

Fall 2017 Psychology Seminars

Psychology 148 - Studies of Attachment Relationships

Wednesdays 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Prof. Erik Hesse and Prof. Mary Main

This is a small undergraduate seminar on Attachment Theory and Research.

We will discuss the basics of Bowlby's evolution-based theory of the nature of the child's tie to its primary caregivers (usually but not always the biological parents), as well as Ainsworth's strange situation procedure and other major empirical and theoretical work within the field.

Thus, we will first focus on how, when and why early attachments are formed why their influence ordinarily persists over time, tending to have a powerful influence on our emotions and on the nature of relationships we form with others in later life.

Some preexisting knowledge of the field of attachment is desirable and those possessing it will be given priority.

There will be weekly readings of an original article with a 2 to 3 page summary of the article required. The articles will be discussed intensively in class. Other topical areas relating to the nature and influence of attachment relationships will be discussed in class as well.

We will also look at films, e.g. of children undergoing separations from their parents as documented by James and Joyce Robertson, and interviews with some of the central (past and current) workers in the field.

The main aim of the course will be to go into depth and breadth in the field of attachment, well beyond what can be undertaken in a large survey course. Thus, those wishing to attend this class should be highly motivated, and have an intrinsic interest in this topical area.

Psychology 168 - Toward a Science of Diverse Communities

Mondays 1:00-3:00 pm

Prof. Claude Steele

In social psychology, we know a good deal about the nature of prejudice--conscious and unconscious--stereotype threat and other identity pressures, their effects on things from intellectual performance to health outcomes, and the psychological impact of diversity in a setting. But we haven't developed yet a model of an ideal diverse *community*--in particular, a model of what such a community would look like and how it would have to function to enable an equally effective, gratifying and promoting experience for all of its members. Drawing on classic literatures in social psychology, and beyond--for example, race and identity literatures, feminist literatures and behavioral economics--this seminar will be in search of such a model.