PSYX 230.02: Developmental Psychology

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Course Objectives:
Understanding the development of children and adolescents is important for parents, teachers, counselors and others who work in other professions. This course is designed to acquaint you with research findings and theories of development from conception through adolescence. In addition, the course will relate research and theory to practical applications. As a result of this course, you should be able to:

1. Remember basic research findings and theories of development
2. Recognize normal development in various aspects of development
3. Explain scientific methods used in the study of children and adolescents
4. Apply research findings to real-life situations
5. Use critical thinking to interpret developmental research and theories
6. Analyze current issues related to children and adolescents based on research

Course Requirements:
Although the class is conducted in a lecture format, class participation is welcome and important to active learning. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain for the entire class period since it is disruptive to the class to arrive late or leave early. There are four exams based upon class material and textbook assignments. Bring a scantron form #95142 and a #2 pencil to each exam. Students may review their exams or assignments within one week of the posting of the score. The syllabus, class materials, course notices, and grades will be posted on the Moodle Course Management System with communication through your university e-mail.

Course/University Policies:
Drop/Add: October 28 is the last day to drop classes with an add/drop form. After that date, no petitions to drop the course will be signed and no incompletes will be given except in documentable emergency situations.

Academic Honesty: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php

Students with disabilities will receive reasonable modifications in this course. Your responsibilities are to request them from me with sufficient advance notice, and to be prepared to provide verification of disability and its impact from Disability Services for Students. Please speak with me after class or during my office hours to discuss the details. For more information, visit the Disability Services for Students website at http://www.umt.edu/disability

Course Grading:
Course grades will be determined by point totals, not percentages. Total possible points in the course are as follows: Exam 1 (50 points); Exam 2 (50 points); Exam 3 (50 points); and the Final Exam (50 points). The lowest of the four exam grades will be dropped so final grades will
include a maximum of three exam scores (150 points). An additional 10 points may be earned through an extra credit assignment.
Points for final grades: 135-160—A; 120-134—B; 105-119—C; 90-104—D; below 90—F

**Course Outline:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 27: Course Introduction</td>
<td>August 29: History of Childhood</td>
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</table>
| September 3: Developmental Theories  
  Chapter 1 | September 5: Developmental Research  
  Chapter 2 |
| September 10: Heredity  
  Chapter 3 | September 12: Heredity  
  Chapter 3 |
| September 17: Prenatal Development  
  Chapter 4 | September 19: Prenatal Development  
  Chapter 4 |
| September 24: Birth  
  Chapter 4 | September 26: Newborn |
| October 1: **EXAM 1**  
  Chapters 1-4 | October 3: Brain Development  
  Chapter 5 |
| October 8: Physical Growth  
  Chapter 5 | October 10: Early Learning and Perception  
  Chapter 6 |
| October 15: Language  
  Chapter 7 | October 17: Cognition  
  Chapter 8 |
| October 22: Social Cognition  
  Chapter 9 | October 24: Intellectual Development  
  Chapter 10 |
| October 29: **EXAM 2**  
  Chapter 5-10 | October 31: Early Emotion  
  Chapter 11 |
| November 5: Infant Attachment  
  Chapter 11 | November 7: Infant Attachment  
  Chapter 11 |
| November 12: Development of Self  
  Chapter 12 | November 14: Moral Development  
  Chapter 12 |
| November 19: Sex Differences  
  Chapter 13  
  **EXTRA CREDIT DUE** | November 21: Gender Role Development  
  Chapter 13 |
| November 26: Family & Peers  
  Chapter 14 & 15 | November 28: THANKSGIVING  
  No Class |
| December 3: Media  
  Chapter 16 | December 5: **EXAM 3**  
  Chapters 11-16 |
| December 12 (10:10-11): **FINAL EXAM** | |

**Extra Credit Option—Reaction Paper (0-10 points)—DUE NOVEMBER 19:**

*(Papers will not be accepted late and will NOT be accepted by email.)*

For the reaction paper, you will review either an article from *A Century of Developmental Psychology* or a book on child guidance book listed on Moodle.

The first 2/3rds of the paper will summarize the information in the article or book and the last part will express your own reaction and assessment of the book. The paper will be 4-5 pages long, double-spaced, in APA style. Since writing skills will be part of the grading, you are encouraged to contact the University Writing Center for assistance.