 pm – 2 pm in IB250
May 31	Language	1. Topic summary due May 31 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due June 1 (group)
June 2	Social cognition	1. Topic summary due June 2 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due June 3 (group)
June 7	Knowledge	1. Topic summary due June 7 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due June 8 (group)
June 9	Academic skills	1. Topic summary due June 9 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due June 10 (group)
June 14	Reasoning and executive function	1. Topic summary due June 14 @ 3pm (individual) 2. Product update due June 15 (group)
June 16	Pitch Day	Dragon's playpen pitches to be given during lecture and practical as needed