

PSYC 211-001 – Developmental Psychology

M W F 10:30am – 11:20am

Enterprise Hall – room 276

Instructor: Abby Carlson, M.A.

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Office: 1029 David King Hall

Office Hours: Tues 6:00pm-7:00pm

Wed 11:30am-12:30pm

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide students with a survey of theory and research on broad aspects of human development including physical, cognitive, and social emotional development across the lifespan (childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and old age) through a mixture of lecture, discussion, and multimedia presentations.

Readings:

Denise Boyd & Helen Bee (2011). *Lifespan Development* (6th ed.).

Lectures:

While the readings will be selected primarily to support discussion and integration of course material, class lectures will provide students with the foundational content of the course. Limited lecture notes will be posted on black board prior to class meetings, but should not be relied upon to replace physical attendance. Students will be responsible for all material presented in lecture and through class discussions. If you know you will have to miss a day of class, be sure to connect with a classmate for detailed class notes.

Requirements:**Attendance and Participation (10%)**

The easiest way to do well in this class is to show up. You are expected to participate in class discussions and activities when present.

Quizzes (10%)

There will be ten random reading quizzes throughout the course of the semester. The lowest one will be dropped. Students will not be told ahead of time when quizzes will take place. The material covered on these quizzes will be **directly** related to whatever reading was assigned for that day. Make-up quizzes will not be given under any circumstances. *A reading assignment schedule will be posted on blackboard.*

Interview (20%)

Each student will conduct an interview/observation and write up what they found. The purpose of the interview is to see how concepts that are discussed in class play out in real life. The interview is to center on a particular age range. After conducting the interview, students will write up a 5-7 page (double spaced) reaction. The reaction will primarily relate what was said in the interview to material from class and from readings. Short quotations may be used in support of your points. Questions asked need to be included as an appendix (does not count towards the page count).

Interview projects should be turned in on Blackboard via the assignments tab. Interviews should be submitted before the start of class (7pm) on the due date. Any interview write up submitted after the due date will not be accepted. Additional interviews will not be graded.

The interview is expected to last 30-minutes. Questions should elements of themes raised from class, but they can be far ranging in scope. The interview does not need to take place in person, but is preferred. Phone or video interviews are okay. Email interviews are not. You may select any age range you wish, but the due date varies by the age range you choose:

Infant – childhood (Due 9/30): Interview a parent of a young child. Observe the child if you can. Parent may not be your parent.

Adolescence (Due 10/28): Interview an adolescent (in middle or high school). May interview the parent in addition (but not instead) to the adolescent. The adolescent may not be in your immediate family.

Middle and Late Adulthood (Due 12/9): Interview someone over the age of 60. May not be a parent, but may be a grandparent.

Exams (60%)

There will be four non-cumulative exams throughout the course of the semester. Each exam is worth 15% of your final grade. No exam grades will be dropped. Students will be responsible for all materials covered in the text, lectures, and in-class discussions or activities.

If a student is unable to attend an exam they need to make arrangements with the instructor

BEFORE the exam date. MAKE UP EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN IF ARRANGEMENTS AREN'T MADE BEFORE THE EXAM DATE.

Exams will be administered using the BLUE PSYC 100 SCANTRON Sheets. Every student will need to purchase these sheets at the bookstore prior to the first Exam.

Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A+ = 97-100%	B+ = 87-89%	C+ = 77-79%	D+ = 67-69%	F < 60%
A = 93-96%	B = 83-86%	C = 73-76%	D = 63-67%	
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82%	C- = 70-72%	D- = 60-63%	

Miscellaneous Information**TECHNOLOGY**

This course will rely heavily on the Black Board platform version 9.1. It is the responsibility of every student to learn how to access Black Board and post assignments properly. Access the course through <http://mymason.gmu.edu>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students in this course are expected to behave at all times in a manner consistent with the GMU Honor System and Code. (<http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>). For all work, the name that appears on the paper must be the author's. If you are using someone else's work as a source, cite it. Please see details available at the website above. Violations of the Honor Code will not be tolerated in this course and will be immediately reported according to GMU procedures. The instructor reserves the right to use software to determine the extent to which the work is the student's. The instructor for this course reserves the right to enter a failing grade for any student found guilty of an honor code violation.

MASON EMAIL ACCOUNTS

Students must use their Mason email account to receive important University information, including messages related to this class. Professors are prohibited from communicating with you via any other email address so please ensure that messages are appropriately forwarded and that your inbox does not over fill.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Life is stressful and we all need a little support sometimes. Students are encouraged to contact counseling Services (364 Student Union I) at 993-2385 for assistance with any kind of psychological/life problem or crisis situation. I can help with referrals for students with particular counseling needs so please feel free to talk with me for help with anything.

Important Dates:

Last Day to Add: September 6

Last Day to Drop (no penalty): September 6

Final Drop Deadline: September 30

Monday Classes held: October 11

Final Exam: December 14

Tentative Class Schedule *

Date	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Assignment Due
8/29 – 9/2	Review Syllabus	Basic Concepts	Methods	
9/5 – 9/9	Theories of Development	Theories of Development	Theories of Development	
9/12 – 9/16	Prenatal Development	Infancy – Physical Development	Infancy – Cognitive Development	
9/19 – 9/23	NO CLASS	Infancy – Social Development	Watch “Babies”	
9/26 – 9/30	Exam 1	Early Childhood Physical Development	Early Childhood Cognitive Development	Infant-Childhood Interview
10/3 – 10/7	Early Childhood Social Emotional Development	Physical Development in Middle Childhood	Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood	
10/11 – 10/14	Social Emotional Development in Middle Childhood	Watch “This Emotional Life”	Watch “This Emotional Life”	
10/17 – 10/21	Exam 2	Physical Development in Adolescence	Cognitive Development in Adolescence	
10/24 – 10/28	Social Emotional Development in Adolescence	Issues in Adolescence	Parenting /Family Relationships	Adolescent Interview Due
10/31 – 11/4	Friends and Peers	Watch “Planet 12”	The theory of Emerging Adulthood	
11/7 – 11/11	Cognitive and Physical Functioning in Early Adulthood	Social Emotional Development in Early Adulthood	Relationships	
11/14 – 11/18	Exam 3	Physical and Cognitive Changes in Middle Adulthood	Social Emotional Development in Middle Adulthood	
11/21 – 11/25	Health and Wellness	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	
11/28 – 12/2	Physical Development in Late Adulthood	Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood	Social Emotional Development in Late Adulthood	
12/5 – 12/9	Watch “49 Up”	Death and Dying	Class Wrap Up/Review	Middle and Late Adulthood Interview Due
12/14	Final Exam 10:30 – 1:15			

*SEE BLACKBOARD FOR READING SCHEDULE