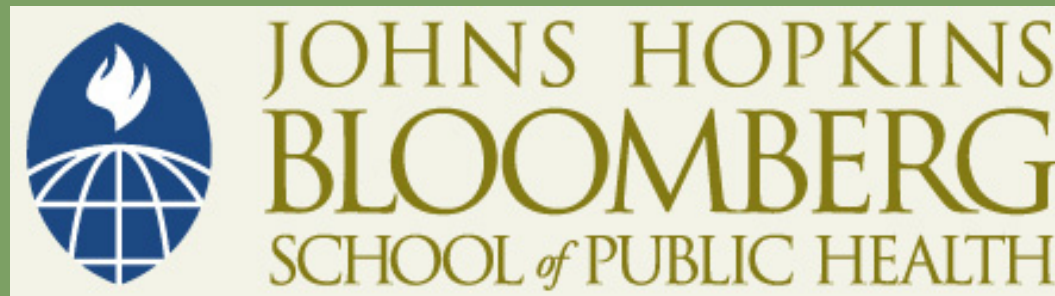


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JOHNS HOPKINS  
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## Section B

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### Vygotsky's Social Learning Theory

# Vygotsky's Social Learning Theory

- Social interaction is fundamental to learning
- “Every function in the child’s cultural development appears twice: first, on the social level, and later, on the individual level; first between people ... and then inside the child ...” (Vygotsky, 1978)
- There are two factors essential to understanding this theory
  1. More knowledgeable other (MKO)
  2. Zone of proximal development (ZPD)

# Vygotsky vs. Piaget

- Piaget: learning occurs internally
  - Exposure to external world challenges internal schema in child's stage of reasoning. Disequilibrium/assimilation results in higher learning.
- Vygotsky: learning is dependent on external guidance
  - Teaching is guided exposure to higher-level reasoning by a more knowledgeable other
  - Zone of proximal development is a deliberate process
  - Learning occurs as a dialect between child and society