

PSYCH H3550
HONORS
PSYCHOLOGY of CHILDHOOD

Instructor: Dr. John Opfer
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Hours: Mondays 1-2p (or by appt.)
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OBJECTIVES

Psychology of Childhood seeks to introduce you to the problems, methods, and findings of developmental psychologists in order to deepen your explanations of children's behavior. To do this, we will cover the development of perceiving and moving, learning and remembering, thinking and using language, getting motivated and feeling emotions, and becoming a unique individual capable of dealing with the social world.

Understanding developmental psychology requires attention to scientific evidence and to the logic that unifies these findings. Your grasp of the evidence and logic will allow you to learn more, to apply your knowledge outside the classroom, and to evaluate the funny things people say about children. That knowledge will also be useful on the...

EXAMS

Exam #1: February 10 (30%)

Quiz: March 3 (10%)

Exam #2: March 24 (30%)

Final Exam: May 4, ENARSON 243, 8a – 9:45a (30%)

For the first two exams, an optional do-over exam will be offered (2/13, 3/27; 6:55p; PS 219). Do-over exams may replace the previous exam score, but no do-over scores may replace a zero. There is no do-over for the Final. In addition to the exams and final, an optional extra-credit assignment is posted on the class website. This assignment is potentially worth an additional 8 points for your final grade. *Note:* If you experience a verifiable emergency and cannot attend a regularly scheduled exam, you (or someone on your behalf) must contact me by e-mail *prior* to the exam to inform me of the cause of your absence.

TEXT

Siegler, R. S., Deloache, J., Eisenberg, N., & Saffran, J. (2006). *How Children Develop, 4th Edition*. New York: Worth.

General Education Goals and Expected Learning Outcomes

Psych 3550(H)—CHILD DEVELOPMENT COURSE 3 Semester Hours

Prerequisites: Introduction to Psychology

Suggested Textbook Topics: College level text balancing research and application that covers influences of physical/neurological, socio/emotional, cognitive development in childhood.

Outcomes marked with an asterisk are essential and must be taught.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Assess the biological, cognitive, cultural, environmental and social factors that influence development throughout childhood. *
2. Evaluate current and past research in childhood guided by theories within developmental psychology. *
3. Apply developmental psychology principles to daily life throughout childhood. *
4. Detect myths and misconceptions regarding human development during childhood. *
5. Describe methodological approaches used to study development. *
6. Assess and critically analyze theories, research methodology and findings (outcomes), and applications developed by developmental psychologists and made available through textbooks, newspapers, professional and lay periodicals, and the internet throughout childhood. *

CLASS	DATE	GENERAL TOPIC	PAGES
1	13-Jan	Central Questions	1-21
2	15-Jan	Methods of Developmental Psychology	22-36
3	20-Jan	Genes & Development 1	85-118
4	22-Jan	Genes & Development 2	85-118
5	27-Jan	Genes & Development 3	85-118
6	29-Jan	Perceptual & Motor Development 1	51-54, 119-126, 171-198
7	3-Feb	Perceptual & Motor Development 2	51-54, 119-126, 171-198
8	5-Feb	Perceptual & Motor Development 3	51-54, 119-126, 171-198
9	10-Feb	EXAM #1	
10	12-Feb	Theories of Cognitive Development 1	129-167
11	17-Feb	Theories of Cognitive Development 2	129-167
12	19-Feb	Infant Cognition	198-207
13	24-Feb	Language Development 1	215-252
14	26-Feb	Language Development 2	215-252
15	3-Mar	QUIZ	
16	5-Mar	Conceptual Development 1	259-296
17	10-Mar	Conceptual Development 2	259-296
18	12-Mar	Intelligence & Academic Skills	297-337
19	24-Mar	Exam #2	
21	26-Mar	Theories of Social Development	339-379
22	31-Mar	Gender Development	539-614
23	2-Apr	Emotional Development	383-421
24	7-Apr	Development of the Self	439-449, 458-464
25	9-Apr	Attachment	425-439
26	14-Apr	Parenting & Peers 1	467-506
27	16-Apr	Parenting & Peers 2	509-548
28	21-Apr	Parenting & Peers 3	509-548
29	23-Apr	Conclusions	637-664
4-May FINAL EXAM: 8a-9:45a, Enarson 243			

Academic Misconduct: PLEASE BE AWARE that your instructor is required to report any suspicions of academic misconduct to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If your instructor suspects that you have given or received help on a quiz or an exam or that you have plagiarized someone's writing, these suspicions will be forwarded to the Committee. For some suggestions to help you preserve academic integrity by avoiding situations where you might be tempted to cheat or you might be perceived to be cheating, see oaa.osu.edu/coam/ten-suggestions.html

Alternative Formats: The materials required in this course are available in alternative formats upon request. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor and seeking available assistance in a timely manner. Your instructor will be able to provide a department contact. For more information on disability services, see ods.osu.edu