

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Course Title:	Developmental Psychology – Conception to Death
Course Number:	Psychology 204
Semester Units:	3
Instructor:	Nicole Rodiles
Office:	Room 411
Office Hours:	Scheduled by appointment
Phone:	791-4915
Email:	npankratz@roadrunner.com
Required Text:	Stassen Berger, Kathleen B. <u>Invitation to the Life Span</u> , 2010. 1 st Edition, New York: Worth Publishers.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce you to the main concepts and theories of developmental psychology, from conception to death. This course surveys psychology as both a science and an applied discipline. Topics to be covered include conception, prenatal development, infancy, toddlerhood, preschool years, middle childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, late adulthood and death and looks at physical, mental and social development in each of the above-mentioned stages.

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are: 1) To critically think about and gain knowledge of the main theories and concepts of developmental psychology; and 2) To leave this course with a basic understanding of developmental psychology, not only in the academic sense, but also an understanding of the everyday or practical nature of developmental psychology and how it applies to your physical, mental and social development.

Course Format:

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, class discussion, assigned readings, videos, group and individual projects and performance on quizzes and exams.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Class Participation: You are expected to attend class and stay for the whole period. **Attendance will be taken by the instructor.** You will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the assigned reading by actively participating in class discussions. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get class notes from a fellow student. If you are going to miss a class, please call me **before** class to let me know. You may be dropped from class if you are absent consecutively for the equivalent of one week of instruction, but **DO NOT** count on the instructor dropping you. If you want to drop the class, it is your responsibility to fill out the proper paperwork with the admissions office.

Projects/Thought Papers: There will be three (2) one page papers due at various times during the semester. For the paper, you will be required to find and read an article regarding psychology. This article can be in a newspaper, magazine or psychology journal. You will be required to write a one-page paper on how the article relates to psychology and everyday life. Or your thought paper can be about music lyrics and how the lyrics relate to you. Each project will be worth 25 points. More information will be given about these papers at a later date. **No late thought papers will be accepted.**

Quizzes: About six (6) quizzes will be given during the semester. **No make-up quizzes will be given unless you have given me prior notice about missing class.** The quizzes vary in points.

Student Learning Outcome Project (SLO): In order to demonstrate your communication skills, you will be required to write a short paper (2 pages) using two (2) research sources. This paper may be about any psychological topic of your choosing. To demonstrate globalization, this paper will compare and contrast two different cultures, the American culture and another culture of your choosing. For example, if you wanted to talk about eating disorders, you would have to find a research article regarding eating disorders in America and an article regarding eating disorders from another culture and compare the two. You will demonstrate your information literacy by finding your articles on internet databases. Personal Responsibility will be measured by turning in your SLO project when due, in order to fulfill the requirements of this course.

Exams: Four (4) exams will be given. Exams will consist of multiple choice and essay questions from the textbook and lectures. No make-up exams will be given unless you have called me **PRIOR** to the exam and let me know you will not be able to take the exam. If you contact me prior to the exam, you will have one week to make up the exam. Each exam will be worth 120 points.

Please bring a #2 pencil and scantron to each examination.

Grading System:

90-100% = A	Exams	4@	120pts.	480 points
80-89% = B	Quizzes	5@	10	50 points
70-79% = C	Projects	2@	25 pts.	50 points
60-69% = D	Assignments	1@	50 pts.	50 points
0-59% = F	SLO	1@	50 pts.	50 points

Special Accomodations:

Should a student enrolled in the course require special accomodations due to a disability in order to complete the requirements of the course, please advise the instructor immediately or contact the Disable Student Programs and Services at (760) 355-6312.

Academic Dishonesty:

Please read and understand this section fully. Academic dishonesty (cheating) of any type will not be tolerated in my classroom. If a student is caught committing any type of academic dishonesty, he or she will be given an F in this class and will be reported to the administration office for further handling of the matter.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
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8/20-22&27	The Beginning	Chapter 1 & 2
9/3	Labor Day	No Class
8/29&9/5&9/10	The First Two Years	Chapter 3 & 4
9/12	1st Thought Paper Due	

Unit 1 Exam – 9/12

9/17-19&9/24-26	Early Childhood	Chapter 5 & 6
10/1-3&8-10	Middle Childhood	Chapter 7& 8
10/15	2nd Thought Paper Due	

Mid-term Exam – 10/15

10/17&10/22-24	Adolescence	Chapter 9 & 10
10/29-31&11/5	Adulthood	Chapter 11, 12 & 13
11/7&12-14	3rd Thought Paper Due	

Unit III Exam – 11/19

11/21&26	Late Adulthood	Chapter 14 &15
11/28&12/3	Death & Dying	Epilogue
12/5	Final Exam	

Instructor reserves the right to make announced modifications to this course outline.