

## **1. Title: Executive Function: Overview and Current Issues**

Topic: Executive function - Definition, behavioral and neurobiological correlates

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Executive function (EF) is wrought with confusion around how it is conceptualized and measured. The roots of EF trace back to unusual neurological case studies beginning in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and war injuries in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Since then, EF has taken on quite a number of meanings and operationalizations. This presentation will compare a variety of current perspectives on EF, review key issues relevant to its understanding, and offer (at least one) path forward, to allow for greater coherence in this complex field.

### **Recommended Readings:**

1. Cirino, P.T. (2023). Framing executive function as a construct, and its relation to academic achievement. *Mind, Brain, and Education*, 17(4), 226-237.
2. Cirino, P.T., Farrell, A.E., Barnes, M.A., & Roberts, G.J. (2023). An evaluation of the structure of attention in adolescence. *Developmental Neuropsychology*, 48(4), 162-185.
3. Cirino, P.T., Ahmed, Y., Miciak, J., Taylor, W.P., Gerst, E.H., & Barnes, M.A. (2018). A framework for executive function in the late elementary years. *Neuropsychology*, 32(2), 176-189.