

PSY210H5F Introduction to Developmental Psychology

Delivery Method: **IN-PERSON**

Schedule: **TUESDAY 3:00pm – 6:00pm**

Room Location: **DV2074 (Davis Building)**

Contact Information

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Office hours: On Tuesdays between 1:00-3:00PM or
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Email policy: Please reach out to me to get an appointment for the office hours at least 1 day before. Please include the course code in the subject line. You can expect a response within 48 hours.

Course Description

The course is intended to provide a survey of contemporary issues in developmental theory and research relevant to the study of development, in general, and child development in particular. Topics will include theories of development, biology and development, social, emotional, cognitive and language development, family, and attachment.

Reading Material

Siegler, R., Saffran, J. R., Graham, S., Gershoff, E., & Eisenberg, N. (2020). *How Children Develop: Canadian Sixth Edition*. New York: Worth Publishers.*

*This is the suggested textbook for this course. Students will not be responsible from the content of the textbook that was not covered in class. However, the textbook will complement and exemplify the topics discussed during the class, therefore students are, welcome to use information from the textbook to support their understanding of the course topics and prepare for the class discussions.

There will be complementary videos shared with the lecture slides. Please come to the class having watched these videos.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Describe and integrate major theoretical approaches to understanding child development
- Explain the various methods used to investigate developmental changes from before birth to the end of preschool years
- Link environmental and behavioural characteristics to their developmental significance
- Communicate clearly and concisely in written format
- Connect foundational principles of development to modern-day, real-world applications

Course Evaluation

1) Midterm: 25% (October 25th)

The midterm will cover the material discussed in lectures and in the assigned videos until the midterm date. The midterm will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, definition, short-answer, and /or essay questions.

2) Final Exam: 35% (TBA)

The final exam will cover the material discussed in lecture and in the assigned videos after the midterm exam. The exam will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, definition, short-answer questions and /or essay questions. The final exam will be during exams period (date TBA).

3) Group paper: 20% (December 1st)

Myth busters: Myth or not?

As a group you will select a common 'knowledge' that is assumed to be true in the development of children and you will discuss this in empirical terms.

e.g., 'If I let my child listen Mozart, he will be smarter'

'If you use punitive discipline, your child might become a criminal'

'Children raised in orphanages will have an emotional and/or cognitive problem'

'Watching educational cartoons on TV increase the verbal skills'

You should discuss:

-The theoretical background of this 'knowledge'

-Whether or not it is supported by empirical research

You may also be interested in discussing (if/when applicable):

-Whether or not it would be applicable to different populations (e.g., different cultures, different age groups, different genders etc.)

Groups shall be consisted of 5-6 individuals in total. Each individual shall contribute to the group paper equally (*and will receive a contribution grade from other group members in the end of the semester*).

Each group member shall find at least one empirical paper to contribute to the group project. Groups shall run their ideas with the instructor before working further on their idea. The students who have not selected their groups by the deadline will be assigned to groups by the instructor.

Deadlines:

September 27 (by 5PM) – Informing the instructor about your group

October 18 (by 5PM) – Informing the instructor about your group topic

December 1 (by Midnight) – Submitting the final group paper

The paper shall be written in the APA format

(https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/asc/sites/files/asc/public/shared/pdf/tip_sheets_writing/APA_6ed_StyleGuide.pdf). (up to 3 points will be deducted based on APA style mistakes).

Title page and references should be included in the paper (no abstract necessary). The papers can be max 3 pages (excluding the title page and references).

This paper aims to increase your capacities to:

- Work in teams
- Work individually
- Screen the literature for empirical articles
- Summarize and write your and other people's ideas coherently

Plagiarism is strictly prohibited (please see the Academic Honesty and Plagiarism section below) and any projects that have plagiarism detected will receive zero points from the assignment. Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool 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 tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

4) In-Class Participation, Attendance, and Quizzes: 20%

The students will receive participation and attendance grades. The participation grade will include student contribution to class discussion and in-class activities. Attendance will be graded at random weeks. There will also be announced quizzes and there might be unannounced quizzes. Quizzes will be about the lecture content or about the content of the video shared for that lecture. For each student the grade of the quiz that the student received the lowest mark will be dropped.

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 Quercus; 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 Quercus. If you have any general questions regarding Quercus, please visit the [help site](#).

Student Tech Requirements and Connection Tools

- [Recommended tech requirements for online learning](#)
- [UTM Library Learn Anywhere resource website](#)

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: If you sit down and receive a test, you will **NOT** be able to receive special consideration. 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 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](#) and follow their procedures.

Penalties for Lateness

A penalty of 10% 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](#).

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.

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

Please note that this outline is subject to change depending on the needs of the class (we may need additional time to cover a topic). Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class one week before. However, the assignment and test dates are fixed.

Date	Topic	Suggested Readings*
September 13	Introduction to Developmental Psychology Prenatal Development and the Newborn Period	Chapter 1 (pp. 1-7; 10-33) Chapter 2
September 20	Physical Development in Infancy (Brain and Perception)	Chapter 3 (pp. 96-105) Chapter 5 (pp. 158-182)
September 27	Cognitive Development: Theories DEADLINE: Today is the last day of informing me about your group (by 5pm)	Chapter 5 (pp., 183-190) Chapter 4 (pp. 117-120)
October 4	Cognitive Development: Language Acquisition and Conceptual Development	Chapter 6 (pp.,194-224) Chapter 7 (pp., 232-247)
October 11 – 14	Reading Week (No classes)	
October 18	Cognitive Development: Language Acquisition and Conceptual Development (Continued) DEADLINE: Today is the last day of informing me about your group topic (by 5pm)	Chapter 6 (pp.,194-224) Chapter 7 (pp., 232-247)
October 25	MIDTERM	
November 1	Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood: Theories	Chapter 4
November 8	Social Development: Theories	Chapter 9 (pp. 312–337)
November 15	Emotional Development: Emotions and Temperament	Chapter 10 (pp.,348-375)
November 22	Attachment	Chapter 11 (pp., 385-398)
November 29	Development of Self, Gender, and Moral Development DEADLINE: December 1 (Midnight) – Submitting the final group paper	Chapter 11 (pp., 398-402) Chapter 15 (pp., 542-547) Chapter 14 (pp., 486- 518)
December 6	Moral Development (cont.) The Family & Parenting	Chapter 14 (pp., 486- 518) Chapter 12 (pp. 430-441)
December 9 – 20	Exam Period	

*The readings are suggested but the videos that are shared along with the lecture slides are mandatory.

Please ensure that you watch these videos before coming to class.

Please see the “PSY210H5F_Textbook sections” document for the assigned sections on online textbook.

Final Exam: It is the student’s responsibility to be available for the entire exam period.