

PSYCHOLOGY D34S

HUMAN INTELLIGENCE

Meetings

Thursday
13:00 - 15:00
Room: R3230

Instructor

Dr. Douglas A. Bors
Office: S540C
Phone: 287-7468

Office Hours

Monday: 10:30 - 12:00
Wednesday: 10:30 - 12:00

This course will begin with a review of the classical theories of intelligence with a focus on psychometric methods and factor-analytic studies. Following this, we will survey contemporary approaches and the research that they have generated. Next we will critically examine the concept of heritability, how it is estimated, and its application to the investigation of individual and group differences on IQ tests. We will then investigate some of the personality, social, economic, and familial factors that predict IQ and academic achievement. Finally, we will explore the notions of genius and creativity.

Texts:

Kline, P.: *Intelligence: A Psychometric Perspective*
Gould, S.J.: *The mismeasure of man.*
Weisberg, R.W.: *Creativity: Genius and other myths.*

Readings:

Carroll, J.B. (1993). *Human cognitive abilities: A survey of factor-analytic studies.* New York: Cambridge University Press. (Chap. 1).
Vernon, P.A. (1987). *Speed of information-processing and intelligence.* Norwood, NJ: Ablex Publishing. (chaps. 2 & 8)
Bors, D.A., & Forrin, B. (1995). Age, speed of information processing, recall, and fluid intelligence. *Intelligence*, 20, 229-248.
Bors, D.A. (1994). Is the nature-nurture debate on the verge of extinction? *Canadian Psychology*, 35, 231-243.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on a mid-term exam (25%), a term paper (35%), and a final exam (40%). The mid-term exam will be given in class on February 27. You will be offered a choice of topics for your term paper and it will be due the Friday of the last week of classes. The paper should be written in APA format and is due April 11. Three percent will be deducted from the grade for each day that a paper is late. Although the final exam will be comprehensive, it will focus on the material we cover after the mid-term. The date for the final exam will be publish by the registrar.