PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS (WINTER 2019)

PSY 410S – Tools of Developmental Neuroscience

This course is a comprehensive overview of the modern research methods used to study cognitive development from a neuroscience perspective. We will discuss research employing a range of techniques, including eye tracking, animal models, computational modeling, and neuroimaging. In particular, we will focus on understanding which tool(s) are appropriate for a given research question – what can be gleaned from each approach? Through our readings, we will also review the newest findings and discuss the current trends in developmental cognitive neuroscience research. Dr. Meg Schlichting (Mack), Thursday 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

PSY 420S – Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Stigma

This course will examine contemporary issues in stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination, both from the perceiver’s and the target’s perspective. The focus will be on understanding current trends in the field by focusing on what has been recently published over the past few years. Connections with classic issues and research will be made through weekly presentations and discussions led by discussion facilitators. Dr. Alison Chasteen, Thursday 2 – 4 p.m.

PSY 460S – Biopsychological Approaches to Study Cognition

Recent advances in tools and technology open the door to investigating the biological basis of various cognitive processes, such as memory, spatial navigation, decision making, and social interaction. In this course, we will read and discuss primary research articles on biopsychological experiments using non-human animals to gain insights into how cognitive processes are associated with genetic and physiological changes in the brain. The course will include brief lectures on methods and measures used in the assigned articles; however, a basic understanding of molecular biology, neurophysiology, and neuroanatomy is expected. Successful completion of PSY202H1 and PSY260H1 is required; PSY290H1 is recommended. Dr. Kaori Takehara-Nishiuchi, Tuesdays 3 – 5 p.m.