

EPY 4000
Directed Individual Study
Fall 2015

Course Name: Research and Application of Developmental Disabilities

Credit Hours: 3.0

Student: Dominik Keller (MSU ID: 902385104; dk596)

Instructor: Kasee K. Stratton, Ph.D., NCSP
Office: 543 Allen Hall
Office Hours: Monday 12-2:00pm; Wednesday 10:00-1:00pm; or by appointment (please email to schedule; subject to change with notification)
Office Phone: 662-325-5461
Email: KStratton@colled.msstate.edu
Course Time: Wednesday 2:00-3:30 (Allen 543)

Course Description

The course will cover the empirical research of several developmental disabilities and the resulting behavior phenotype. Additionally, this course will cover the application of treatment approaches and knowledge by direct observations and interactions at the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Clinic. Lastly, this course will provide the opportunity for participation in research on family demographics and dynamics in CHARGE syndrome, the leading cause of congenital deaf-blindness.

Learning Objectives

1. To help the student develop a thorough understanding of developmental disabilities, behavioral phenotypes, and how challenging behaviors may manifest in educational and social settings.
2. To acquaint student with the nature of scientific inquiry with regard to developmental disabilities.
3. To increase knowledge of basic research.

Course Materials

Readings will be assigned based on topic area and research investigations.

Student Requirements

1. Participate in 2 meetings each month with Bulldog CHARGE Syndrome Research Lab each month (1 hour each = 8 hours)
2. Participate in individual instruction and supervision once per week (1.5 hours each =24 hours)

- a. Minimum of one article/chapter per week to be read during the week and reviewed at individual meeting with Dr. Stratton
3. Serve as a secondary clinician (client contact hours) at the Autism & Developmental Disabilities Clinic (1 hr. weekly = 16 hours)
4. Participate in research on CHARGE Syndrome.

Total: 48 hours

Evaluation

Student is expected to participate in research on CHARGE syndrome and family demographics and dynamics. This may include but is not limited to: IRB submission, data collection, data analysis, finalized literature review, and manuscript preparation.

Additionally, a poster will be due on the final day of class that will be made in preparation for the Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Spring of 2016.

- Poster should include:
 - Abstract
 - Introduction
 - Methods
 - Participants
 - Procedure
 - Results
 - Discussion

This course will be graded based on preparation, discussion of topic areas, and completion of research and poster on a pass/fail basis.

Weekly Outline

- Week 1: Review of syllabus and expectations
- Week 2: ASD
 - Global introduction
 - Study of empirically-based treatment for ASD
- Week 3: Fragile X
 - ASD vs. Fragile X
- Week 4: CHARGE Syndrome
 - Global introduction
- Week 5: CHARGE Syndrome
 - Study of empirically-based treatment for CHARGE
 - Parent Interview
- Week 6: Down Syndrome
 - Global introduction
- Week 7: Down Syndrome
 - Study of empirically-based treatment for Down Syndrome
- Week 8: Severe Multiple Disabilities

- Preparing for behavioral treatment and assessment
- Week 9: Cerebral Palsy
 - Global introduction and case study
- Week 10: Williams Syndrome
 - Global introduction & treatment
- Week 11: Rett Syndrome
 - Global introduction & treatment outlook
- Week 12: Angelman Syndrome
 - Global introduction & case study
- Week 13: Spina Bifida
 - Global introduction, prevention, and treatment
- Week 14: DiGeorge Syndrome
 - Global introduction and treatment
- Week 15: Vision, Hearing, and Deaf-blindness
 - Global introduction and accommodations
- Week 16: Poster Presentation

Academic Misconduct & Honor Code

Mississippi State has an approved Honor Code that applies to all students. The code is as follows: “As a Mississippi State University student, I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.” Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor Code. Student will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the MSU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor Code. For additional information, please visit: <http://honorcode.msstate.edu/policy> Any acts of academic misconduct (e.g., cheating, plagiarism) will be pursued by the professor in accordance with University policies.

Title IX

MSU is committed to complying with Title IX, a federal law that prohibits discrimination, including violence and harassment, based on sex. This means that MSU’s educational programs and activities must be free from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination, sexual violence and/or harassment by any member of the University community, you are encouraged to report the conduct to MSU’s Director of Title IX/EEO Programs at 325-8124 or by e-mail to titleix@msstate.edu. Additional resources are available at <http://www.msstate.edu/web/security/title9-12.pdf>, or at <http://students.msstate.edu/sexualmisconduct/>

Support Services

Students who need academic accommodations based on a disability should visit the Office of Student Support Services, 01 Montgomery Hall, call 662-325-3335, or visit the website at www.sss.msstate.edu.

I want to facilitate the learning of all students in the class. If you have a disability that may significantly interfere with your learning or believe that you need special assistance to successfully complete the requirements of the class, please contact me during the first week of class so that I can attempt to accommodate your learning needs. Also, if you are having problems in this course, for whatever reason, I invite you to make an appointment with me to discuss the matter. Be sure to make the appointment early in the semester so that we have enough time to remediate the problem.