

Introduction to Developmental Psychology

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Class Times and Locations:

Tuesday: *2-4, S-319*

Thursday: *3-4, S-319*

Course Description:

This course presents students with a broad and integrative overview of child development. Major theories and research findings will be discussed in order to understand how the child changes physically, socially, emotionally, and cognitively with age. Topics are organized chronologically beginning with prenatal development and continuing through selected issues in adolescence and life-span development.

Text:

Hetherington, E. M., & Parke, R. D. (1999). *Child Psychology: A Contemporary Viewpoint*, 5th Edition

Course Requirements and Grading:

There will be two term exams during the semester and a final exam. Each test will cover only material discussed since the last test. Each of these exams will contribute one-third to your final grade in this class.

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Keep up with the reading in Hetherington and Parke. There is a lot of reading for this class, so it is a very bad idea to fall behind.
- 2) Be on time for class. Don't talk during lectures. It not only disturbs the people around you, it bothers me too.
- 3) If you're having problems with the material discussed in class, or don't understand the readings, or just want to stop by and chat, come talk to me. If you can't make my office hours, see me and we'll set up an appointment at some other time.
- 4) When you don't understand something in class, please ask. In large classes this is rare. However, chances are if you don't understand something, neither does the person next to you. If you ask, everyone benefits.
- 5) The only way you have of showing me what you know in this class is through the exams. Because of the size of this class there are no papers. **DO NOT** wait till the last minute to start studying for these exams. If you study a little all the time, you'll spend less time studying overall, and most likely be better prepared for the exams.
- 6) For exams, please bring a couple of soft-lead pencils and your ID. Try to arrive a little early, and leave all your books, etc., at the front of the room. In general, it is better to take the exam when it is scheduled rather than the makeup. Makeup exams will be given exactly 1 week after the regularly scheduled exam. For all makeup exams you will need to present a bona fide medical excuse for your absence.

Syllabus

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Sep. 11	Introduction to class History, themes, and theories of development	Ch. 1
Sep. 18	Themes and theories of development, con't Developmental Methods	Ch. 1 Ch. 2
Sep. 25	Biological and environmental aspects of development Perceptual development	Ch. 3 Ch. 5
Oct. 2	Perceptual development, con't Motor development	Ch. 5 Ch. 6
Oct. 9	Physical growth Cognitive development: Piagetian approaches	Ch. 6 Ch. 9
Oct. 16	Cognitive development: Piagetian and Neopiagetian approaches	Ch. 9
Oct. 23	Cognitive development: The information processing approach Cognitive development: Intelligence	Ch. 10 Ch. 11
Oct. 30	Cognitive development: Intelligence, con't Emotional development and attachment	Ch. 10 Ch. 7
Nov. 6	Emotional and attachment, con't Agents of socialization: The family	Ch. 7 Ch. 12
Nov. 13	Agents of socialization: The family Agents of socialization: Peers and play	Ch. 12 Ch. 13
Nov. 20	Agents of socialization: The schools Social development: Gender	Ch. 14 Ch. 15
Nov. 27	Social development: Gender Social development: Morality	Ch. 15 Ch. 16