

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOUTH
Department of Psychology
Fall 2004

PSY 201 Child Psychology (3 credit hours)
Section 01: MWF 11:00 – 11:50
Section 02: MWF 12:00 – 12:50

Instructor Information:

Michael Cleveland, Ph.D.
Group I-362
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Office Hours: MWF 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.,
W 1:00 – 2:00 p.m., and by appointment

Teaching Assistant:

Rebecca Butler
Group I-391 C
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Office Hours: Tues 10:00 – 2:00
Thurs 10:00 – 4:00

Course Description:

“A study of the child from both the developmental and experimental approaches. Topics that may be included are methodology in child research, heredity and environment controversy, intelligence, language and communication, learning in infancy and childhood, and motor, cognitive, perceptual, personality, and social development. This course meets the Massachusetts Office for Children requirement for day care center certification, OFC Category A, Child Growth and Development” (1999-2000 General Catalogue, p. 159).

Required Text:

Cook, J.L. & Cook, G. (2004). Child Development: principles and practices. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Note that the ISBN for this book (0205-434-746) is for a package that also contains the online “MyDevelopmentLab” which contains an ebook of this text as well as other enhanced features. More information about this resource will be given at a later date (see calendar). Other selected readings and handouts may also be assigned by the instructor.

Student Learning Outcome Objectives:

At the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Show increased knowledge in a myriad of developmental areas (i.e., physical, social, personality, cognitive)
- Increase critical thinking skills through the investigation and discussion of opposing theories in developmental research.
- Have a deeper understanding of developmental research and show this mastery through exams and a variety of writing assignments. Make connections between information gained from developmental theories and research to daily issues of the self, family and peer relations, community, and the larger social context.

Course Format:

This course will utilize a variety of teaching methods--primarily lectures, reading assignments, videos, and class discussion. Class participation (questions, comments, discussion) is an integral part of this course and is encouraged and expected.

Course Requirements:

4 Exams (50 points each)	200 points
3 Article Summaries (10 points each)	30 points
1 Class Project (25 points)	<u>25 points</u>
	255 points total

1. There will be four **chapter examinations** (covering between 3-4 chapter each) in this class. All lecture materials, required readings, class experiences, handouts, and videos will be considered fair game for test material. Thus, it is important to attend all lectures and to do all the required readings. The exams will follow a multiple-choice and short answer format. In addition to the chapter exams, there will be a **cumulative final exam** giving during final examination week.

Each exam (chapter and final) will be worth 50 points. There will be NO make-up exams. However, your lowest exam grade (including the final) will be dropped. Therefore, if you miss a exam, it will be counted as your dropped exam.

2. Throughout the semester, you will read selected scientific articles that apply the concepts learned in class to specific research questions. Three of these will be used for brief **article summaries**, which must be typed and turned in at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Each article summary will be worth 10 points. More information regarding these summaries will be distributed at a later date.
3. In addition to the smaller article summaries, you will also complete a more extensive **class project**, which will be worth 25 points. For this project, students will be given a list of several options from which they will choose to write about one topic. The completed class project should be about 5 pages in length and must be turned in by **5:00 p.m.** of the date it is due. More specific details about the project and the list of possible topics will be distributed later in the semester.

Grading:

There are 255 points available. Final grades will based on the total number of points accumulated during the semester, using the following percentage scale:

- ♦ 93-100 = A ♦ 90-92 = A-
- ♦ 87-89 = B+ ♦ 83-86 = B ♦ 80-82 = B-
- ♦ 77-79 = C+ ♦ 73-76 = C ♦ 70-72 = C-
- ♦ 67-69 = D+ ♦ 63-66 = D ♦ 60-62 = D-
- ♦ Below 60 = F

Calendar:

The following outline is a tentative schedule of the topics that will be covered during each class meeting.

DATE	TOPIC
W – September 8	Introduction to class
F – September 10	Begin Chapter 1 – Exploring Child Development
M – September 13	Chapter 1
W – September 15	Begin Chapter 2 – Genes and Heredity <i>Demonstration of MyDevelopmentLab</i>
F – September 17	Chapter 2
M – September 20	Chapter 2
W – September 22	Begin Chapter 3 – Prenatal Development and Birth
F – September 24	Chapter 3
M – September 27	Chapter 3
W – September 29	Begin Chapter 4 – Physical Development: Body, Brain, & Perception
F – October 1	Chapter 4
M – October 4	Chapter 4 <i>**Article Summary #1 Due</i>
W – October 6	Exam I: Chapters 1 – 4
F – October 8	Begin Chapter 5 – Cognitive Development: Piagetian and Sociocultural Views
M – October 11	No Class – Columbus Day
TUESDAY – October 12	Chapter 5
W – October 13	Begin Chapter 6 – Information Processing: Development of Memory & Thought
F – October 15	Chapter 6
M – October 18	Begin Chapter 7 – Intelligence and Academic Skills
W – October 20	Chapter 7
F – October 22	Begin Chapter 8 – Language Development
M – October 25	Chapter 8
W – October 27	Chapter 8 <i>**Article Summary #2 Due</i>
F – October 29	Exam II: Chapters 5 – 8
M – November 1	Begin Chapter 9 – Attachment, Temperament, and Emotions
W – November 3	Chapter 9
F – November 5	Begin Chapter 10 – Becoming Who We Are: Dev. of Self, Gender, & Morality
M – November 8	Chapter 10
W – November 10	No Class – Follow Thursday schedule
F – November 12	Begin Chapter 11 – Peers, Play, and Popularity

DATE	TOPIC
M – November 15	Chapter 11
W – November 17	Chapter 11
	<i>**Article Summary #3 Due</i>
<i>F – November 19</i>	<i>Exam III: Chapters 9 – 11</i>
M – November 22	Begin Chapter 12 – Families
W – November 24	Chapter 12
F – November 26	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday
M – November 29	Begin Chapter 13 – Schools, Media, and Culture
W – December 1	Chapter 13
F – December 3	Chapter 13
M – December 6	Begin Chapter 14 – Children on Different Developmental Paths
W – December 8	Chapter 14
F – December 10	<i>Exam IV: Chapters 12 – 14</i>
<i>M – December 13</i>	<i>**Class Project Due</i>
W – December 15	Review for Final
	<i>Cumulative Final</i>
<i>Tuesday 12/21 8am – 11am</i>	Section 01 (MWF 11-11:50)
<i>Thursday 12/23 8am – 11am</i>	Section 02 (MWF 12-12:50)

Other course information:

- The deadline for withdrawing from classes is November 15.
- Tutorial assistance is available at no cost through the Writing/Reading Center, located within the Academic Resource Center. The WRC is located in rooms 220 of Group-I. The telephone extension is 8710.
- Students are expected to attend class every day. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the notes and handouts from a classmate. Attendance and participation are vital to this course and thoughtful participation in classroom discussion enhances the course for everyone. Therefore, talking on cell phones, listening to headphones, and other disruptive behaviors will not be allowed. Students displaying these “off-task” behaviors may be asked to leave the class and excessive disruptive behavior may result in a student being dropped from the course.
- University policies regarding academic dishonesty, as described in the student handbook, will be enforced in this class. Cheating on an examination or using another author’s work as your own will, at minimum, earn you a score of ‘zero’ and may result in failure of the class. Any incidents of cheating will be reported to University officials.
- In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please meet with the instructor at the beginning of the semester and provide the appropriate paperwork from the Disabled Students Services Office. The necessary paperwork is obtained when you bring proper documentation to the Disabled Students Services Office (DSS), which is located in Group I, Room 016, phone: 508-999-8711.