Delay of Gratification
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A Brief Overview
This course will review the research on delay of gratification. We will cover what makes it in general so tough, what situations make it possible, who can do it and what the implications of this ability are. We will also examine the long-term stability of the ability to delay gratification, with a foray into the issue of the stability of individual differences in general. We will draw from research in social and personality psychology, as well as behavioral economics. Students are expected to do each day’s reading prior to the class. Because students will be called on to discuss the topics, failure to do so should become painfully obvious (obvious to the teacher, painful to the student).

Readings

Class 2: Why Organisms Act Impulsively

Class 3: DoG

Class 4: The Debate on Personality

Class 5: A Synthesis?
Class 6: Personality of the Delayer


Class 7: More on the Delayer

Class 8: Society & DoG

Class 9: Will Power

Class 10: Procrastination and Anticipation