

## **CHDV 242**

### **Perception**

#### **I. Theoretical Framework for perception - Gibson (Miller, Ch. 8)**

Guiding questions:

1. Identify the basic assumptions of the Gibson's theory of perception
2. According to Gibson, what is developing? What characterizes perceptual development?
3. What is the theory's position on developmental issues?
4. Evaluate the theory (limitations/contributions)

#### **II. Perceptual Development**

**A. The study of perceptual development necessarily involves the study of intersection of different domains: biological, social, cognitive. It is concerned with questions:**

1. What is normative (developmental) pattern of development?
2. What are effects of different kinds of experience/stimulation on developing perceptual capacity?

#### **B. Methodology**

1. sight, corneal reflection (e.g., visual acuity)
2. preference paradigms (e.g., face recognition)
3. conditioned responses (e.g., threshold for sound)
4. habituation paradigm (e.g., categorical speech perception)
5. behavior (e.g., visual cliff)
6. imaging, brain studies (e.g., MRI, brain activity)
7. Physiological measures (e.g., heart rate)

#### **C. The course of perceptual development**

1. Infancy
2. Childhood
3. Adolescence/adulthood
4. Older adulthood

#### **D. Discussion**

1. Discuss some of the limitations of using various measures to understand of perception, specifically:
  - (a) preference/conditioned/habituation responses
  - (b) behavioral responses
  - (c) Neuroscience methods
  - (d) Physiological methods
2. Can we really separate perceptual development from cognitive development? From Social, language, physical? Do we want to? How might a Systems model incorporate these different influences?
3. It is clear that experience affects perceptual development. Discuss the effects of changing media environments (TV, computers, games) on perceptual development in children. How might we study these effects?