




# Teaching Experiences

Tilbe Göksun

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- 
- ▶ Teaching at Koç since January 2014
  - ▶ 6 different graduate and undergraduate level courses

# Undergradese

What undergrads ask vs. what they're REALLY asking

"Is it going to be an open book exam?"

Translation: "I don't have to actually memorize anything, do I?"

"Hmm, what do you mean by that?"

Translation: "What's the answer so we can all go home."

"Are you going to have office hours today?"

Translation: "Can I do my homework in your office?"

"Can i get an extension?"

Translation: "Can you re-arrange your life around mine?"

"Is this going to be on the test?"

Translation: "Tell us what's going to be on the test."

"Is grading going to be curved?"

Translation: "Can I do a mediocre job and still get an A?"

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# General Teaching Principles

- Breadth and depth of knowledge, but also encouraging them to explore and reflect on the material
- Promote critical thinking
- Boosting their skills, preparing them for their personal and professional goals.
- Enhance communication skills



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## How do I pursue these principles?

- Understand and respect students
- Role models
- Smile and be happy
- Make students feel comfortable in class





# First Day-Week

- ▶ Detailed description of myself
- ▶ Explain my rules pretty well  
e.g., No Tilbe Hanım!
- ▶ Learn students' names





# Rules

I ALWAYS follow  
The RULES





# Rules

- ▶ No late people
  - ▶ 5 minutes for classes after 10:00 and 10 min for 8:30 classes
- ▶ No mobile phones (computers are fine)
- ▶ No talking, chatting in class

# Class Preparation & Materials

- Detailed syllabus
- Using Blackboard
  - Post the slides before class time – decrease class note taking
  - Post the extra readings early
- Engaging materials – always show videos, real life examples, applications
- The use of technology (not heavily)

**Class Location:** STDB228C  
**Class Hours:** Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 – 11:15  
**Instructor:** Tibe Göksun  
**Office Hours:** by appointment  
**Office Location:** SCB 217B  
**Office Phone:** 1872  
**Email:** [tgoeksun@uwo.ca](mailto:tgoeksun@uwo.ca)

**Course Assistant:** David Oshin  
**Email:** [doshin@uwo.ca](mailto:doshin@uwo.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Friday 13:00 – 14:00 or by appointment  
**Office Location:** SCB 820

**Prerequisites:** PSYC 205 and PSYC 206

#### **Course Description and Objectives**

How do infants and young children acquire knowledge about the world? In this course, we will examine developmental change across several major areas of cognitive functioning during infancy and childhood. After examining main developmental theories on cognitive development, we will focus on five major topics in cognitive development: attention, memory, language, spatial cognition, conceptual development. During this course, we will also examine methods related to each topic as well as the brain-behavior relationship. The implications for education and social issues will also be discussed.

#### **Learning Objectives**

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the fundamentals, major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and empirical findings in major areas of cognitive development
- Gain an understanding on the factors that affect these developmental processes
- Be able to compare, discuss, criticize research findings and theories in cognitive development

#### **Readings**

There is no textbook. Students are expected to read and comment on both empirical and theoretical articles that are assigned weekly (~ 2-3 articles per week) to participate in weekly discussions, and complete a set of writing assignments.

#### **Course Assessment and Grading**

7. **Questions and Participation**  
The course will be divided into 5 major topics. Before each topic, students will post 2 discussion questions to the Blackboard that they are curious about the major topic (Oct 11, Nov 01, Nov 15, Dec 06, and Dec 20 by 10 am). I would like you to think about the topics regarding your previous knowledge in these areas. These questions need to reflect your critical thinking processes. These questions will count in total 15% of your grade. This course will partially be in a seminar format so participation is required. Your

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# Class Preparation & Materials

- ▶ Thinking about the lecture in depth
- ▶ Integrating research into teaching
- ▶ Pay attention to student needs
  - ▶ I am there to teach/guide them.
- ▶ Tell the benefits of their work
  - ▶ Not all will be in academia, but they need to know how to present their work

# Interactions Inside Class



- ▶ Class participation – not attendance
- ▶ Rewarding who comes to the class
- ▶ Students can ask any questions

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# Interactions Outside Class

- ▶ Office hours
  - ▶ If not fit to their schedule, I always create time.
- ▶ Allow them to ask questions about the course
- ▶ Advising in general

# Grading



- ▶ Fair exams
- ▶ Grading the essays in detail and provide feedback
- ▶ Post the grades on time (in a week for exams and essays)
- ▶ Show the exams in class and go over the questions





**Thank You!**