

#79745 PSYC 211-007
Developmental Psychology
Fall Semester 2012

Instructor: Marcella Marcey, Ph.D.

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703-934-8584 (private practice office)

Emergency contact: 703-505-9104 (I prefer you send a text message if you can)

Class Location: Krug Hall room #7

Meeting time: Tuesday/Thursday 12:00 to 1:15 PM

Office Location: Aqua Building, Room 337

Office Hours: Thursdays from 11:00 AM to Noon

Course Description and Objectives:

PSY 211 studies the developmental period from conception to death and dying. We will take a broad sweep by looking at various aspects of development including cognitive, emotional and social development in the various early life stages.

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Describe the biosocial, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that occur throughout the lifespan.
- Identify biosocial, cognitive and psychosocial changes in self and others.
- Describe the three major developmental theories, psychoanalytic, behavioral, and cognitive.
- Identify the manifestation of developmental theories in human situations.
- Describe the role of scientific research in the understanding of human development

Required Text: Berger, Kathleen. 2008. The Developing Person Through the Life Span, 8th Ed., Worth Publishers, NY. ISBN: 13: 978-1-4292-3203-6

Important Dates: Labor Day Holiday: September 3, 2012

Last day to add the class: September 4, 2012

Last day to drop without tuition penalty: September 4, 2012

Last day to drop with tuition penalty: September 28, 2012

Columbus Day Holiday: October 8, 2012

Midterm Grades posted: September 24 to October 19, 2012

Thanksgiving recess: November 21-25

Last Day of class: December 6, 2012

Final exam: Thursday, December 13, 10:30-1:15 in classroom

Course requirements:

Chapter quizzes: (20% of your grade)

There is a quiz for each chapter. You may take the quiz three times and your highest grade will be recorded. You need to take the quiz before the chapter lecture to earn full credit. If the quiz is after the lecture, I will deduct 3 points. If the quiz is not taken at all before the exam on the chapter, you will have 0 points. The day of the exam is the last chance to earn credit on the quiz. **These quizzes are open book.**

Written Assignments: (20% of your grade)

Most chapters will have a written assignment associated with the chapter. These are to be submitted on blackboard unless otherwise specified, and every one will be graded. They are used to see if you can apply what you are learning. Show me that you can apply it and I will give you an A grade. I need to understand what you write so grammar, punctuation, and spelling do affect your grade. If you use an outside source, and I love it if you do, then you need to note it in a bibliography.

Exams: (60% of the grade, 20% each)

There will be 3 exams. Exams will be multiple choice. The last exam will be given during the scheduled final exam session. These exams will be based on material from the textbook, the lectures, and discussions. If you are going to miss an exam because of an emergency you must contact me BEFORE the scheduled exam to discuss a make-up unless you have **documentation** that you were incapable of doing so. You are encouraged to send me a **text message** or call me on my emergency number. To make up an exam without penalty you must have made arrangements with me before the test or written documentation of an EMERGENCY. Emergencies include hospitalization, arrest, death, disability, or a car accident. You will be able to make up an exam at a time and place that I chose, but you may have a different exam than the class. If you need special arrangements for time limits, disabilities, etc see me and we will work it out.

Extra Credit:

You can earn up to 10 Points of extra credit. These points will be added to your grade total for the class so they can raise your grade a full letter grade. You earn these points by completing extra credit assignments that are noted for each chapter. These assignments may require you to do web searches, interviews, etc. That is why they are extra. Some are “simple” so they will be worth a fraction of a point. The worth of each is noted with the assignment on blackboard. They need to be completed around the time we are studying that chapter.

Final Note on Grading:

My exams are hard, and A's are rare on them. This is why each exam is only 1/5 of your grade and why 2/5ths of your grade is much more under your control. You use the open book for the quizzes.. For the written work you can email me with questions, come to my office hours, talk to fellow students but NOT copy from them. You can use the discussion board on blackboard to discuss a written assignment with me or other students. You can do the extra credit. You can do as well in this class as you choose.

It is the responsibility of the student to retain an electronic copy of all work that has been handed in to the professor. It is also the responsibility of the student to retain returned materials in case the student wishes to appeal or correct a grade.

ONLINE COURSE MATERIALS AND TOOLS

The use of Blackboard will be an important component of this course. **Course materials and information** will be available online, including this syllabus, PowerPoint slides, descriptions of assignments, paper due dates, presentation dates and studyguides. Your instructor will also post grades through Blackboard.

Cell phones and laptops:

The use of cell phones, including text messaging, is unacceptable during class time. If there is an emergency you may answer a call but please step outside the room immediately. Cell phones ringers should be turned off during class. **The use of laptops is limited to note taking. If I find that you are not abiding by this rule you will not be allowed the use of a laptop in class for two weeks.**

Official Communications via GMU E-mail:

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

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

If you are a student with disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 709-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office, and must be initiated immediately, prior to any anticipated need.

Honor Code

Students in this course are expected to behave at all times in a manner consistent with the GMU Honor System and Code; pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work. Students are encouraged to collaborate and study together as much as possible throughout the course, however, no assistance, sharing of information, or discussion of particular exam questions or answers between students may take place. Violations of the honor code will not be tolerated in this course and immediate reporting of any violations will take place according to the University procedures. **The instructor for this course reserves the right to enter a failing grade to any student found guilty of an honor code violation.**

Assignment schedule

This Schedule is a work in progress. The dates may not be exact.

Week of	Chapters covered
August 27	Syllabus and Chapter 1
September 3	Chapters 2 & 3, Theories and Heredity, Environment,
September 10	Chapter 4, Prenatal Development and Birth

EXAM 1 Thursday, September 13, Chapters 1-4

September 17	Chapters 5-7, The first two years
September 24	Chapters 5-7, continued
October 1	Chapters 8-10, Early Childhood
October 8	Chapters 11-13 Middle childhoods
October 15	Chapters 11-13 continued

EXAM 2 Thursday, October 18 on Chapters 5-13

October 22	Chapters 14-16 Adolescence
October 29	Chapters 14-16, continued
November 5	Chapters 17-19, Emerging Adulthood
November 12	Chapters 20 - 22, Adulthood
November 19	Chapters 23-25 Late Adulthood
November 26	Chapters 23-25 continued
December 3	Epilogue

EXAM 3 Wednesday, December 13, 10:30 to 1:15 on Chapters 14- Epilogue