

Psy 320
Spring 2009

Instructions for Extra Credit Article Summaries

Each article summary is worth two points extra credit. Each article must describe a study involving children and/or adolescents that was conducted by the authors of the article. The article cannot simply be a summary of research on a particular topic (for example, a review or commentary). In addition, the article must be from a peer-reviewed journal--this means that other researchers have reviewed the study prior to its publication in the journal to ensure that it meets accepted scientific standards. It may be difficult to determine whether a journal is peer-reviewed or not; in particular, material available on the Internet, including on-line journals, may not be peer-reviewed. Two journals that are recommended for this assignment are *Child Development* and *Developmental Psychology* (both available in UNCW's library). **It is strongly recommended that you check with me if you choose to use an article from a journal other than the two suggested above. Summaries of inappropriate articles will not receive credit.**

Each summary should be 1-2 pages (typed, double-spaced). **You must include a citation/reference for the article at the top of the summary so that I can check the article if needed. The citation should include the authors' names, the title of the article, the name of the journal, the volume number of the journal, the year the article was published, and the page numbers of the article.** You should describe the goals of the study, the methods used, and the results/findings. You should also note any limitations or weaknesses of the study that you notice or that the authors point out. **You must summarize the article in your own words. You cannot "lift" phrases or sentences from the article itself because doing so constitutes plagiarism.**