

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, PSY 230, Fall 2010

SYLLABUS AND COURSE OUTLINE

Tuesday, Thursday from 12:30-1:45 p.m. NH 100

Course Instructor: Dr. Joseph M. Price

Professor, Department of Psychology, SDSU

**Research Scientist, Child and Adolescent Services Research Center (CASRC), Rady
Children's Hospital**

I. Course Description: The focus of this course will be on: (a) the sequence of human development from conception through early adulthood; (b) major developmental processes within various domains of development (e.g., physical, cognitive, emotional, language, moral, and social); (c) theoretical perspectives currently being used to guide developmental research; (d) research methodology used in developmental psychology; (e) the contexts of development (e.g., family, society, and culture); and (f) applications of developmental theory and research.

II. Objectives: The primary goal of this course is to increase student understanding of the sequence of human development, the processes underlying developmental change and stability (e.g., hereditary and environmental influences), explanations for individual differences in development, and the theoretical perspectives and research methods currently being used to examine human development.

III. Textbook (Required):

Berger, K.S. (2008). The Developing Person Through the Life Span: 7th Edition. New York: Worth. See The Berger Companion Web Site at www.worthpublishers.com/berger for additional study materials.

IV. Course Requirements:

- A. Reading Assignments as specified on course schedule.
- B. Examinations as scheduled (4). For each exam, approximately 50% of the questions will come from the text readings and 50% from the material presented in class, including lectures, films, and class discussions.

V. Attendance: Although attendance will not be taken in this course, students are expected to attend every lecture. It will be impossible to receive a passing grade in this course without understanding *and knowing* the material presented both in the text and during the lectures.

VI. Grading Procedures and Policy

A. Examinations: 4(70 points each).

- 1. Types of questions that may be used: multiple choice, matching, fill-in, and essay.
- 2. Scaling for each exam and the final grade. There is no curving.

A (93.3%)	A - (90.0%)	B+ (86.6%)	B (83.3%)
B - (80.0%)	C+ (76.6%)	C (73.3%)	C - (70.0%)
D+ (66.6%)	D (63.3%)	D - (60.0%)	F (59.9% or less)

3. Exam Policy: You must take the exam at the date and time specified on the course outline. So, schedule your end-of-the semester plans accordingly. Missing an exam because you got the date, time or place wrong is **not** an acceptable excuse.
 4. SCANTRON: RED SCANTRON FORM NO. **F-289-PAR-L** is required for all exams. No other types of forms can be used.
 5. Cheating: In the event an individual is suspected of cheating on an exam, the instructor will discuss the matter with the individual in private. In the event the evidence suggests the individual did cheat on an exam, the individual will receive 0 points for that particular exam. In addition, for all subsequent exams the individual will be proctored by the instructor at a time and place determined by the instructor (e.g., 7:00 a.m. in the instructor's office). Furthermore, the individual will be referred to the University Student Affairs Office for disciplinary action.
 6. Challenges to an Exam Grade or Question: All challenges to an exam grade or question or to the correctness of an answer to a particular exam question must be made *in writing*. Evidence from the text or lecture supporting the challenge must be provided. For example, citing the paragraph and page number in the text for an alternative answer is acceptable. However, recalling from your own life experiences is **not** acceptable. You are being tested over the material presented in the lectures, film presentations, and the text, and not over your life experiences.
- B. Extra Credit: There will be 5 extra credit questions on each of the four exams. These questions will cover material from the previous exam or from the course syllabus (Exam #1), and will be worth one point each. ***There are no other means of receiving extra credit in this course.***
- C. Final Grades: Final grades will be based on the sum of the four exam scores (280 possible) and the extra credit points you earn (20 possible). Grades will be calculated on 280 points. However, with the extra credit points, it is possible to receive a total of 300 points. ***Please be aware that grades are based only on the points earned from the 4 exams, and not any type of negotiations with the instructor either during or after the end of the semester.***

VII. Cell Phone Use. Out of courtesy to your instructor and your fellow classmates, please switch your cell phone to "silent" or "vibrate" mode when class is in session. If you need to answer a call (such as in an emergency), please exit the classroom before answering. Cell phones must be "put away" with other personnel items during exams.

VIII. Office Hours: By appointment only. My office is located at 6363 Alvarado Ct., Suite 103, Room 6. Directions: From College Ave, take Alvarado Rd. east to Alvarado Ct. This is the first street on the right. The first building on the right is 6363. Enter the front of the building and proceed to the right to Suite 103. My office phone number is: 619-594-5241, and my email address is: jprice@sunstroke.sdsu.edu.

IX. Course Outline

Date	Topic	Chapter Assignment
Aug 31	The Study of Human Development: Assumptions, Issues, & Controversies	1
Sept 2	Current Theoretical Perspectives	2
Sept 7	Research Methodology	1
Sept 9	Hereditary Influences on Development	3
Sept 14	Prenatal Development	4
Sept 16	Prenatal Development	4
Sept 21	Birth & the Newborn	4
Sept 23	Exam #1	Chapters 1 - 4
Sept 28	Biosocial Development	5 & 8
Sept 30	Infancy and Early Childhood	5 & 8
Oct 5	Cognitive Development:	6 & 9
Oct 7	Infancy and Early Childhood	6 & 9
Oct 12	Psychosocial Development:	7 & 10
Oct 14	Infancy and Early Childhood	7 & 10
Oct 19	Infancy and Early Childhood	7 & 10
Oct 21	Exam #2	Chapters 5 - 10
Oct 26	Childhood	11
Oct 28	Childhood	12
Nov 2	Childhood	13
Nov 4	Childhood	13
Nov 9	Adolescence	14
Nov 11	Adolescence	15
Nov 16	Adolescence	16
Nov 18	Exam #3	Chapters 11 - 16
Nov 23	Early Adulthood	17
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Recess – No Class	
Nov 30	Early Adulthood	18
Dec 2	Early Adulthood	18
Dec 7	Early Adulthood	19
Dec 9	Early Adulthood	19
Dec 16	Exam #4 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Chapters 17 – 19