INSTRUCTOR
Dr. Caitlin Fausey
Office: Franklin 207
Office Hours: Monday 1:30-3:30 PM
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TEACHING ASSISTANT
Ms. Elif Isbell
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Email: elif@uoregon.edu

COURSE OVERVIEW
How do we get so smart? How do we go from being babbling babies held in the arms of others to walking talking toddlers (and beyond)!? How do we learn to perceive the world around us and what to pay attention to? How do we learn to talk, remember the past, or predict the future? How do experiences in infancy and childhood matter for building knowledge? These are the questions we will attempt to answer as we survey the major topics in cognitive development.

COURSE MATERIALS
There will be no textbook in PSY 475. All readings and study guides will be provided electronically as PDF files on our Blackboard site.

INSTRUCTION PHILOSOPHY
This is not your first course in psychology and I expect that you look forward to delving deeper. You come to this course with more skills than you may realize -- you have learned about many psychological phenomena, you have tackled foundational psychology methods and statistics, and you may have worked in a psychology research lab. Even if not all of these are true of your particular experience, I can guarantee that you know more than you think you do.

If your goal is to successfully read a Cognitive Development textbook, you don't need me. If you want to understand how real discoveries about human development are made, then you do need me. Original research articles are your best way into understanding how scientists develop questions, go about testing hypotheses, and share discoveries with the world. Reading and discussing original research articles is a challenge that you are ready to tackle, with appropriate support. That is what I am here for, and that is what we'll work on throughout this course. Welcome.

LEARNING GOALS FOR THIS COURSE
You will develop many skills in this course. Your efforts will help you learn to:

(1) Identify major theories, research findings, and methodological approaches in cognitive development and apply research findings to human behavior in everyday life.

(2) Identify key research questions and hypotheses in primary scientific articles and critically evaluate the evidence presented.
EXPECTATIONS & GRADING
Your job is to come to class, do the readings, get involved in the material, work through study guides, and ask lots of questions. The class grades will be based on in-class quizzes, thought assignments, and a final exam.

Readings. Expect to dedicate considerable time outside of class to the readings -- it will be both demanding and rewarding. You are expected to complete the assigned readings before the class and to take an active role in the class. Material from the readings will be on quizzes and the final exam. You will also apply principles from the readings to thought assignments.

Quizzes. In-class quizzes will happen every other Wednesday (approximately; see syllabus). These quizzes are designed to help you use knowledge throughout the course. Each quiz will take no more than 30 minutes of our class time. Quizzes will cover material presented in lectures and in the readings. You can prepare for these quizzes by coming to class, doing the reading, and working through study guides that will be provided.

Students may drop one quiz grade, no questions asked. This could be because you missed class on a quiz day (and so you received a 0 score) or it could be the lowest quiz grade of your 4 quizzes. Because of this generous policy, make-up quizzes will only be offered in extraordinary circumstances with documented proof of medical or family emergency. If you happen to miss a quiz day, you will drop that quiz.

Thought assignments. You will complete two thought assignments that prompt you to integrate course material with current hot topics in education, business, public health, and/or the law. The goal of these thought assignments is to encourage you to relate what you are learning to other things you care about. For each assignment, you will be provided with a set of possible questions. Your task will be to act as a "Cognitive Development Consultant": you will pick one question, design an experiment that will provide an empirical answer to that question, and summarize your predictions. For each assignment, you will submit a one-page single-spaced report to Blackboard. The readings and lectures in this course will be very good preparation for these assignments and for your future success as a "Cognitive Development" consultant in your chosen profession. (Note: These assignments are referred to as "HW" -- for "Homework" -- on the syllabus. Due dates are October 15, 2014 5 PM and November 12, 2014 5 PM).

Final Exam. The final exam will cover material presented in lectures and in the readings. The final exam will be a cumulative exam covering the full quarter of material. According to the Final Exam Schedule from the Office of the Registrar, the final exam for this course will be given on Wednesday December 10, 2014 at 10:15 AM.

FINAL LETTER GRADE
Final letter grades will be assigned according to the table on the right. Plusses, not minuses, will be assigned.

"Percent" is calculated by a weighted average of the percent correct on all assignments, quizzes, and exams, adjusting for the percent that each counts toward your final grade. Decimals will be rounded to the nearest percent score.

Final letter grades will be weighted like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>grade</th>
<th>percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-96</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>80-86</td>
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<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>70-76</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;=59</td>
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"Percent" is calculated by a weighted average of the percent correct on all assignments, quizzes, and exams, adjusting for the percent that each counts toward your final grade. Decimals will be rounded to the nearest percent score.

In-class quizzes (best 3 of 4): 45% (each quiz = 15%)
Thought assignments: 30% (each HW = 15%)
Final exam: 25%
ACADEMIC HONESTY
The short version: Don't cheat. Don't plagiarize. If you are unsure, please ask me.

As a member of the university community you are expected to be honest and forthright in all of your academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one’s research, to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own, or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced.

All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented.

It is considered cheating if you obtain any kind of information about answers and solutions to the work in this course from any non-intended source (including your peers) or if you transfer such information to others. You may not use notes, readings, or other aids during PSY 475 quizzes or exams. You may study with other students in preparation for an exam, but your answers on a quiz or exam must be your own.

It is also considered cheating if you lie to Dr. Fausey or Ms. Isbell about an absence relating to an assignment, quiz, or exam.

Another form of academic misconduct is plagiarism, or using someone else’s ideas and words without appropriate citation on a written assignment. Do not copy from Wikipedia, other college students’ papers, scholarly articles, websites, and a host of other sources. In this course, all submitted work will be checked by SafeAssign. Do not attempt plagiarism because you will be caught. Plagiarism is academic misconduct and cases of plagiarism will be treated as such.

Please note that it is mandatory for instructors to report suspected academic misconduct to the Office of Student Conduct. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes published quarterly. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records.

For more information regarding academic honesty and the student conduct code at the University of Oregon, visit the University’s Office of Student Life website at: http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact UO Accessible Education Center.
FAQ

What if I miss a quiz or exam?
With the exception of extreme and unforeseen circumstances, contacting Dr. Fausey on the day of (or even worse, after) the quiz/exam will be considered an unexcused absence and will result in a 0 on the quiz/exam. If you have a scheduling conflict and cannot take a quiz or an exam at its appointed date and time, you must tell Dr. Fausey as soon as possible. Your best strategy is to take quizzes and exams on their scheduled date/time.

What if I turn in an assignment late?
If you submit an assignment after its due date, your grade on the assignment will be reduced by 50%. This is true whether you submit your assignment 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 days late. After 5 days, late work will no longer be accepted without some documented medical or family emergency. Your best strategy is to submit assignments on time.

Do you grade on a curve? Offer extra credit?
No, I do not grade on a curve. No, I do not offer extra credit except for what is stated below. Your best strategy is to focus your energy on doing your best on all of your work.

Optional: psychology research extra credit
You may choose only one of the following extra credit options. You may choose one or the other, but cannot get credit for both, nor for any combination of the two. Extra credit work is due by Monday December 1, 5 PM.

Extra Credit Option 1: Participate in Psychology Department research through the Psychology Department Human Subjects Pool. For each credit of participation assigned to Psych 475, you earn a 1% improvement to your final grade, for up to 3%. No more than 3% extra credit points are permitted. For more information, go to the HSP website at http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~hscoord and/or contact the human subjects coordinator, Bill, by email at hscoord@uoregon.edu.

Extra Credit Option 2: Find an empirical article relevant to the study of cognitive development in a major, peer-reviewed journal, summarize it, and evaluate its contribution to our understanding of cognitive development. You will earn up to 3% extra credit, depending on the quality of your critique. A terrific critique is approximately 3 double-spaced pages with concise summary and insightful comments based on your knowledge developed throughout this course. Please seek approval of your article from Ms. Isbell before beginning your critique. To receive the extra credit, you will need to hand in a copy of the article and the critique.

Do you take attendance?
No, I do not take attendance. I expect you to make responsible decisions about managing your time. Please note that this course uses no textbook and so the majority of your learning will come through class lectures and the opportunity to ask questions during class. Each lecture is designed with you in mind. Your best strategy is to show up and reap the benefits.

DISCLAIMER
This syllabus is an outline of the course and its policies, which may be changed for reasonable purposes during the quarter at the instructor's discretion. You will be notified in class and/or via email if any changes are made to this syllabus and an updated syllabus will be provided on Blackboard.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Quiz / HW</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>INTRODUCTION</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Sept 29</td>
<td>Developmental milestones</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>What is cognitive development?</td>
<td>Siegler et al.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>How to read an empirical paper</td>
<td>Smith &amp; Thelen, Roediger &amp; Gallo</td>
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<td><strong>MOVING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>Crawling, cruising, walking</td>
<td>Adolph et al.</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>SEEING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>Visual attention: social</td>
<td>Frank et al.</td>
<td>QUIZ #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Oct 15</td>
<td><em>Why moving matters for seeing</em></td>
<td>Kretch et al.</td>
<td>HW #1</td>
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<td><strong>TALKING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Oct 20</td>
<td>Role of the environment</td>
<td>Weisleder &amp; Fernald et al.</td>
<td>QUIZ #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>Sounds and words</td>
<td>Kuhl et al.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Oct 27</td>
<td>Meaning</td>
<td>Werker et al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Learning language</td>
<td>Baldwin et al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Nov 3</td>
<td><em>Why moving &amp; seeing matter for talking</em></td>
<td>Deák et al.</td>
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<td><strong>LEARNING, REMEMBERING, &amp; REASONING</strong></td>
<td>Smith et al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>Learning patterns: language</td>
<td>Yu &amp; Smith</td>
<td>QUIZ #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Nov 10</td>
<td>Learning patterns: vision &amp; action</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Nov 12</td>
<td>Learning categories</td>
<td>Saffran et al.</td>
<td>HW #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Nov 17</td>
<td>Attention, memory, &amp; learning</td>
<td>Fiser &amp; Aslin et al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Nov 19</td>
<td>Relational thinking</td>
<td>Baldwin et al.</td>
<td>QUIZ #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Nov 24</td>
<td><em>Why talking matters for learning, remembering, &amp; reasoning</em></td>
<td>Madole &amp; Oakes</td>
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<td>Fisher et al.</td>
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<td>Kotovsky &amp; Gentner</td>
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<td>Christie &amp; Gentner</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Nov 26</td>
<td>No class. Happy Thanksgiving!</td>
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<td><strong>DEVELOPMENTAL PATHWAYS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
<td>Putting it all together: Course Review</td>
<td>Smith et al.</td>
<td>Come with questions!</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Putting it all together: Course Review</td>
<td>Neville et al.</td>
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<td><strong>FINAL EXAM WEEK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Dec 10</td>
<td><em>10:15 AM - 12:15 PM. CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM.</em></td>
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Reading List

These are required readings. Each reading is posted on Blackboard and is assigned for a particular class session. Class sessions and study guides will help you identify and reinforce the key points from each reading. Your best bet is to read before class, come to class, and work through study guides.

INTRODUCTION


MOVING

SEEING


TALKING


LEARNING, REMEMBERING, & REASONING


DEVELOPMENTAL PATHWAYS

Further readings for interested students

**Note: These are not required readings.** You will not be tested on any content that is specific to these articles. These references are provided here for students who may be interested in learning more about particular topics. Peruse this list to discover more gems about cognitive development! Enjoy!


Oakes, L. M., & Bauer, P. J. (2007). Short-and long-term memory in infancy and early childhood: Taking the first steps toward remembering. *Oxford University Press, USA*. (Note: This is a book; not posted on Blackboard.)


Ruff, H. A., & Rothbart, M. K. (2001). *Attention in early development: Themes and variations*. Oxford University Press. (Note: This is a book; not posted on Blackboard.)

