### Announcements

- **Website**
  
  [http://psych.colorado.edu/~colunga/DevPsych04.html](http://psych.colorado.edu/~colunga/DevPsych04.html)

- **Mailing list**
  - sign up by going to:  
    [http://psych.colorado.edu/courses.html](http://psych.colorado.edu/courses.html)
  - Click on the link 'Class Email List Subscription form.'
  - Choose your class and section number *PSYCH4684-001.*

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### Theories in developmental psychology

...but first, something about science and the scientific method

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### What gives science legitimacy?

- Testing predictions
- Observable measures that must be **reliable** and **valid.**
  - Reliable - gives the same result every time
  - Valid - measures what you think it is measuring
- Theories must be falsifiable

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### The Scientific Method

- Question, Theory
- Hypothesis
- Prediction
- Experiments
What is a theory?
- orderly integrated set of statements that describes, explains, and makes predictions.
- (in psychology) orderly integrated set of statements that describes, explains, and predicts behavior
  - Description - what the behavior looks like
  - Explanation - why the behavior looks like it does
  - Prediction - if the theory is correct, then the behavior should appear in certain ways under certain conditions

Four qualities of a good theory
- Falsifiability
- Predictability
- Parsimony
- Replicability

I. Read pages 7-9 of the text book.
II. For each of the following philosophers/theorists:
1. Plato
2. Aristotle
3. Locke
4. Rousseau
5. Freud
6. Watson
   answer the following two questions:
   a) Does he view nature or nurture as more important? Justify your answer.
   b) What is the force behind change? What motivates the child's behavior?

- Plato & Aristotle believed welfare of society depended on children’s being raised properly. Careful upbringing was essential.
- Plato emphasized self-control and discipline.
- Aristotle agreed, but emphasized fitting child rearing to needs of individual child.
- Plato believed children born with innate knowledge.
- Aristotle believed that all knowledge comes from experience.