

EDPY – CHILD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Fall I 2008

Instructor: Dr. Theresa A. Polenski

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Fridays, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Class Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-6:30 p.m.
Bradley Arts & Sciences Building / Room #207

REQUIRED TEXT:

Feldman, R. S. (2007). Child Development (4th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson / Prentice-Hall.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a basic course designed to familiarize the prospective teacher with the characteristic patterns of physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and personality development of the human individual. Development of these growth patterns is covered from conception to the onset of adolescence.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. Exhibit an understanding of the research process and research methods used in developmental psychology.
2. Articulate the major theoretical perspectives in developmental psychology.
3. Describe normal development of children from conception to the onset of adolescence in the following areas: physical, cognitive, social, emotional, and personality.
4. Identify developmental tasks, issues, and processes typical during the various stages of childhood.
5. Discuss cultural differences and their impact on human development.
6. Define what is meant by the “ecology of development.”
7. Outline both familial and extra-familial influences on development.
8. Recognize the application of developmental psychology in everyday life, particularly in educational settings.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS:

Students will be evaluated by their performance on 4 exams and 4 written homework assignments. Exams will be in multiple choice, short answer, and short essay format and will cover lectures, text readings, films, and other supporting materials. Attendance is required and can affect students' final grades.

GRADING:

There will be a total of 250 points possible.

Grading will be based on the following:

- Exam #1.....60 points
- Exam #2.....50 points
- Exam #3.....50 points
- Exam #4.....50 points
- Homeworks (4).....40 points

GRADING SCALE:

- 90-100%.....A
- 87-89%.....B+
- 80-86%.....B
- 77-79%.....C+
- 70-76%.....C
- 67-69%.....D+
- 60-66%.....D
- 0-59%.....F

CLASS POLICIES:

*Each student will have 2 unexcused absences to use during the semester. Further absences will result in a deduction of 1 point per class missed. An absence will be counted if students arrive to class late or leave early. **Students are responsible for obtaining missed notes, announcements, etc.**

*If you are absent the day of an exam, that grade must be made up within 1 week of the scheduled exam. A deduction of 1 point will occur for each day the make-up exam is delayed beyond that time. Any assignment not submitted on time will result in a deduction of 1 point per day late.

*The expectation in this class is that all members will behave in a professional and honest manner. Therefore, any student who engages in an act of academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade for that assignment and will be subject to the University of South Carolina's rules and penalties. Common examples of academic dishonesty include the following: plagiarizing a paper or other written work (Note that copying from any text without references and quotation marks is one example of plagiarism.), signing in an absent student, and cheating on an exam.

*It is expected that all members of the class will be attentive and respectful and that no one will engage in disruptive behavior of any kind, behavior that would compromise the quality of the classroom experience. In the unlikelyhood that this should occur, the offending individual(s) will be asked to leave the classroom, and disciplinary action will be taken.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

*It is my sincere intention that this course be both informative and enjoyable for students. If you find that you are having difficulty with the course, please see me before or after class, stop in during my office hours, or e-mail or call me. I will be most happy to assist you.

*This syllabus may be amended as necessary.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
August		
21	*Introduction / Overview *An Introduction to Child Development	* * Chapter 1
26	*Theoretical Perspectives and Research	Chapter 2
28	*The Start of Life	Chapter 3
September		
2	*Birth and the Newborn Infant	Chapter 4
4	**EXAM #1** *Physical Development in Infancy	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 Chapter 5
9	“ “ “ “ “ *Cognitive Development in Infancy	“ “ Chapter 6
11	*Social and Personality Development in Infancy	Chapter 7
16	**EXAM #2** *Physical Development in the Preschool Years	Chapters 5, 6, 7 Chapter 8
18	*Cognitive Development in the Preschool Years	Chapter 9
23	*Social and Personality Development in the Preschool Years	Chapter 10
25	**EXAM #3**	Chapters 8, 9, 10
30	*Physical Development in Middle Childhood	Chapter 11
October		
2	*Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood	Chapter 12
7	*Social and Personality Development in Middle Childhood	Chapter 13
9	**No Class / Fall Break**	
14	**EXAM #4**	Chapters 11, 12, 13