



**Code: Jenkins\_B**

**APD 1210 RESEARCH PRACTICUM COURSE**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS 2025-26**

**FALL/WINTER**

**Name and Title:** Dr. Jenny Jenkins (supervised by doctoral student Rabeya Hossain)

**Lab Website:** N/A

**TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT:** The effect of differential parenting on sibling relationship quality: A Meta-Analysis.

**NUMBER OF STUDENT PLACES AVAILABLE:** 2

**PRIMARY MODE OF RESEARCH PLACEMENT PARTICIPATION (circle one option and describe):**

☐ *IN PERSON*

☐ *REMOTE (ONLINE)*

☒ *HYBRID/FLEXIBLE*

*Please describe:*

**OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY:**

There is a growing body of literature on differential parenting (i.e., parental differential treatment of siblings regarding warmth, hostility, control, etc.) and its connection to child development, psychopathology, and social functioning. The literature indicates that high-quality sibling relationships are characterized by greater closeness, affection, and warmth, along with lower levels of tension, conflict, and hostility. Our initial review of the literature also suggested a negative relationship between differential parenting and sibling relationship quality, and highlighted various factors (e.g., siblings' perception of parental treatment) that may influence this relationship. Therefore, in this current study, we are interested in examining the impact of differential parenting on sibling relationship quality. To date, meta-analyses on differential parenting have primarily focused on children's social-emotional and behavioral outcomes, and none, to our knowledge, have specifically investigated the link between differential parenting and sibling relationship quality. Using a meta-analytic approach, the present study addresses this gap and examines whether this association varies across sibling relationship outcomes (e.g., warmth, closeness, tension, conflict).

**Research questions:**

What is the association between differential parenting and sibling relationship quality? Does this association vary depending on the dimensions of parenting and sibling relationship outcomes?



**DESCRIPTION OF STUDENT PARTICIPATION:**

The students will assist with data extraction, analysis, and manuscript preparation (formatting tables, reference lists, etc.) and gain experience in the meta-analytic research process stages. We expect students to work 10 hours weekly and attend monthly lab meetings (day and time TBD).

**DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED SKILLS/BACKGROUND (OPTIONAL):**

Applicants should be interested in any of the following areas: parenting, differential parenting, family relationships, sibling relationships, children's developmental outcomes, and quantitative research design. They should also have a psychology background or have taken research methods and statistics courses. More specifically, the student should have,

1. Knowledge and background in statistical data analysis techniques through undergrad-level courses and lab experiences.
2. Experience working on research projects focusing on evidence syntheses, specifically, systematic review and meta-analysis.
3. Knowledge and experience in quantitative data extraction for evidence synthesis projects (see above).
4. Background in psychology through undergrad/ graduate coursework.
5. Strong communication, attention to detail, time management, and organizational skills.

**DAY AND TIMES OF LAB MEETINGS:**

Bi-weekly for 2 hours, Date and time- TBD