

Child Psychology 3000, Spring 2015
Weber State University

Professor: Peggy Smith, Ph.D.
Office Hours: By appointment only
Class Location: SLCC Miller Campus
Class Time: 4:30-7:10
Contact Information: e-mail: margaretsmith@weber.edu
Cell #: 801-618-6177

Required Text: Berk, L.E. 2012. Child Development, 9th ed. Pearson Education, Inc.

I. Course Objectives

- A.** To provide students with an integrative overview of the field of child psychology, major developmental milestones, and possible psychological problems and disorders associated with problems in development.
- B.** To familiarize students with the biological, social, psychological, and emotional influences of development during childhood as viewed from a number of different theoretical perspectives.
- C.** To provide an integrative view of research in the area of child psychology.
- D.** To discuss diverse pathways of change and development.
- E.** To provide knowledge of the processes and sequence of child development while identifying possible shortcomings and related problems with child development.

II. Course Requirements

- A. Exams:** each exam will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions; exams will be worth a total of 70% of your grade; the exams will not be comprehensive, however they will consist of material from the text as well as classroom handouts, lectures, and assignments; makeup exams will not be given. If you know you will be missing an exam please talk to me before the date of the exam.
- B. Essays:** Four essay questions will be given in class throughout the semester. The essays will consist of questions from class lectures and reading materials. They will be due one week from the date given. Each essay should be three to five pages in length, double-spaced. Essays will be worth 20% of the total grade.
- C. Class Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory as exams, activities, and discussions will only be completed during class times, thus, missing a class may lower your overall grade as certain activities and discussions cannot be made up. Attendance will be worth 10% of your grade.

III. Use of Electronic Media

Students may not use laptops during class, with the exception of using a laptop to take notes or to access Canvas for class materials. However, the professor reserves the right to ask the students to turn off any media during lectures, if the media interferes with the class discussions, lectures, or other presentations. If a student needs certain media due to a disability, please let the professor know at the beginning of the course and exceptions may be made.

This course requires the use of Canvas. If you do not have access to the internet please let the professor know and arrangements may be made. The professor also reserves the right to set specific class guidelines about the use of all electronic media during the class lectures. There will be no laptops, cell phones or other devices allowed during the tests.

IV. Course Schedule

DATE	EXAM / ESSAYS	CHAPTER / READINGS
Jan. 15		Syllabus review – Ch. 1 - History
Jan. 22	Essay #1 Given	Ch. 3 - Biological
Jan. 29	Essay #1 Due	Ch. 4 - Early Learning
Feb. 5		Ch. 6 – Cognitive
Feb. 12	Exam #1	
Feb. 19	Essay #2 Given	Ch. 10 - Emotions
Feb. 26	Essay #2 Due	Ch. 8 - Intelligence
Mar. 5	Essay #3 Given	Ch. 9 - Language
Mar. 12	SPRING BREAK- NO CLASS	
Mar. 19	Essay #3 Due	Ch. 11 - Social
Mar. 26	Exam #2	
Apr. 2		Ch. 12 – Moral Dev.
Apr. 9	Essay #4 Given	Ch. 14 – Peers
Apr. 17	Essay #4 Due	Ch. 14 – Peers Ch. 15 - Family
Apr. 24	Exam #3	

V. Grading Scale

A = 93-100%
A- = 90-92%
B+ = 86-89%
B = 83-85%
B- = 80-82%
C+ = 76-79%

C = 73-75%
C- = 70-72%
D+ = 66-69%
D = 63-65%
D- = 60-62%
E = <60%

VI. Cheating

All students are expected to abide by Weber State University's cheating policies, codes, definitions, and sanctions. Please refer to the following website for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

Students are also expected to refrain from any type of plagiarism, intentional or unintentional. Please see the website to review what constitutes plagiarism. Any cheating or plagiarism will result in a failing grade in this course.

VII. Student Services

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Services Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials in alternate formats if necessary.

VIII. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

If you have a question or concern about this class, exams, homework, or syllabus in general, please contact me. If you would like to appeal any graded work please provide a written response as to why you feel the grade is not appropriate.

Attendance is mandatory however, if you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to know the information covered, as tests are a combination of class material and the textbook. In addition, extreme tardiness or early dismissal from class may result in a loss of information that can only be learned in the class setting. It is your responsibility to know what you have missed. This syllabus constitutes a general guideline of the course. Changes may be made to the readings and exam schedule. It is your responsibility to attend class and be aware of these possible changes.

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IX. Emergency Closure

If for any reason the university is forced to close for an extended period of time, we will conduct our class via e-mail and Canvas. Look for announcements in emails and on Canvas. Code Purple is a good way to be alerted to campus closures, and you are encouraged to sign up for it.

X. Core Beliefs

According to PPM 6-22 IV, students are to “[d]etermine, before the last day to drop courses without penalty, when course requirements conflict with a student's core beliefs. If there is such a conflict, the student should consider dropping the class. A student who finds this solution impracticable may request a resolution from the instructor. This policy does not oblige the instructor to grant the request, except in those cases when a denial would be arbitrary and capricious or illegal. This request must be made to the instructor in writing and the student must deliver a copy of the request to the office of the department head. The student's request must articulate the burden the requirement would place on the student's beliefs.”