

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 314 – Section C01
Adolescent Psychology (3 credits)

Summer 2013
MTWR 9:30-11:45 a.m.

Katrina Schmerold, Professor

Office hours: Thursdays: 1:00-2:00 pm (or by appointment!)

Office location: DK 1031 (located in lower level in David King building in 1021)

Office phone: (703) 831-7935

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Course Description: Study of the changes accompanying adolescence, including the effect of these changes on emotional, intellectual, and social development (Prerequisites: 6 credits of psychology or permission of instructor).

Objectives: Throughout the course of this semester, students will develop an understanding of the cognitive, biological, psychological, and emotional changes that occur during adolescence.

Required Text: Steinberg, L. (2011). *Adolescence (9th edition)*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Technology: Students are expected to regularly check the course link on Blackboard (found at <https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu/>). To access Blackboard, students must use their George Mason email ID and password. Additionally, students should check their GMU email accounts regularly. Please make certain that new messages can be received and your account is not over the message limit.

Course Assignments and Examinations:

1. Three Exams and One Final Exam (66% total, 22% each)
 - Throughout the course of the semester, there will be a total of four multiple choice exams (including the cumulative final exam).
 - At the end of the semester, **the lowest of these four grades will be dropped.**
 - If an individual student is satisfied with grades of first three exams, then the final exam will be optional for that student.
 - Note that, in the case of an absence, the exam that is missed will be the exam grade that is dropped. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE UP EXAMS.**
2. In-Class Short Answers (17% total)

- These will be brief questions throughout the class (NOT pop quizzes) that encourage students to think about what is being taught in each lesson.
 - It is extremely important that students attend ALL of each class in order to be present for these short assignments.
3. Participation (17% total)
- Your participation grade consists of your class attendance as well as your contributing to our class discussions and activities.

PROPOSED CLASS SCHEDULE:

DATE	TOPIC/LEARNING EXPERIENCES	READING AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE
July 1	Introduction	☺
July 2	Ch. 1 – Biological Transitions	Introduction & Chapter 1
July 3	Ch. 2 – Cognitive Transitions	Chapter 2
July 4	NO CLASS: Fourth of July!	☺
July 8	Ch. 3 – Social Transitions	Chapter 3
July 9	EXAM 1	Study!
July 10	Ch. 4 – Families	Chapter 4
July 11	Ch. 5 – Peer Groups	Chapter 5
July 15	Ch. 6 – Schools	Chapter 6
July 16	Ch. 7 – Work and Leisure	Chapter 7
July 17	EXAM 2	Study!
July 18	Ch. 8 – Identity	Chapter 8
July 22	Ch. 9 – Autonomy	Chapter 9
July 23	Ch. 10 – Intimacy	Chapter 10
July 24	Ch. 13 – Psychosocial Problems	Chapter 13
July 25	Ch. 13 – Psychosocial Problems C'td	Chapter 13
July 29	EXAM 3	Study!
July 30	Q&As	Study!
Aug 1	FINAL EXAM @ 10:30 am – 1:15 pm	Study!!!

*July 8- Last day to add and drop courses (no tuition penalty)

** July 15- Last day to drop course (50% tuition penalty)

GMU Policies and Resources for Students:

- a) Students must adhere to the guidelines of the **George Mason University Honor Code** [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
- b) Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- c) Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it

regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.

- d) Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.
- e) The **George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)** staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- f) Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the **George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS)** and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>]. If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see instructor and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 709-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.
- g) Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- h) The **George Mason University Writing Center** staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].

Professional Dispositions: Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. Cell phones need to be put either on silent or turned off and put away during class times. Laptops should be used for note taking only. **Any student who has a cell phone out during an exam will receive a ZERO on that exam and may be referred to the honor court.**

Core Values Commitment:

The College of Education & Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles. <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values>

*** ** The instructor for this course reserves the right to enter a failing grade to any student found guilty of an honor code violation. *****