Childhood and Archaeology

Course Goals:

1. To learn about previous research on the archaeology of childhoods and children and
2. To make our own contributions to its scholarship.


Requirements:

1. Thorough preparation for class and engaged participation in discussions (10%).
2. Completion of class data collection (50% total):
   a. Cross-cultural study using 60 culture random sample
   b. Study on current child-raising guides
   c. Toy study
   d. Safety device, feeding, or clothes study
   e. Parent interviews
3. Independent project based in part on one of class projects. This project must use primary data, although the review of the literature will also consider previous relevant research.
   a. Paper written as a journal article using SAA guidelines (30%).
   b. 15 minute oral presentation to be given to the class (10%).
   c. You may collaborate on data collection, but must craft individual papers and presentations with separate foci.

Suggested Student Project Topics

1. Article(s) on cross-cultural analysis
2. Article(s) on guidebooks
3. Article(s) on toys
4. Article(s) on clothing
5. Article(s) on safety measures
6. Article(s) on infant feeding and health


2/4 Lab day for cross-cultural survey. Assignment: Code at least two of your assigned cultures before class, so that we can make modifications to the study as indicated by your coding experience. Meet in Noyce 1530.


2/11—I’m gone, reviewing Carleton’s Gender and Women’s Studies Program, but the class will meet anyway. Meet in Burling Computing Lab (basement of Burling). Assignment: Complete Cross-Cultural Survey Data Collection. Cross-cultural survey data due via email (kamp@grinnell.edu) on or before 5 p.m. 2/15.


3/8 **Recording sheets for Baby Care Guides due by 8 a.m. via email (kamp@grinnell.edu ).** *Discuss:* Results of study and design parental survey. Finalize toy study, if necessary. By this date you should have done the Institutional Review Board training, if you had not already.


3/15 At Santa Clara State for Departmental Review, but you should meet anyway. *Class session to work on toy study. Meet in Burling Computing Lab (basement of Burling).*


**Break**

4/7 Gone to Society for American Archaeology Meetings—Assignment: Work on Clothing, Feeding, and Safety Study during and outside of class. Meet in Burling Computing Lab (basement of Burling). Clothing, Feeding, and Safety Study data due via email (kamp@grinnell.edu) by 8 a.m. 5/11.


5/5 Student Presentations Meet in Burling Computing Lab (basement of Burling).

5/10 Student Presentations Meet in Burling Computing Lab (basement of Burling).

5/12 What Next?