

PSYC 3310 – DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Monday & Wednesday
5.30PM – 6.50PM
Life Sciences 122

Instructor: Haylie Gomez
Office: Life Sciences 423
Office hours: Thursday 11–12 am, or by appointment
E-Mail: haylie.gomez@mavs.uta.edu
eInstruction Website: www.einstruction.com
Book Website: www.mhhe.com/santrockldt3
CPS online Class Key: H52483B199
Course Prerequisites: PSYC 1315 - Introduction to Psychology

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Required Materials:

1. Santrock, John W. (2007). A Topical Approach to Life-Span Development, 4th Edition
2. CPS radio-frequency pad and access code (www.einstruction.com)



Purchasing a new book bundle will allow you CPS access, which is mandatory for the class. If you purchase the text used or new without the enclosed certificate, you will be required to purchase a CPS access code directly from E-instruction. You MUST be registered with E-Instruction by August 31st (Monday). You can purchase the response pad from the bookstore or another student, but those purchasing a used pad will have to register it online (www.einstruction.com) for a fee. You must bring the pad to every class, it will be used for quizzes, attendance, and class participation.

Beginning on August 31st, if you do not bring your CPS pad, you will not receive credit for in-class exercises. I will NOT accept paper submissions for quizzes, attendance, or participation grades.

You do not need to own a computer to participate effectively in the class. However, you will need to access and use the computers available to you on campus (e.g., in the library) on a regular basis.

Students are required to use their UTA e-mail account in this class. I will not send e-mails to alternate accounts. All students are assigned an email account, and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UTA. Students are responsible for checking their e-mail regularly.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the major themes characterizing today's developmental research. We will focus on childhood and adolescence in lecture, but readings from your textbook will present a comprehensive view of the entire lifespan. Lectures will be coordinated with readings, but the overlap is not always going to be great, so be sure to focus your studies on both components of the class.

Much of the lecture material will be based on findings obtained in experimental research undertaken in developmental psychology. We will focus more on theories and research than on applications in this course, but applications should be obvious to those who understand the underlying themes of the field.

I want you to enjoy the class! ☺ I believe that students should take an active role in the class, and I intend for us to interact through discussions, but this will only be successful if you cooperate and participate.

HOW YOUR GRADE IS CALCULATED:

Attendance & Class Participation:

It is your responsibility to attend every class and be on time. You are responsible for anything you miss during your absence. **Attendance is worth a maximum of 25 points**, with 30 opportunities to sign-in for attendance. Students can miss four classes for ANY reason and still have perfect attendance at the end of the semester. You will NOT be excused for any absences since you can miss four classes and still have perfect attendance. The course begins August 24th and continues through December 2nd, excluding finals.

Participation in class is worth an additional 25 points (via the CPS pad or in-class discussions).

Exams:

There will be three equally weighted, multiple-choice exams (50 questions, 2 pts. each). Questions will come from readings, lectures, and any supplemental materials. I will drop your lowest exam grade, or if you acquire enough points throughout the semester you may not need to take the final. If you miss either Exam 1 or 2 for any reason, you must take the final. You may take the final to replace a lower test grade.

YOU WILL NEED YOUR CPS PAD FOR EVERY EXAM!

You are expected to be in class on time for exams. I will not give exams to late students after the first exam is turned in. Arriving after the first exam is turned in will result in a zero. Students who have absences during exams authorized by the University must contact the instructor 1 week in advance of the excused absence and arrange with the instructor to take the examination prior to the absence. Failure to notify the instructor or to comply with these arrangements will void the excused absence.

I will not go over examinations in class, and I will not e-mail grades. Grades will be posted by your unique id code provided by UTA. If you do not want your grades posted for any reason, see me immediately. You can also make an appointment to see your exam at any time up to 1 week after the test.

Quizzes:

You are expected to read prior to the class in which the information will be discussed. I will give 12 unannounced quizzes over the reading materials/class lectures. Students will need their response pad to take their quiz, and **must take 10 quizzes** to attempt to obtain the total possible points (i.e., **50/50 points**). No make-up quizzes will be given for any reason – you can miss at 2 and still have the opportunity to earn the full 50 points. As with the attendance policy, absences do not justify a make-up quiz, so do not ask.

Extra Credit:

Through the Sona System, you can earn 4 extra-credit points (total). The subject pool coordinator for this semester (Priya Iyer) will inform you of specific policies and deadlines for extra credit at a later time.

POINTS DISTRIBUTION &

GRADES:

Exam 1	100	300 – 270 points = A
Exam 2	100	269 – 240 points = B
Quizzes	50	239 – 210 points = C
Attendance	25	209 – 180 points = D
Participation	25	Fewer than 180 = F

POLICIES & SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

You will not be graded on a curve, and I do not “bump” grades up for any reason. Grades are based on the total number of points accumulated over the course of the semester. If you are taking the course PASS/FAIL, you must have at least 210 points (70%) to pass. Work not completed by Dec. 4th will convert to a ‘0’, no exceptions.

Drop Policy:

For Fall 2009, the drop date is 5:00 PM (CST) on Friday, October 30th. Students who drop a course on or before the Last Drop Date will receive an automatic grade of “W” on their student record by MyMav.

Incompletes:

Incompletes will only be given under extenuating circumstances and must be discussed with the professor BEFORE the last day of the semester. The grade of incomplete will be assigned only if the student has encountered circumstances beyond his or her control and the student's previous actions have not created these circumstances. The assignment of this incomplete grade will be made at the decision of the instructor after consideration of the facts as presented in a written request from the student. An incomplete will not be awarded merely to allow more time to complete course assignments or to avoid an undesirable grade. Please do not ask me to do otherwise.

Academic Dishonesty:

It is the philosophy of UTA that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. Any form of academic dishonesty will be reported. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

UTA is committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation, reference to Public Law 93112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. I will provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate based on disability. The student is responsible for informing me of a disability requiring special accommodation and providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels by September 3rd, 2009.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Reading should be done PRIOR to the class in which that topic is covered. (Read Ch. 1 before class on August 26th.)
You may be quizzed on readings at the beginning of class.

CLASS	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
August 24	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	Read your syllabus! ☺
August 26	Research Methods & Theories	Chapter 1
August 31	Biological Beginnings/Hereditary Influences	Chapter 2
September 2	Biological Beginnings/Hereditary Influences	Chapter 2
September 7	NO CLASS – LABOR DAY	
September 9	Physical Development & Biological Aging	Chapter 3
September 14	Physical Development & Biological Aging	Chapter 3
September 16	The Brain & Alzheimers	Chapter 3
September 21	Health	Chapter 4
September 23	Health	Chapter 4
September 28	EXAM 1	Chapters 1 – 4
September 30	Motor, Sensory, & Perceptual Development	Chapter 5
October 5	Motor, Sensory, & Perceptual Development	Chapter 5
October 7	Cognitive Developmental Approaches	Chapter 6
October 12	Cognitive Developmental Approaches	Chapter 6
October 14	Information Processing	Chapter 8
October 19	Learning & Memory	Chapter 8
October 21	Language Development	Chapter 9
October 26	Language Development	Chapter 9
October 28	EXAM 2	Chapters 5 – 6 & 8 – 9
<i>The last day to drop is Oct. 30th at 5:00 PM (CST). Exam 2 grades will be posted on Oct. 29th by 5:00 PM.</i>		
November 2	Emotional Development	Chapter 10
November 4	Emotional Development	Chapter 10
November 9	Attachment	Chapter 10
November 11	The Self and Identity	Chapter 11
November 16	Personality Development	Chapter 11
November 18	Gender & Sexuality	Chapter 12
November 23	Gender & Sexuality	Chapter 12
November 25	Aging & Death	Chapter 17
November 30	Aging & Death	Chapter 17
December 2	Summary & Future Directions	
December 7	EXAM 3 (5:30 – 8:00 PM)	Chapters 10 – 12, 17

This schedule is tentative, and is not a contract. You will be notified of any scheduling changes either in class or via e-mail.