

DEVELOPMENTAL BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE
PsychH362 Spring 2020
KINSC Sharpless 416

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Office Hours: Thursdays 10:30am-12:00pm or by appointment

Required Readings:

- [M.S. Blumberg, J.H. Freeman, Jr., and S.R. Robinson \(Eds\). Oxford Handbook of Developmental Behavioral Neuroscience. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010](#)

Prerequisite course (any of the following or instructor consent):

HC Psych 217, BMC Psych 218 or HC Psych 260

Course Overview

Developmental Behavioral Neuroscience is a broadly defined branch of psychology that seeks to understand how individuals develop behaviorally, both from a biological and comparative perspective. With the utilization of both human subjects and non-human organisms, this field has generated a foundation on which our understanding of human and animal behavior has grown. In this course we will:

- Survey a variety of topics across developmental behavioral neuroscience, including the development of sensory, motor, motivational, and cognitive processes; the mother-infant interaction; behavioral regulation of physiological processes; and social-emotional development.
- Understand the biological and neural basis of the development of these processes and phenomena accomplished through assigned readings, seminar participation/presentations, and a term paper.
- Develop skills in analytical thinking, verbal and written expression, and scholarship

Course Grading

A = 95-100.0%
A- = 90-94.9%
B+ = 87-89.9
B = 83-86.9%
B- = 80-82.9%

C+ = 77-79.9
C = 73-76.9%
C- = 70-72.9%
D+ = 68-69.9%
D = 65-67.9%

Seminar Presentations 50%: 10% per presentation

Students will facilitate class discussion by curating relevant points and topics from the textbook chapters/journal articles and presenting them to the class. Four presentations will be done in groups and a fifth presentation will be done individually. Presentations should be a

guided summary of the main points from the texts augmented by comments and questions pulled from weekly discussion questions.

Term Paper Outline 10%

Students are required to write a critical review of a topic covered in the course and, prior to submitting the manuscript, turn in a proposed outline of the paper and its topic. This outline should include a list of the primary sources as well as a general frame for the paper itself. Students should schedule to meet with me prior to the outline due date to discuss potential topics.

Final Term Paper 15%

Students will write a critical review of one of their seminar presentation topics in term paper format (~ 7-10 pp, double spaced including figures and references). A rubric will be providing detailing expectations for both the outline and final document.

Discussion Questions 15%

Prior to each class, students will submit a discussion question about the chapter for that week. Questions should be thoughtful and extend beyond what can be gleaned from the text. Ideas and comments can also be posted and offered as discussion topics. Questions must be submitted on the Tuesday prior to class so that groups presenting for that week can address the posts during their presentation.

Seminar Participation 10%

It is imperative that students demonstrate their understanding of the material through regular discussion participation. To objectively measure this, tallies of student participation will be recorded during class. Asking or answering questions, commenting on topics or offering insight into other's inquiries all contribute to a student's score.

Mini-Reviews up to 3%: 1% per mini-review

Students are encouraged to explore additional readings from primary sources and can submit a summary of any course topic for 1% additional course credit. Reports should be submitted in the form of a 1-page (max) mini-review of three empirical, peer-reviewed articles with one additional review-type article as a reference. Students may submit up to three mini-reviews for credit.

Course Policies

Missed Assignments: There are opportunities to accrue extra course points and as such no late assignments will be accepted unless with an excuse note from the dean.

Absences: Class attendance and participation is "optional" although a portion of your course grade will come directly from in-class assignments.

Academic Dishonesty: Please refer to the University policy on cheating and academic dishonesty through the [Honor Code](#)

Presentation Sign-up and schedule

Date	Additional Readings and Assignments	Chapter	Presenter(s)	Chapter	Presenter(s)
23-Jan		Syllabus Review, Chapter 1 Dr. PRD			
30-Jan		CH 2	Paul/Rachel		
6-Feb		CH 3	Marite, Karlie, Snoza	CH 24	Aditi, Katherine
13-Feb		CH 4	Andrew, Zoe, Aaron	Ch 5	Paul/Rachel
20-Feb	Mini-Review Due	CH 7	Aditi, Katherine	CH 8	Marite, Karlie, Snoza
27-Feb		CH 9	Andrew, Zoe, Aaron	CH 13	Paul/Rachel
5-Mar		CH 14	Marite, Karlie, Snoza	CH 16	Aditi, Katherine
12-Mar		Paper outlines due before leave for Spring Break			
19-Mar		CH 17	Andrew, Zoe, Aaron	CH 18	Mari
26-Mar	Mini-Review Due	CH 19	Rebecca	CH20	Paul
2-Apr		CH 21	Rachel	CH 22	Katherine
9-Apr		CH 23	Aditi	CH 25	Snoza
16-Apr		CH 26	Karlie	CH 27	Marite
23-Apr		CH 28	Zoe	CH 29	Andrew
30-Apr	Mini-Review Due	CH 30	OPEN	CH 34	Aaron
7-May		Finals week-Term Papers Due			