Psychology 770 [section 004] Spring 2002
Graduate Course in Memory
Wednesday 12-3pm, Room 302 Psychology

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Description: This course will explore selected current issues in human memory, from a variety of perspectives ranging from cognitive neuroscience to development. Selected articles will be read and critically discussed each week. In addition, short tutorials will introduce specific methodological and conceptual topics.

Requirements:

Review paper: One 12-15 page critical review paper is required, due at the latest on the last day of class (4/24). Earlier submissions are encouraged. First drafts of the paper may be submitted for comments prior to submission of the final paper. The topic of the paper must be approved by the instructors and must integrate papers from the domains of both adult cognition and development. The deadline for submission of topics is the beginning of the Week 4 class meeting. The deadline for revised, accepted topics is the beginning of the Week 5 class meeting. If an acceptable topic has not been successfully prepared by this Week 5 deadline, further revision to achieve an acceptable topic is allowed but will incur a grade penalty of 5% per week for the completed review paper. The deadline for first drafts is by the beginning of class on April 10th (Week 12).

Weekly activities: All students are of course required to read the assigned readings for each class prior to class. In addition, each student will formulate one substantive question about each reading, designed to stimulate class discussion. Students are required to bring these written questions to the class during which the corresponding readings have been assigned. These questions will constitute part of the participation points and must be turned in at the beginning of each class.

Every week, each article will be paired with a student who will be assigned the role of discussion leader. The discussion leader will begin with a short summary/refresher of the main points of the article and will initiate and moderate the discussion of the assigned article. All students are strongly encouraged to participate in the discussion.

The readings will be available in room 302 (Cognition Library) in Psychology for students to borrow and copy.
Learnlink conference: A learnlink conference has been set up for this course to facilitate discussion and to make course announcements.

Grading:
Class presentation and participation in class discussion = 50% [Participation points are assessed as follows: Written questions = 15%; Leading class discussion = 20%; Class discussion = 15%];
Review paper = 50%.
Weekly Topics and Readings

**Suggested background book for students with little or no background in memory:**

**Week 1 [1/23] Overview and Introduction**

**Week 2 [1/30] Basic models of memory: systems and processes**


**Week 3 [2/6] Overview of memory development- declarative and procedural processes**


- Class party at Dr. Mills’ house: Screening of “Memento” (day/time TBA)

**Week 4 [2/13] Amnesia**


**Week 5 [2/20] Childhood amnesia and autobiographical memory**


**Week 6 [2/27] Functional neuroimaging and memory**


Week 7 [3/6] Overview of ERP technique and ERP studies of early memory development


Optional/ suggested:


Week 8 [3/13] SPRING BREAK [NO CLASS]

Week 9 [3/20] Memory and the frontal lobe


Week 10 [3/27] Neural basis of memory development -


Optional:

Week 11 [4/3] Accuracy and inaccuracy in memory


Week 12 [4/10] Eyewitness testimony and children's suggestibility


**Week 13 [4/17]** Children’s memories for traumatic and non-traumatic events -
**Guest Discussant - Robyn Fivush**


**Week 14 [4/24]** Emotion and memory


