

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### DAVID C. WITHERINGTON

Department of Psychology  
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#### EDUCATION

- University of California, Berkeley, Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, 1998 Doctoral Dissertation: “Visually-Guided Reaching and the Development of Anger in Infancy”
- University of Iowa, Iowa City, B.A. in Psychology, 1992

#### PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- Associate Professor, with Tenure, Department of Psychology, University of New Mexico, 2008-present
- Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of New Mexico, 2002-2008
- Instructor, Department of Psychology, University of Virginia, Jan. to May, 2001
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology, University of Virginia, 1998-2001
- Graduate Student, Department of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley, 1992-1998

#### FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

- UNM RAC grant for research on “Development of posture-action coordination in Infancy,” 2003, \$5,595.
- NICHD Postdoctoral Traineeship in Neurobiological and Behavioral Development, University of Virginia, 1998-2000
- NIH Individual National Research Service Award, University of California, Berkeley, 1992-1995
- Phi Beta Kappa, University of Iowa, 1991

- Predoctoral Fellow, National Institute of Mental Health Postdoctoral Training Program on Emotion Research, 1993-1995
- Individual Graduate Student Research Grant, Institute of Human Development, University of California, Berkeley, 1995

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Works in Progress*

- Witherington, D. C. (in preparation). The explanatory significance of wholes: how the antecedent-consequent view of causality undermines the study of persons. Invited manuscript for upcoming special issue of *New Ideas in Psychology*.
- Witherington, D. C. (in preparation). Dynamic systems theory. Invited chapter for upcoming text (edited by Anthony Dick and Ulrich Müller) *Advancing developmental science: Philosophy, theory and method*.
- Heying, S., Witherington, D. C., Gibbons, J., & Smith, J. E. (under revision). Posttraumatic distress and growth among Guatemalan war orphans in adulthood. *International Perspectives in Psychology*.
- Jordan, T. M., Falcon, R. G., & Witherington, D. C. (under revision). The development of preschoolers' living kinds concept: A longitudinal study.
- Witherington, D. C., & Lickliter, R. (in preparation). Searching for an integration of development and evolution in developmental science: Evolutionary Developmental Psychology, Developmental Systems, and beyond.
- Bancroft, M. E., Witherington, D. C., Bruton, J., & Peake, V. (in preparation). Self-representations, cultural developmental goals, and social behavior in Mexican and Euro-American children.
- Witherington, D. C., Margett, T. E., Bryan, C., & Jin, X. (in preparation). The embodied origins of essentialist thought in preschoolers.
- Witherington, D. C. (in preparation). Adualism and embodiment: A developmental perspective.
- Armbruster, E. W., Witherington, D. C., & Olguin, D. L. (submitted). Adult attachment and parental bonding: Correlations between perceived relationship qualities and anxiety. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*.

### *Published/In press*

- Witherington, D. C. (in press). On the need to seriously challenge the empiricist side of the nativist-empiricist debate. *Research in Human Development*.
  - Witherington, D. C., & Heying, S. (in press). The study of process and the nature of explanation in developmental science. *Review of General Psychology*.
  - Witherington, D. C. (2015). Dynamic systems in developmental science. In W. F. Overton & P. C. M. Molenaar (Vol. Eds.) & R. M. Lerner (Ed.-in-Chief), *Handbook of child psychology and developmental science. Vol. 1: Theory & method* (7<sup>th</sup> ed., pp. 63-112). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.
  - Harriger, J. A., Witherington, D. C., & Bryan, A. D. (2014). Eating pathology in female gymnasts: Potential risk and protective factors. *Body Image: An International Journal of Research, 11*, 501-508.
  - Witherington, D. C. (2014). Self-organization and explanatory pluralism: Avoiding the snares of reductionism in developmental science. *Research in Human Development, 11*, 22-36.
  - Witherington, D. C. (2013). Serendipitous relations as self-organization through reflective engagement: Commentary on Napolitano. *Human Development, 56*, 319-324.
  - Anderson, D. I., Campos, J. J., Witherington, D. C., Dahl, A., Rivera, M., He, M., Uchiyama, I., & Barbu-Roth, M. (2013). The role of locomotion in psychological development. *Frontiers in Cognition, 4*, ArtID 440. doi:10.3389/fpsy.2013.00440.
  - Dahl, A., Campos, J. J., Anderson, D. I., Uchiyama, I., Witherington, D. C., Ueno, M., Lejeune, L., & Barbu-Roth, M. (2013). The epigenesis of wariness of heights. *Psychological Science, 24*, 1361-1367.
  - Witherington, D. C., & Heying, S. (2013). Embodiment and agency: Toward a holistic synthesis for developmental science. In R. M. Lerner & J. B. Benson (Eds.), *Advances in child development and behavior, Vol. 44: Embodiment and Epigenesis: Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Understanding the Role of Biology within the Relational Developmental System Part A: Philosophical, Theoretical, and Biological Dimensions* (pp. 161-192). Oxford: Elsevier Inc Academic Press.
  - Margett, T. E., & Witherington, D. C. (2011). The nature of preschoolers' concept of living and artificial objects. *Child Development, 82*, 2067-2082.
  - Witherington, D. C., & Margett, T. E. (2011). How conceptually unified is the dynamic systems approach to the study of psychological development? *Child Development Perspectives, 5*, 286-290.
  - Bernard, J. F., Witherington, D. C., Verney, S. P., & Smith, B. W. (2011). Social relationships as a mediator of the effects of Alexithymia on mental health. In A. M.
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Columbus (Ed.), *Advances in Psychology Research, Vol. 81* (pp. 107-139). Nova Science Publishers.

- Witherington, D. C. (2011). Taking emergence seriously: The centrality of circular causality for dynamic systems approaches to development. *Human Development, 54*, 66-92.
  - Dahl, A., Campos, J. J., & Witherington, D. C. (2011). Emotional action and communication in early moral development. *Emotion Review, 3*, 147-157.
  - Harriger, J. A., Calogero, R. M., Witherington, D. C., & Smith, J. E. (2010). Body size stereotyping and internalization of the thin ideal in preschool girls. *Sex Roles, 63*, 609-620.
  - Witherington, D. C., & Margett, T. E. (2010). The dynamic interplay of theory and method through time. *Human Development, 53*, 160-165.
  - Witherington, D. C., Campos, J. J., Harriger, J. A., Bryan, C., & Margett, T. E. (2010). Emotion and its development in infancy. In G. Bremner and T. D. Wachs (Eds.), *The Wiley-Blackwell handbook of infant development, Vol. 1, Basic Research, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (pp. 568-591). Cambridge: Blackwell.
  - Witherington, D. C., & Margett, T. E. (2009). Systems and dynamic systems: The search for inclusive merger. *Human Development, 52*, 251-256.
  - Campos, J. J., Witherington, D., Anderson, D. I., Frankel, C. I., Uchiyama, I., & Barbu-Roth, M. (2008). Rediscovering development in infancy. *Child Development, 79*, 1625-1632.
  - Gendler-Martin, N., Witherington, D. C., & Edwards, A. (2008). The development of affect specificity in infants' use of emotion cues. *Infancy, 13*, 456-468.
  - Uchiyama, I., Anderson, D. I., Campos, J. J., Witherington, D., Frankel, C. B., Lejeune, L., & Barbu-Roth, M. (2008). Locomotor experience affects self and emotion. *Developmental Psychology, 44*, 1225-1231.
  - Saarni, C., Campos, J. J., Camras, L. A., & Witherington, D. (2008). Principles of emotion and emotion competence. In W. Damon, & R. M. Lerner (Eds.), *Child and adolescent development: An advanced course* (pp. 361-405). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.
  - Witherington, D. C., & Crichton, J. A. (2007). Frameworks for understanding emotions and their development: Functionalist and dynamic systems approaches. *Emotion, 7*, 628-637.
  - Witherington, D. C. (2007). The dynamic systems approach as metatheory for developmental psychology. *Human Development, 50*, 127-153.
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- Saarni, C., Campos, J. J., Camras, L., & Witherington, D. (2006). Emotional development: Action, communication, and understanding. In W. Damon & R. M. Lerner (series eds.) and N. Eisenberg (vol. ed.), *Handbook of Child Psychology: Vol. 3. Social, emotional, and personality development* (6<sup>th</sup> ed., pp. 226-299). New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
  - Lejeune, L., Anderson, D. I., Campos, J. J., Witherington, D. C., Uchiyama, I., & Barbu-Roth, M. (2006). Responsiveness to terrestrial optic flow in infancy: Does locomotor experience play a role? *Human Movement Science, 25*, 4-17.
  - Camras, L. A., & Witherington, D. C. (2005). Dynamical systems approaches to emotional development. *Developmental Review, 25*, 328-350.
  - Witherington, D. C., Campos, J. J., Anderson, D. I., Lejeune, L., & Seah, E. (2005). Avoidance of heights on the visual cliff in newly walking infants. *Infancy, 7*, 285-298.
  - Witherington, D. C. (2005). The development of prospective grasping control between 5 and 7 months: A longitudinal study. *Infancy, 7*, 143-161.
  - Lillard, A. S., & Witherington, D. C. (2004). Mothers' behavior modifications during pretense and their possible signal value for toddlers. *Developmental Psychology, 40*, 95-113.
  - Witherington, D. C., von Hofsten, C., Rosander, K., Robinette, A., Woollacott, M. H., & Bertenthal, B. I. (2002). The development of anticipatory postural adjustments in infancy. *Infancy, 3*, 495-517.
  - Witherington, D. C., Campos, J. J., & Hertenstein, M. J. (2001). Principles of emotion and its development. In G. Bremner & A. Fogel (Eds.), *Blackwell handbook of infant development* (pp. 427-464). Oxford, UK: Blackwell.
  - Anderson, D. I., Campos, J. J., Anderson, D. E., Thomas, T. D., Witherington, D. C., Uchiyama, I., & Barbu-Roth, M. A. (2001). The flip side of perception-action coupling: Locomotor experience and the ontogeny of visual-postural coupling. *Human Movement Science, 20*, 461-487.
  - Hertenstein, M. J., & Witherington, D. C. (2001). Infancy. In N. J. Salkind (Ed.), *MacMillan Psychology Reference Series, Vol. 1: Child Development* (pp. 206-210). Farmington Hills, MI: MacMillan Reference USA.
  - Campos, J. J., Anderson, D. I., Barbu-Roth, M. A., Hubbard, E. M., Hertenstein, M. J., & Witherington, D. (2000). Travel broadens the mind. *Infancy, 1*, 149-219.
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- Anderson, D. I., Hubbard, E. M., Campos, J. J., Barbu-Roth, M. A., Witherington, D., & Hertenstein, M. J. (2000). Probabilistic epigenesis, experience, and psychological development in infancy. *Infancy, 1*, 245-251.
- Campos, J. J., Kermoian, R., Witherington, D., Chen, H., & Dong, Q. (1997). Activity, attention, and developmental transitions in infancy. In P. J. Lang, R. F. Simons, & M. T. Balaban (Eds.), *Attention and orienting: Sensory and motivational processes* (pp. 393-415). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Campos, J. J., Kermoian, R., & Witherington, D. (1996). An epigenetic perspective on emotional development. In R. D. Kavanaugh, B. Zimmerberg, & S. Fein (Eds.), *Emotion: Interdisciplinary perspectives* (pp. 119-138). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Chand, K., Dahl, A., & Witherington, D. C. (July, 2014). How does locomotor experience bring about wariness of heights? Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Berlin, Germany. Symposium Title: Consequences of locomotor experience for psychological development: Extending the scope of study.
  - Witherington, D. C. (November, 2013). Self-organization, emergence and explanatory pluralism: Avoiding the snares of reductionism in developmental science. Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Human Development annual meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
  - Witherington, D. C. (October, 2013). Embodiment in Psychological Science and the Psychology of Embodiment. Talk given in conjunction with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy annual lecture series, Albuquerque, NM.
  - Campos, J. J., Dahl, A., Uchiyama, I., Ueno, M., Ueno, M., Anderson, D. I., Witherington, D. C., Chand, K., Lejeune, L., & Barbu-Roth, M. (April, 2013). The epigenesis of wariness of heights. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Seattle, WA.
  - Klauber, C. M., & Witherington, D. C. (August, 2011). Learning to read animals: Anthropomorphism, moralizing, and story recall in preschoolers. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington, DC.
  - Served as convention manager for the 79<sup>th</sup> Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Annual Convention, held April 15 to 18, 2009, in Albuquerque, NM.
  - Bryan, C., & Witherington, D. C. (April, 2007). Locomotor experience and its role in infants' understanding of others' intentions. Poster presentation at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston, MA.
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- Witherington, D. C. (January, 2007). Functionalist and dynamic systems approaches to emotion and its development. Paper presented at the Emotion Pre-Conference to the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Memphis, TN, Symposium title: Emotional Development.
  - Witherington, D. C. (June, 2006). Emotional development from a dynamical systems perspective. Invited paper at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Kyoto, Japan, Symposium Title: Perspectives on Emotional Development.
  - Witherington, D. C. (July, 2005). A comparison of two conceptualizations for the concept of affordance. Paper presented at the International Conference on Perception and Action, Monterey, CA. Symposium Title: Learning affordances in a complex social environment: A developmental perspective.
  - Witherington, D. C. (April, 2005). Postural responsiveness to terrestrial optic flow as a function of locomotor experience. Paper presented at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA. Symposium Title: Locomotor experience and the development of visual proprioception.
  - Witherington, D. C. (June, 2004). Learning, development, and the delineation of change: Past, present, and future considerations. Paper presented at the conference for the North American Society for Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity, Vancouver, BC. Symposium Title: Contemporary perspectives on learning, maturation and development.
  - Witherington, D. C., Campos, J. J., Anderson, D. I., Lejeune, L., & Seah, E. (May, 2004). Newly walking infants and cliff avoidance: evidence for transfer of learning across postural orientations. Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Chicago, IL. Symposium Title: Learning to Walk as an Illustration of and Catalyst for Infant Problem Solving.
  - Campos, J. J., Frankel, C., Lejeune, L., Anderson, D. I., & Witherington, D. C. (May 2004). Does visual proprioception affect avoidance of heights? Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Chicago, IL. Symposium Title: Development of Visual Proprioception: Antecedents and Consequences.
  - Witherington, D. C. (June, 2003). From crawling to walking: Does fear of heights on the visual cliff transfer to newly walking infants? Paper presented at conference for the North American Society for Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity, Savannah, GA. Symposium title: The Role of Motor Processes in Psychological Development.
  - Witherington, D. C. (April, 2003). Frameworks for understanding emotions and their development: Functionalist and dynamic systems approaches. Paper presented at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Tampa, Florida. Symposium Title: Explaining Dynamic Systems and Functionalist Approaches to Emotion.
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- Witherington, D., & Lillard, A. (April, 2003). How maternal actions are adjusted in pretend play contexts. Poster presentation at Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Tampa, Florida.
- Witherington, D., & Lillard, A. (April, 2002). How maternal actions are adjusted in Pretend play contexts. Poster presentation at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Toronto, Canada.
- Lillard, A., & Witherington, D. (June, 2001). How mothers' child-directed pretense acts differ from their real acts. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Berkeley, CA. Symposium Title: Reading Intention in Action.
- Lillard, A., Witherington, D., & Robinette, A. (April, 2001). How mothers' child-directed pretense acts differ from their real acts. Paper presented at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN. Symposium Title: Motionese: Variation in Infant-Directed Action.
- Witherington, D. (April, 1999). Visually-guided reaching and the development of anger in infancy. Poster presentation at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, NM.
- Witherington, D. (March, 1996): Served as a panel discussant for Harold E. and Mary Cover Jones Memorial Event workshop conducted by Professor Esther Thelen, titled "Dynamic systems approaches to conceptualizing developmental research," Berkeley, CA.
- Witherington, D., Campos, J.J., & Kermoian, R. (March, 1995). What makes babies become afraid of heights? Poster presentation at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Indianapolis, IN.
- Chen, H., Kermoian, R., Dong, Q., Wang, Y., & Witherington, D. (March, 1995). Task-specific effects of locomotor experience: Evidence from performance on a manual detour task. Poster presentation at the Biennial Meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Indianapolis, IN.
- Witherington, D. (June, 1994). Visual-vestibular decoupling: Mechanism underlying the emergence of wariness of heights. Paper presented at the annual workshop for the NIMH Post Doctoral Training Program on Emotion Research, Berkeley, CA.

#### **COURSES TAUGHT** (Number of Times Taught in Parentheses)

##### *Undergraduate:*

- Psych 220: Developmental Psychology (19)
- Psych 324: Infant Development (10)

##### *Combined Upper-level Undergraduate and Graduate Special Topics Courses (Psych 450/650):*

- Emotional Development in Infancy and Early Childhood (2, one at University of Virginia and one at University of New Mexico)
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- Developmental Origins of Self (1)
- Psychology of Horror (5)
- Attachment and Temperament in Personality Development (1)
- Evolution and Development, co-taught with S. Gangestad (1)
- Development and Evolution (1)
- Consciousness and Phenomenology (1)

*Graduate:*

- Psych 507: Teaching Seminar in Psychology, co-taught with S. Alley (4)
- Psych 521: Advanced Developmental Psychology (4)
- Psych 523: Socioemotional Development (1)
- Psych 528: Cognitive Development (2)

**ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Psychological Association
- American Psychological Society
- International Society for infant Studies
- Society for Research in Child Development
- Jean Piaget Society
- Society for the Study of Human Development

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

2013-2016: Board member for the Jean Piaget Society.

**JOURNAL EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER:**

- *International Journal of Behavioral Development*
- *Human Development*

**CONFERENCE REFEREEING:**

2005: North American Society for Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity annual meeting  
2012: International Conference on Infant Studies

**AD HOC JOURNAL REVIEWER**

*British Journal of Developmental Psychology; Child Development; Child Development Perspectives; Cognition & Emotion; Cognitive Development; Developmental Psychology; Developmental Review; Developmental Science; Emotion; Emotion Review; European Journal of Developmental Psychology; Experimental Brain Research; Human Development; Infancy; Infant Behavior & Development; Journal of Cognition and Development; Journal of Experimental Child Psychology; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance; Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*

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**AD HOC GRANT REVIEWER**

National Science Foundation