

**YORK UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
PSYC 3520 3.0 – SECTION A
INFANCY
FALL 2015**

Prerequisites: AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C; AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 2110 3.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 3240 3.00.

Course credit exclusion: None.

Lecture: Thursday 2:30-5:30 Curtis Lecture Hall A

Course Director: Jean Varghese, Ph.D.

Office: 256 Behavioural Sciences Building

Office Hour: Thursdays 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

E-mail: jeanmv@yorku.ca

Course Website: moodle.yorku.ca

T.A.: Hilda Ho, MPH (for students with surnames beginning with A – La)

Office: 041 BSB

Office Hour: Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

E-mail: hildaho@yorku.ca

T.A.: Magali Segers, M.A. (for students with surnames beginning with Le – Z)

Office: 307 BSB

Office Hour: Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

E-mail: msegers@yorku.ca

Secretary: Agnes Levstik

Office: 281 Behavioural Sciences Building

Psychology Undergraduate Office: 292 Behavioural Sciences Building

Phone: 416-736-5117

Psychology Website: www.psych.yorku.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the physical, cognitive and social development of infants. We will consider the various contexts in which infants live and how these contexts influence development. Major theoretical frameworks, research methods, findings, issues and applications in the field will be discussed.

COURSE TEXTBOOK

Gross, D. (2011). *Infancy: Birth to Three Years (2nd edition)*. Toronto, ON: Pearson Education Canada Inc.

COURSE COMPONENTS

Midterm test – 35%

Term paper – 30%

Final Exam – 35% (Note: Students must be available during the official exam period of December 9 to December 23 to write the final exam)

❖ Test and Final Exam

The midterm test and final exam will consist of 60 multiple choice questions and 8 short answer questions. The test and final exam will be noncumulative and cover material from the lectures, assigned reading and class discussions.

❖ Term Paper

All students are required to complete a term paper. Instructions for the term paper will be handed out at the first lecture.

MISSED TESTS AND FINAL EXAMS

Make-up tests and exams will be allowed with appropriate documentation. Students who miss the test or final exam must contact **both T.A.s** by email within 48 hours of the original test or exam. If you cannot contact the T.A.s during this 48-hour period, subsequent documentation accounting for the delay **must** be provided. Tests/exams missed due to medical circumstances must be supported by an attending physician's statement (http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend_physician_statement.pdf) or a statement by a psychologist or counselor. The physician's statement **must** include the following:

- i. full name, mailing address, telephone number of the physician,
- ii. state the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered), and
- iii. an indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have **SERIOUSLY** affected the student's ability to study and perform over the period in question.

NOTE: the physician's office may be contacted to verify that the forms were completed by the physician.

Tests/exams missed due to non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/bus ticket/receipt for emergency travel (with date of booking on ticket), etc. Airline/train/bus ticket/receipts for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure, and return dates. **Having to work at the time of a test is not considered a valid excuse for missing the test.**

A conflict with another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up (unless there is an examination in the other course at that time for which you will be required to provide proof). You should be aware that if you miss the original test and make-up test which will be scheduled before the official drop date, you will not have the requisite 10% feedback on your course work to determine whether or not you need to drop the course. Therefore, it is in your best interest to write tests at the time that they are scheduled by the course director.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only extremely unusual circumstances would warrant a second chance at a make-up. Permission from the **course director** is required before a second make-up can be scheduled. If you are granted a second chance at a make-up test and do not write the test, **there will be absolutely no further opportunity to write the test.** The same rules apply for the final exam.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM/IMPERSONATION

The University does not look favorably on cheating of any kind and the penalties for doing so are very harsh. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism. You can find them listed on pages 6 – 7 of the *Undergraduate Psychology Supplemental Calendar*. Comprehensive information on academic integrity is available at <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>. The senate policies, procedures and regulations regarding academic honesty can be found at <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage -

http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents -> Student Information Sheet)

You will find information on the following:

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and Academic Integrity
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Religious observance accommodation

COURSE DROP DEADLINE

The last day to drop this course without receiving a grade is **Monday, November 9, 2015.**

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Please use your York email address when communicating with the course director and T.A.s as messages from other addresses may not always be received and it is **your** responsibility to ensure that we receive your messages. For example, if you email the T.A.s that you missed a test/exam and they do

not receive your message, you will not receive information about the make-up test/exam. If you miss the make-up test/exam for this reason, you will not receive another chance to write the make-up test/exam. Please follow appropriate email etiquette (indicate the course number and section in the subject field, include a formal greeting and sign with your full name).

COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	REQUIRED READING
Thursday, September 10	Chapter 1 – Beliefs About Babies: Historical Perspectives on Children and Childhood
Thursday, September 17	Chapter 2 – Research Methods
Thursday, September 24	Chapter 3 – Genetics, Conception and Prenatal Development
Thursday, October 1	Chapter 4 – Birth and the Newborn
Thursday, October 8	Chapter 5 – Physical Growth, Health and Nutrition
Thursday, October 15	Chapter 6 – Sensation, Perception and Motor Development
Thursday, October 22	Midterm Test (35%)
Thursday, October 29	Co-Curricular Day – No class
Thursday, November 5	Chapter 7 – Cognition, Learning and Intelligence
Monday, November 9	Last day to drop course without receiving a grade
Thursday, November 12	Chapter 8 – Language and Communication
Thursday, November 19	Chapter 9 – Relationships and Social Development
Thursday, November 26	Chapter 10 – Temperament, Emotions and the Self
Thursday, December 3	Chapter 12 – Babies of Today and Tomorrow: Music, Media and Computers Term paper due (30%)
Final Exam Period (December 9-23)	Final Exam (35%)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TERM PAPER

All students are required to complete a term paper. The purpose of this paper is to give you an opportunity to explore and learn more about an aspect of infant development. The paper will be a critical review of a popular press article about some aspect of infant development. The article must have been published **within the last year (September 2014 – December 2015)**. You may use newspaper articles, magazine articles, online articles, etc. It is recommended that you clear your article with the course director via email or in person before you begin your literature search.

Your critical review of the article must be based on current research from peer-reviewed literature. The paper should integrate and evaluate scholarly sources that may be obtained through library research. You must use at least 5 peer-reviewed journal articles for the paper (you can use more if you wish). In addition, you may use scholarly books. The majority of sources should be as current as possible, i.e. published within the last 5 years.

The paper should include:

- (a) a title page
- (b) an abstract
- (c) the body of paper
 - a basic introduction and description of the topic and press article
 - a brief description of your scholarly sources (purpose, methodology, findings) and how the findings relate to your topic
 - a reflection of unanswered questions and directions for future research
 - a conclusion to your exploration of the topic.
- (d) the reference section
- (e) a copy of the press article

The paper must be in APA (American Psychological Association) format. This format is found in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th Edition (2009). The manual is available at Scott Library, Scott Reference, Steacie Science and Engineering Library, Leslie Frost Library and the Osgoode Hall Law School Library. It is best to use the sample paper at the end of the manual as a guide, especially for the title page, abstract and how references appear both in the body of the paper and in the reference section. Further information on presenting references appears in specific chapters of the APA manual. As you are not conducting an empirical study, your paper will not include the “Method”, “Results” or “Discussion” sections. The paper should be **6-8 pages** (excluding title page, abstract and reference section). It should be double-spaced and typed. Secondary references should not be used – you should read the original articles and cite the original articles. Do not use direct quotes from sources unless absolutely necessary. Instead, paraphrase information taken from sources. All material from sources must be properly referenced according to APA guidelines.

Your paper will be marked on the following components: introduction of topic and article, use of at least 5 scholarly articles, description of scholarly articles, arguments supporting or refuting the press article based on research evidence, reflection of unanswered questions and possible directions for future research, conclusion, APA format, grammar, spelling and general form of writing.

There are links from the main “Libraries” webpage to resources, guides and tutorials to help you with your research and how to formulate a thesis. The main search engine that we use in Psychology is “Psycinfo”, but you are free to use articles from any of the search engines.

The term paper (hard copy) is due at the last lecture on December 3, 2015. In addition, you must submit your paper to Turnitin on Moodle (instructions will be posted on Moodle). **Papers will not be marked unless we receive both the hard copy and electronic copy.** The paper is worth 30 marks. There will be a late penalty of 3 marks (out of 30) per day for papers handed in after the due date. Late papers should be handed in to the course secretary (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), where they will be stamped with the date of receipt. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that your paper receives the date of receipt. Otherwise, the late penalty will continue to accumulate until the paper is received by the course director or T.A.s. Marked papers can be picked up from the secretary’s office by December 23, 2015.

GRADE CONVERSION TABLE

From Percentage	To Letter Grade
90-100	A+
80- 89	A
75- 79	B+
70- 74	B
65- 69	C+
60- 64	C
55- 59	D+
50- 54	D
(Marginally below 50%) Marginally failing	E
(Below 50%) Failing	F