Development of Response Inhibition across the Transition to School

Guest Lecture by Jennie Grammer
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12:00 – 1:15 pm, Education 3216

Abstract: In this presentation I will describe the brain and behavioral correlates of response inhibition in children between the ages of 3-7. First I will describe developmental changes in event-related potentials (ERPs) associated with this skill across the transition into elementary school. I will then outline associations between response inhibition and academic achievement and motivation. Finally, I will present recent analyses demonstrating an impact of children’s early school experiences on ERP correlates of response inhibition.

Jennie Grammer is an Assistant Professor at UCLA GSEIS. She explores changes in children’s cognitive skills from early childhood across the transition to elementary school and the contexts that promote this growth. Specifically, employing both behavioral and neurological methods, she examines the development of executive functions, memory, and metacognition between the ages of 3-8. In addition, she works to identify aspects of the classroom and home environment that promote this development. Bringing together these two parallel lines of research, the goal of her work is to understand the ways in which early enrichment and schooling experiences can positively impact brain and behavioral development. Dr. Grammer received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was a Postdoctoral Fellow in Psychology at the University of Michigan and a Postdoctoral Fellow in Pediatrics at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.