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### PSYX 238.01C: Adolescent Psychology

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**MISSOULA COLLEGE**  
**Spring, 2015**  
**PSYX 238:Adolescent Psychology, Section 01C**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**Professor Jes**

## **I. CONTACT INFORMATION**

- **Office:** Missoula College, HB02
- **Office Hours:**  
T/R 1:00-2:00  
**Please make appointment  
before meetings**
- **Email:** [Jessica.kumm@umconnect.umt.edu](mailto:Jessica.kumm@umconnect.umt.edu)
  - It is essential you use your university email (i.e. umconnect).
  - **In the subject line of every email**, please state your class and purpose; Ex: Psyx 238, Sec 01, Exam 1 question.  
If you do NOT follow the above format, there may be a delay in my response and I may reply asking you to include this information before responding to your direct query. My personal commitment is to respond to my students' emails within 24 hours (no later than 36) when I receive them Mon – Fri. If the subject matter requires a lengthy discussion, please ask to make an appointment during office hours. Please be sure to check the syllabus or check with a colleague for information about class expectations. There will be delays when emails are received on weekends.

## **II. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Welcome to Psyx 238, an Adolescent Psychology. This course provides an introduction to the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive developmental changes that occur during adolescence, as well as their relationships and cultural influences. Particular emphases are the individual aspects of development, the contexts and social spheres that shape that development and behavioral problems of adolescence that result from bio-psychosocial interactions in development. Patterns of continuity and transitions of adolescence in both group and individual patterns of development are also addressed.

Please note, this is a 3-credit course, which equates to 3 hours of face-to-face lecture per week. In addition, every 1 credit is equal to 3 hours of homework per week; thus, **you can expect to spend about 9 hours a week on this course outside of the classroom.**

## **III. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Have a basic knowledge of psychology, including:
  - terms, facts, concepts, and theories about psychology
  - methods and techniques used to study psychology
2. Have improved higher-order thinking skills, including:
  - applying knowledge already learned to new problems and situations
  - evaluating information and distinguish between fact and opinion
3. To use psychological research to inform your own views and be able to analyze research
4. To improve your knowledge of learning and memory techniques for use in future course

#### IV. REQUIRED MATERIALS

##### 1. Text and Supplements:

- The Adolescent, development, relationships, and culture, 13th ed. by Kim Gale Dolgin This test is available at the **Missoula College (MC) bookstore**, not the Mountain campus bookstore.
- There are a couple of hard copies of the text on reserve at the MC and Mountain campus libraries.

##### 2. My Development Lab through MyLabsPlus (MLP):

- MyLabsPlus is a great supplement to your text. It provides audio and visual versions of the text, chapter objectives, study plans, practice tests, videos, simulations, and many other study materials!
- It will be helpful **to use MLP** for practice quizzes and other course supplements.
- It is assumed that you have adequate resources to complete you course requirements. This includes purchasing the required course materials, the customized textbook with the access code for MLP as well as access to a working computer for the entire 16 weeks.

#### V. ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Your grade in this class is based on the following:

1. Exam #1 (Chapters 1-3)	100
2. Exam #2 (Chapters 4-6)	100
3. Exam #3 (Chapters 7-10)	100
4. Exam #4 (Chapters 11-14)	100
5. Exam #5 (Chapters 15-19)	100
6. 2 Assignments [Papers]	200
7. Participation	100
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE</b>	<b>800</b>

- This class can only be taken in traditional mode; you are not able to switch to credit/no credit. Final grades are based on the +/- system. Traditional rounding rules apply (i.e. .5 and above are rounded up and less than .5 are not rounded). The breakdown is as follows:

93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	< 60%	F

## 1. EXAMS

- All exams are administered **in class**.
- There are **5** scheduled exams.
- All exams will be administered in class.
  - The dates of the exams are in the course calendar below. **Please take careful notes of these dates!** These dates may change, depending on our progress during the semester. There will be announcements given during class if there is a change in the calendar. You are responsible for all information given during a lecture, this includes any changes in the course calendar.
  - It is highly unlikely I will allow a retake for a missed exam. Please contact me within 7 days before the exam if you know you will not be able to attend class on a day scheduled for an exam, however, advanced notice does not guarantee that an alternative exam will be an option.
- The exams include **multiple-choice, true-false and short answer questions**, which will be applied and conceptual rather than factual recall (or memorization). You may **not** use your **notes** or **text** during an exam. You must take the exam **independently**. Cheating on an exam is a violation of the Student Conduct Code, and violators will be sanctioned. (See the "Student Conduct Code" section below for more information and an explanation of sanctions for violations.)
- I do **NOT** provide study guides for any of the exams; however, there are study guides in MLP, as well as practice exams.
- **NO late exams are accepted. No exams will be dropped.** Also, I will **not** make alternative arrangements to give any exams early **due to travel plans, school projects, or other courses' requirements so please do not ask. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- The best action for exams is to be proactive and **PLAN**. What this means is that **you** are responsible to understand due dates and meet deadlines

## 2. PAPERS

- You will complete 2 papers, each worth **100 points**
- Detailed instructions for the paper will be discussed in class and you will be given the grading rubric in class, two weeks before the paper is due.
- The Course Calendar states when the instructions for the paper will be available and when the paper is due.
- Late Policy for these assignments:  
You have 24 hours to turn in a late assignment and you will lose 25% off of the points possible. Assignments will no longer be accepted after the 24 hours from the due date have passed.

### COURSE WRITING REQUIREMENTS:

All papers, discussions, and assignments are to be written as formal academic compositions. In other words, grammar and spelling are important. If grammar or spelling is poor it can make it impossible for you to get your point across to the reader. Be careful about spelling. While not important in and of itself, poor spelling makes a paper seem flawed. **Use your spellchecker and proofread. Double space, type 12 point font, Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, saved as a RTF, citations/references use APA format** (see the librarian). Each project grade guidelines are included under the assignment sections. You are responsible for understanding these guidelines.

## 3. PARTICIPATION POINTS (Pp)

- Participation points consist of **random attendance checks**, as well as **individual and group work**.
- The dates of the random attendance checks and in-class work are purposely **NOT** listed on your Course Calendar.
- Points will range from 5-10 per class, depending on what is being graded.
- **Students who sleep, leave early/come late, work on other assignments or text, facebook, surf the internet, etc... during class will NOT earn their participation points.**

### **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS.

- **Missoula College students:** Contact Paul Kozlowitz at (406) 243-7931 or via email, [Paul](#).
- **Mountain campus students:** Contact DSS at (406) 243-2243 or via email, [DSS](#).

I will work with you and DSS to provide reasonable modifications. "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. In addition, the student must provide DSS documentation *before* the assignment is due so reasonable accommodations can be made. For more information, please consult [DSS](#).

### **LATE and MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:**

**LATE or MAKE-UP WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. HOWEVER,** according to the UM's [Academic Policies and Procedures](#), under "Class Attendance/Absence Policy," I **MAY** excuse **brief** and **occasional** absences for the following reasons:

1. an illness or injury
2. a family emergency
3. religious observance
4. participation in a university sponsored activity
5. military service

If you miss an assignment, exam or participation points due to one of these exceptions, **valid documentation MUST be provided** in order to make it up.

- Please consult me on what "valid documentation" entails.
- You have **48 hours after the missed assignment's due date** to notify me so that we can arrange for you to make-up the work or turn it in late.
- Please be aware, **I strictly enforce this policy and WILL REQUIRE documentation.**

### **DROP POLICY**

According to UM's [Academic Policies and Procedures](#), beginning the **46<sup>th</sup> instructional day** of the semester (i.e. **April 7th, 2015**) through the last regular class day (i.e. **May 8th, 2015**) before Finals Week, students may drop courses **only by petition that requires approval from the instructor, advisor, and dean**. Note that not all petitions are approved and documented **justification is required**. Some examples of documented circumstances that may merit approval are accident or illness, family emergency, or other circumstances beyond the student's control. Instructors and advisors have the right to indicate that they do not recommend the drop. A WP or WF will appear on the transcript.

**STUDENT CONDUCT CODE (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)**

The Student Conduct Code, which can be found here, [Student Conduct Code](#), will be strictly enforced in this class. Specifically, cheating in any form will not be tolerated. You are not allowed to collaborate on any assignment (i.e. exam, paper, etc...) with anyone, including, but not exclusively, students who have previously taken this course, graduate students in psychology or related disciplines, friends, etc... Thus, all assignments **must** be completed **INDEPENDENTLY**, unless otherwise stated in the instructions (e.g. group projects), when students seek services from the Writing Center or tutoring, or unless accommodations have been approved by your instructor. **Cheating or plagiarism** will result in **FAILURE** (that is, a zero or an "F") on the assignment, **at minimum**, and it will be reported to Department Chair and/or the Dean. The instructor reserves the right to assign an "F" for the course if cheating or plagiarism occur. Additionally, you are subject to University sanctions, suspension or expulsion.

If you do not know what plagiarism is, you can ask your professor, visit the [Writing Center](#) at the Mountain campus (Liberal Arts 144, 243-2266), the [Mansfield Library](#) (243-6866), or contact Missoula College's [Academic Support Center](#) (243-7826).

**VI. CLASS ETIQUETTE**

- Please turn your **cell phones off** or on **silent** before class begins.
- Please, **DO NOT TEXT** during class. It is very distracting to your classmates as well as myself, **especially** when you trying to be inconspicuous (i.e. texting under the desk, under notes, using your text as a barrier, etc...). If I catch you on your phone during class, I will ask you to put it away. After 2 or 3 prompts, **I will ask you to leave the class immediately!**
- **Please be on time.** If you must leave early, out of courtesy for your classmates and me, please sit close to the door so you can excuse yourself quietly. Also, please let me know before class that you need to leave early.
- If you type your notes on a computer during class, please **DO NOT use Facebook, play games, check email, surf the internet, etc...during class.** While I may not be able to see you, your peers sitting behind you can see, which can be very distracting. Again, if I find you are doing other things on your computer during class time than taking notes, I will ask you to stop. After 2 or 3 prompts, **I will ask you to leave the class immediately!**
- Please **do not talk to your neighbors** during class. Just like texting "inconspicuously" is distracting, so is whispering.
- I ask that you please **raise your hand** if you have a question or comment during lecture.
- If you are disruptive, I will talk to you individually after class. After 2 or 3 prompts, **I will ask you to leave the class immediately!**

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** This is a standardized course across the UM, Missoula College campus. This means that there are established standards that we hold department-wide. These standards determine how the course is conducted, thus, they are not negotiable. In short, we strictly enforce the policies stated in this syllabus.

## VII. COURSE CALENDAR

- Below are the due dates and times for your assignments. Please take note of these important dates.
- I will **not** make **alternative arrangements** to give any exams **early** due to **travel plans, assignments in other courses, work, etc...** No exceptions! It is your responsibility to plan to meet the requirements in this class in order to be successful.
- This is a **tentative** course calendar. You are responsible for any changes, which I will clearly announce during class lecture.

WEEK		Objective
1	Tues, 1/27	- Welcome - Chp 1
	Thurs, 1/29	- Chp 1
2	Tues, 2/03	- Chp 2
	Thurs, 2/05	- Chp 2 / Chp 3
3	Tues, 2/10	- Chp 3
	Thurs, 2/12	- Chp 4
4	Tues, 2/17	- <b>Exam #1 (Chapters 1-3)</b>
	Thurs, 2/19	- Chp 4
5	Tues, 2/24	- Chp 4 / Chp 5
	Thurs, 2/26	- Chp 5 - <b>Assignment #1 due</b>
6	Tues, 3/03	- Chp 5 / Chp 6
	Thurs, 3/05	- Chp 6
7	Tues, 3/10	- Chp 7
	Thurs, 3/12	- <b>EXAM 2</b> (Chp 4, 5 & 6)
8	Tues Mon, 3/17	- Chp 8
	Thurs, 3/19	- Chp 8
9	Tues, 3/24	- Chp 9
	Thurs, 3/26	- Chp 9 / Chp 10
10	Tues, 3/31	- Spring Break
	Thurs, 4/01	- Spring Break
11	Tues, 4/07	- <b>EXAM 3</b> (Chp 7, 8 & 9)
	Thurs, 4/09	- Chp 10 / Chp 11 - <b>Assignment #2</b>
12	Tues, 4/14	- Chp 11 / Chp 12

	Thurs, 4/16	- Chp 12
13	Tues, 4/21	- Chp 13
	Thurs, 4/23	- <b>EXAM 4</b> (Chp 10, 11 & 12)
14	Tues, 4/28	- Chp 13/ Chp 14
	Thurs, 4/30	- Chp 14
15	Tues, 5/05	- Chp 14 / Chp 15
	Thurs, 5/07	- Chp 15
16	<b>FINALS WEEK</b> Time & location TBA	- <b>EXAM 5</b> (Chp 13, 14, & 15)