

Department of Psychology  
Michigan State University  
Psychology 244, Section 002H  
Developmental Psychology: Infancy Through Childhood

Fall, 2019

***Class Meeting Times:*** Tuesdays, Thursdays, 3:00 – 4:20 p.m.

***Place:*** 120 Psychology Building

***Instructor:*** Lauren J. Harris

***Office:*** 217 Psychology Building

***Office Hours:*** Tuesdays, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1:00 -3:00 p.m. You also are welcome to come by at other times. If I'm in the office and free, I'll be glad to talk with you.

***Telephone:*** (517) 353-0792

***e-mail:*** [HarrisL@msu.edu](mailto:HarrisL@msu.edu)

#### ***Attendance Policy***

Classes begin promptly at 3:00 and end at 4:20. I urge you to attend regularly. Every topic scheduled for presentation spans more than a single lecture, with one lecture building on the next. To best understand the material, it is best to attend every one. These include those for the first three lectures on Topics I – IV because they are designed to frame the rest of the course.

#### ***Arriving late or leaving early***

If you are late for class, please enter from the back of the classroom and then look for a seat in the back and near (or if possible at) the end of the row. That way, you won't have to walk in front of other students, which can be very distracting to them and to me.

If, for some special reason, you have to leave early, please tell me ahead of time. Then, find a seat toward the back of the classroom and near (or if possible at) the end of the row. That way, again, you won't have to walk in front of other students.

#### ***Questions, Comments, and Discussion***

During lectures, I want to allow for questions and discussion. For those students who wish, I also will remain after class for at least 20 minutes.

#### ***Food, Drink, Electronic Devices***

During class, feel free to drink the (non-alcoholic) beverage of your choice, but no food, please. If you bring a cellphone to class, please turn it off so there will be no disruptions or distractions for you or for anyone else. The same goes for iPods, iPads, laptops, and other electronic communication devices. Before class, if you have calls to make or text messages to send, please do so before entering the classroom.

#### ***Required for Purchase***

### ***1. Text***

Ross D. Parke & Mary Gauvain, *Child Psychology: A Contemporary Viewpoint*. Available at area bookstores (*College Book Store, International Center Book Store, Student Book Store*)

### ***2. Lecture Outlines and Guided Notes***

On sale at *Collegeville Textbook Company*, 321 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing (517-922-0013). This is a set of outlines and, in some cases, supplementary guided notes for the class lectures. Most of the pages have ample space for you to add your own notes from lectures as well as from the text. The outlines and notes will be available for sale by August 29 and will cost \$21.00. Included in the cost are outlines and notes for Topics I-IV for the first week of class, which will be distributed in class on the first day, Thursday, August 29.

## ***Basis for Evaluation***

### **1. Examinations**

**Number:** There will be two examinations, a midterm on Tuesday, October 22, at the regularly-scheduled time, and a final on Wednesday, December 11, from 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. For the final, note the earlier starting time and the extended time. Both examinations will be in our classroom, Room 120 Psychology.

**Content and Format:** Each examination will cover material (lectures and textbook assignments) for only that part of the course. For the final, however, you also will be responsible for all general concepts, principles, and definitions covered to that point, since they will continue to be relevant. Each examination will consist of 70-75 multiple-choice and true-false questions along with a take-home question. For the midterm exam, the take-home question will be sent to you by e-mail 2 weeks before the in-class exam; your answer must be turned in on the day of the examination. For the final exam, the take-home question again will be sent to you two weeks before the in-class exam; your answer, however, must be turned in on the last day of class. Each exam will count 37.5% toward your final grade. I haven't yet decided on the point totals for the take-home questions, but each probably will be 7 to 8 points.

**Study Guide.** About three weeks before each examination, a Study Guide will be sent to you it as an attachment to an e-mail (it also will be posted on D2L). It will include short-answer questions, each of which can be made into a multiple-choice or true-false question. If you can answer them, you will be well-prepared for the examination itself, which will consist of questions drawn from this set. Examples of multiple-choice and true-false questions will be provided. The Guide will be in a Word document to let you adjust the spacing. That way, you can print it after typing your answers in as much detail as you wish directly into your computer, or you can print it first and then write your answers in longhand. If you type your answers, be sure

to copy the Guide onto your hard drive once you begin working on it, and be sure to make a back-up copy.

**Note:** after answering the questions on the Guide, you may bring a printed copy to the examination to use in any way you see fit, but you may bring *only* the printed copy, with your typed or hand-written answers; that is, you may not open and use the version in your computer.

**Reviewing Exam Results.** After reviewing the scores from the Test Scoring Office, I will instruct the Office to send you your scores, which will list your answers to each question. If you wish, you may go over your results during my office hours or the teaching assistants' office hours or at other times by appointment. Teaching assistants will have a copy of the test booklet but not *your* test booklet or Scantron form (those will be kept in my office), so be sure to bring your score sheet with you to use in reviewing your results.

**Make-up Examinations:** The *only* acceptable reasons for not taking either examination at the regularly-scheduled time are illness, observance of a religious holiday, a family emergency, or a test schedule conflict (the last applies only for the final examination). You must have a valid excuse to be eligible for a make-up examination. Make-up examinations will be administered at a time to be arranged. Please note: vacations or family trips do *not* qualify, so if you are planning such a trip at any time, before making your travel plans, make sure they do *not* conflict with the dates scheduled for the examinations, and if they include reservations made by someone on your behalf, make sure that person *knows* and *abides* by your schedule.

## 2. Term Paper

There is a term paper for this class, which counts 25% toward your final grade. Its goal is to help you 'connect' with the material in class in a personal way by having you interview your parents or other sources to find out what you were like as an infant and child and then to write a report in the form of an autobiographical essay. A description of the assignment will be sent to you as an e-mail attachment and posted on D2L. As will be explained there, the paper will not be evaluated in the usual way. That is, it will not be based on *what* you report but, rather, on my impression that you took the assignment seriously, made a good-faith effort to find and interview sources, covered the required number of topics (you will have your choice from those listed) and at least some of the questions for each of those you choose, followed the instructions by presenting the information in a narrative form and in the format required, and did a good job proof-reading the paper before turning it in. If you do all that, you should receive full credit.

**Due date:** The paper is due on November 21, and must be turned in *at the end of class*. Papers will not be accepted at the beginning of class or if sent electronically.

### ***Point Distribution for Determination of Final Grade***

Midterm Examination: 37.5 percent

Final Examination: 37.5 percent  
 Term Paper: 25.0 percent

Determination of final grades will be based on a distribution of the percentage of total possible points on the examinations. Final grades will be based on the following distribution:

90-100 percent: 4.0  
 85-89.9 percent: 3.5  
 80-84.9 percent: 3.0  
 75-79.9 percent: 2.5  
 70-74.9 percent: 2.0  
 65-69.9 percent: 1.5  
 60-64.9 percent: 1.0  
 < 60 percent: 0.0

#### **How the calculations will be made**

If, for example, the total point values for the midterm and final exams (combining Scantron and take-home questions) are 80 and 82, respectively, where each exam is worth 37.5%, and your combined scores on the exams are 63 and 69 and you score 100% on the term paper, your final point total will be 86.08, corresponding to a grade of 3.5 on the scale. The figures below show how the calculations will be made.

**Midterm:**  $63/80 = 78.75\%$        $\times .375 = 29.53$

*plus*  
**Final:**     $69/82 = 84.15\%$        $\times .375 = 31.55$

*plus*  
**Paper:**  $100/100 = 100\%$        $\times .25 = 25.00$

Total      = 86.08 (grade = 3.5)

#### ***Academic Integrity***

All instructors in the Department of Psychology are urged to include in their course syllabi

the following material from the web site of the University Ombudsman (and supplemented in some places by Professor Emeritus James Zacks). The material is related to Academic Integrity.

### ***1. Academic Honesty***

Students and faculty alike are responsible for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards. In addition, the Department of Psychology adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, *Protection of Scholarship and Grades*; the all-University Policy of *Integrity of Scholarship and Grades*; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations (see *Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide* <http://www/vps.msu.edu/SpLife/index.htm>) and/or the MSU Web site: <http://www.msu.edu>).

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are not authorized to use the [www.allmsu.com](http://www.allmsu.com) Web site to complete any coursework in the class. Students who violate MSU rules may receive a penalty grade, including but not limited to a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Students who have any questions about whether any particular activity is permitted in carrying out the work for this class are urged to see the web site prepared by the University Ombudsman at <http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/>, especially the section on Academic Honesty. The Ombudsman has specific information about the kinds of actions that are or are not acceptable. Students also are urged to ask the instructor about the appropriateness of any practice when in doubt.

### ***2. Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.***

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at [rcpd.msu.edu](http://rcpd.msu.edu). Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or *two weeks prior to the accommodation date* (for our class, the dates would pertain to one or both of the scheduled examinations). Requests received without sufficient lead time will not be honored.

If you require testing accommodations (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.), you must contact me and present your VISA *at least two weeks before the examination date* to schedule an alternative exam. Typically, I will arrange for you to take the exam during a special examination session offered by the Psychology Department. These occur in small group settings and are offered every Monday or Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. in Giltner Hall, Room 346. You will need to show up at Giltner at the appointed time and to bring your ID. If you are unable to make either of those times, or that option does not meet your VISA accommodations, you may be able to schedule to take your exam at the RCPD office. In either case, the exam must be scheduled well in advance, so you need to adhere to the two-week prior notification requirement.

### ***3. Drops and Adds***

The online open add period ends at 8 p.m., September 4. The last day to drop this class with a refund is 8 p.m., September 23. The last day to drop with no refund and no grade reported is 8 p.m., October 16. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify that you have added or dropped this course.

#### ***4. Observing a Major Religious Holiday***

Students may make up course work missed to observe a major religious holiday only if they make arrangements in advance with the instructor.

#### ***5. Participation in a Required Activity***

To make up course work missed in order to participate in a required activity for another course or a university-sanctioned event, students must provide the instructor with adequate advanced notice and a written authorization from the faculty member of the other course or from a university administrator.

#### ***6. Commercialized Lecture Notes***

Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

#### ***7. Attendance***

Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend.

#### ***8. Disruptive Behavior***

Article 2.3.5 of the *Academic Freedom Report* (AFR) (<http://www.vps.msu.edu/SpLife/acfree.htm>) for students at Michigan State University states that "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.3.10 of the AFR states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility." *General Student Regulation 5.02* states that "no student shall...interfere with the functions and services of the University such that the n or service is obstructed or disrupted." Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary Process.

### **Lecture Topics, Textbook Reading Assignments, and Examination Dates**

**Note:** lectures are scheduled for only 13 of the 15 topics listed in this syllabus. Textbook readings are assigned for all topics. Topics will be covered in the order shown below, but the

dates assigned to each topic may vary, depending on the pace of lectures. What is certain are the dates of the midterm and final examinations as well as the topics to be covered in each examination. For certain topics, brief videos will be shown. The URLs are listed in the “video” version of this syllabus, which will be sent to you as an e-mail attachment, so that, if you wish, you can watch them again after class. The “video” version also will include URLs for other videos for you to watch as you wish.

**Important Dates:** See the last page of the syllabus for a list of important dates.

## AUGUST

- 29 Thurs.      I.      Introduction; overview of course, tests, writing assignment, and other requirements  
*Text: Preface (pp. xvii - xxx), Epilogue (pp. 579-581)*
- II.      History of the Study of Development  
*Text: Chapter 1*

## SEPTEMBER

- 3 Tues.          III.      Theoretical Perspectives, Themes, Questions, and Issues
- IV.      Research Methods and Design  
*Text: Chapter 1*
- 5 Thurs.        I-IV     Introduction, History, Theoretical Perspectives, and Research Methods and Designs, continued
- V.      Conception, Prenatal Development, Prenatal Influences; Heredity and the Environment (no lecture scheduled on this topic; instead, do the assigned reading for background; some of the material then will be presented as it becomes relevant to other topics in the course)  
*Text: Chapters 2-3*
- VI.      Development of the Brain and Nervous System: General Principles (no lecture scheduled on this topic; instead, do the assigned reading for background; some of the material will be presented as it becomes relevant to other topics in the course, beginning with Topics VI (Sensory and Perceptual Development) and VII (Physical Development)  
*Text: Chapter 5 (pp. 142-143; 146-152; also see Summary, p. 175)*  
*Guided Notes (pp.27-45).*
- 10 Tues.        VII.      Development of Sensory and Perceptual Skills C Vision, Audition

- 12 Thurs. VII. Development of Sensory and Perceptual Skills, cont.
- 17 Tues. VII. Development of Sensory and Perceptual Skills, cont.
- 19 Thurs. VIII. Physical Growth and Maturation  
*Text: Chapter 5 (Turning Points, pp. 144-145; text, pp. 158-174; also see Summary, pp. 175-177)*
- 24 Tues. VIII. Physical Growth and Maturation, cont.
- 26 Thurs. IX. Motor Development  
*Text: Chapter 5 (Turning Points, pp. 144-145; text, pp. 152-157; also Fig. 5-10, p. 158)*

*Note: Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown, Monday, Sept. 30, and ends at sundown on Tuesday, October 1, so it will overlap with our class. For students who observe the holiday, please let me know in advance so that, if you like, we can schedule a make-up lecture.*

## OCTOBER

- 1 Tues. IX. Motor Development, cont.
- 3 Thurs. IX. Motor Development, cont.
- 8 Tues. IX. Social-Emotional Development and the Origins of Social Attachment  
*Text: Chapter 6; Chapters 11-12*

*Note: Yom Kippur begins at sundown, Tuesday, October 8, and ends at sundown on Wednesday, October 9, so it will not overlap with our class. For students who observe the holiday and who plan to leave town prior to class on Tuesday, please let me know in advance so that, if you like, we can schedule a make-up lecture.*

- 10 Thurs. X. Social-Emotional Development, cont.
- 15 Tues. X. Social-Emotional Development, cont.
- 17 Thurs. X. Social-Emotional Development, cont.



22 Tues. **Midterm Examination** on all lectures and reading assignments for Topics I-X except for material on autism, which will be the topic of the first lecture after the examination.

**Take-Home Question:** turn in with Scantron form.

24 Thurs. X. Social-Emotional Development, cont.: The origins and treatment of autism

29 Tues. XI. Language and Communication  
*Text: Chapter 7; also read Chapter 8 (pp. 305-306) on role of language in Vygotsky=s socio-cultural approach to the study of cognitive development*

31 Thurs. XI. Language and Communication, cont.

## NOVEMBER

5 Tues. XI. Language and Communication, cont.

7 Thurs. XII. Language and Communication, cont.

12 Tues. XII. Cognitive Development.  
*Text: Chapters 8-9. Also re-read Chapter 4 (pp. 135-137) on memory in infants*

14 Thurs. XII. Cognitive Development, cont.

19 Tues. XII. Cognitive Development, cont.

21 Thurs. XIII. Intelligence and Intelligence-Testing (depending on time, there may not be a separate lecture on this topic)  
*Text: Chapter 10; re-read Chapter 2 on Heredity-Environment Interactions (pp. 55-60) and on Heredity, Environment, and Individual Differences (pp. 60-67)*

**Term Paper: turn in at end of class**

26 Tues. XIV. Sexual Differentiation and the Development of Psychological Sex-Related Differences  
*Text: Chapter 13. Also read Chapter 2 (pp. 42-43, 50-51); Chapter 5 (pp. 170 - 174; also see Fig. 5-2, p. 143); Chapter 6 (p. 186), Chapter 12 (pp. 441-442, 449-450)*

28 Thurs. Thanksgiving Holiday

**DECEMBER**

3 Tues. XIV. Sexual Differentiation and the Development of Psychological Sex-Related Differences, continued

5 Thurs. XIV. Sexual Differentiation and the Development of Psychological Sex-Related Differences, continued

XV. Morality, Altruism, and Aggression (**no lecture scheduled on this topic, but some of the material will be incorporated into Topics XII, XIII, and XV.**  
*Text: Chapter 14*)

**Take-Home question for Final Exam: turn in at end of class**

11 Wed. **Final Exam: 10:00 – 12:00 p.m. Note earlier starting time and extended time**

The final examination covers all lectures and textbook readings assigned on Topics XI-XV only, but you will continue to be responsible for *general* concepts, principles, and definitions covered to date. The exam will be in our classroom.

### **Use of Social Media Derived from the Classroom**

In 2014, the Steering Committee of the Michigan State University Academic Governance charged an Ad Hoc Committee to examine Social Media and Pedagogy: Rights and Responsibility to survey best practices across the university and to offer suggestions for

addressing a variety of interests as well as the means to engage social media in a civil and collaborative fashion. The Ad Hoc Committee prepared a report that included proposed language regarding the use of social media in the classroom. The Steering Committee has recommended that instructors incorporate the language into class syllabi. The following is the language proposed:

As members of a learning community, students are expected to respect the intellectual property of course instructors. All course materials presented to students are the copyrighted property of the course instructor and are subject to the following conditions of use:

1. Students may record lectures but may use the recordings only for their own course-related purposes.
2. Students may share the recordings with other students enrolled in the class, but those students, likewise, may use the recordings only for their own course-related purposes.
3. Students may *not* post the recordings or any other course materials online or distribute them to anyone not enrolled in the class without the advance written permission of the course instructor and, if applicable, without the advance written permission of any students whose voices are included in the recordings.
4. Any student violating the conditions described above may face academic disciplinary sanctions.

### **Important Dates**

**September 4, Wednesday, 8 p.m.**

**Last day of open add period**

**September 23, Monday, 8 p.m.**

**Last day to drop class with refund**

**October 16, Wednesday, 8 p.m.**

**Last day to drop class with no refund and no grade reported**

**October 22, Tuesday**

**Midterm Exam**

**Take-Home Question: turn in with Scantron on test day**

**November 21, Thursday**

**Term Paper: turn in at end of class**

**December 5, Thursday**

**Take-Home Question for Final Exam: turn in at end of class**

**December 11, Wednesday, 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.**

**Final Exam (in 120 Psychology)**