



Syllabus

Child Development

Course Number/Title: PS 280 Child Development
Department: Psychology
Required Text: Berger, The Developing Person Through Childhood, Fifth Edition. 2009 - Worth Publishers
Instructor: Krista Carter, M.ED
Office Hours: T/TH 1:00-3:00 or by appointment
E-mail Krista.carter@colbycc.edu
Website: access eCourse through CCC Portal

Year: Fall 2012
Credit Hours: Three
Days/Time: TU/TH
Phone #: 460-5531
or 785-443-3058
Course Placement: Sophomore

Rationale

Human relationships play an integral part in our lives, from the start of puberty till we get our first job, fall in love, go to college and start raising a family of our own. The way in which we communicate to those around us can make a huge difference in how happy and successful we are in life.

Course Description

This course is a survey of the development of the individual from birth through late childhood. Emphasis is given to behavioral, social, emotional, intellectual and linguistic development.

Course Outline

See "Attachment A"

Course Goal

The purpose of studying child development from conception through late childhood. To be able to identify and describe the factors that influences these changes that occur in children the first decade of life.

Course Learning Objectives

Students will be able:

1. To describe the normal pattern of the normal developing person at different periods of childhood and determine when and why deviations occur in their pattern.
2. To provide perspective on the changes that takes place during the early years of an individual's life.
3. To examine possible causes or sources of developmental change and reasons for disturbances in the developmental process.
4. To demonstrate how different theoretical perspectives affect or determine theoretical perspective affect or determine the research and applications that arise from them.
5. To describe objective techniques and skills for observing human behavior.
6. To sharpen students' observational skills, so that they can examine behavior more objectively.

Course Competencies

After completing the course the student will exhibit these competencies:

1. Describe the array of theoretical perspective in the field of child development.
2. Describe the history of child development and an awareness of the impact of historical trends on current theories.
3. Describe the normal pattern of the normal developing person at different periods of childhood and determine when and why deviations occur in their pattern.
4. Describe the basic research and methodologies used to investigate child development
5. Describe the strengths and weakness of various theories of child development
6. Describe the interdependency of these aspects of child development; physical, cognitive, emotional, and social.
7. Recall important developmental concepts and be able to recognize and apply these concepts in various situations.
8. Formulate relevant questions about developmental processes and events and use standardized techniques for gathering objective answers to these questions.

Method of Instruction

Material for the course will be presented by discussion, lectures, on-line learning, observations, speakers, audio-visual aids, and participation in class. Direct observation and video observations will also be used to apply developmental concepts and terms.

The use of lecture time will vary, depending on the learning objectives. For example, lectures may be used for clarifying text material or introducing new material, for discussing how to identify and apply principles of theories, and for films or videos on special topics.

Method of Evaluation

The instructor's evaluation of the student will be based upon class discussion, course assignments, exams, class presence, student participation, topic projects, and student attitude.

Written Assignment/Test Policy

"In accordance with the mission of Colby Community College – to provide for the development of better futures for it's students – it is essential that the principles of academic honesty and professional ethics be stressed throughout the educational process. The college, faculty, and student share responsibilities in addressing this issue Students responsibilities are twofold: 1. Complete class assignments to the best of their ability without plagiarizing, cheating or in any way misrepresenting their work 2. Refrain from participating in any form of academic dishonesty as an individual or in combination with other individuals. (Student Handbook p. 18)"

If you must miss a writing assignment/test, please make prior arrangements with me, as soon as possible, during my posted office hours only. **Makeup writing assignments/tests will not be accepted later than one week after the missed writing assignment is due. Points will be deducted for late work! Failure to complete the writing assignments in this time period will result in a grade of F for that assignment. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

There will be an exam/test given over each unit covered. Test questions and material will consist of information obtained from both the class lectures (which includes videos and articles) and material in the textbook. If for any reason you are unable to be in class to take a test, you must NOTIFY the instructor BEFORE the exam in order to be able to make it up.

Make-Up Test Policy:

1. In order to make-up a test, student must notify the instructor that they will be gone on test day **PRIOR TO THE TEST**.
2. Makeup tests will be arranged outside class time at the discretion of the instructor and will not be given later than one week after the missed test.

About test:

Majority of the test will be in the form of an essay that will explain and summarize topics of focus in each module studies. Although the unit essays will test your knowledge of facts or definitions, a stronger emphasis will be placed on assessing your understanding of the material by asking you to **apply the concepts** we cover to examples. Being able to recognize how to apply class concepts to real-life examples requires understanding rather than rote memorization. We will do some "application" in our in-class activities that should give you an idea of what is expected on exam essays.

There will also be chapter quizzes given for each chapter **PRIOR** to the class we discuss it in. Although these are low stakes quizzes, the points do accumulate through the semester to make a significant difference in ones grade. Do not neglect taking these quizzes! The deadline are posted on the course calendar!

Academic Dishonesty will not be permitted and any student caught "cheating" will receive an "F" on the test and appropriate steps will be taken. When taking a test both the tests and scantron sheets must be turned in together. After a test has been returned, instructor will rational for test answers. Graded scantron sheets and tests must be turned into instructor before a grade will be recorded. Make up tests will not be the same test questions as given during regular testing times.

Class Requirements

Throughout the semester, there will be various assignments given in class. These will include such activities as article discussions, debates, videos, observational modules, pop quizzes and guest speakers. These assignments will be given at my discretion.

Observation Labs

Observing is probably the oldest, most frequently used and most rewarding method of assessing children, their growth, development, and learning. You will have the opportunity to experience this technique first hand, by doing one of the observation options in which you will objectively record and compare different developmental stages. These will primarily be taking place towards the end of the semester. You will be getting more information as that time nears.

Topic Project

In an area of study as vast as child development, it is hard to focus as a class on specific topics, age groups, or views that may concern you. This project has been developed to give you an opportunity to explore an area of special interest, while at the same time developing the skills set out in the learning objectives.

Project description: See "Attachment B" for Project outline.

Don't begin by finding a topic at random. Begin by thinking about a range of possibilities and delay selection to specific topics until you have done preliminary searching and reading. The topic should be meaningful to you personally. If you select a topic

that *you want* to investigate critically, then you are certain to benefit from the search process. If you personalize assigned project, you *will* enjoy your research process.

Attendance Policy

“Colby Community College views class attendance as a mandatory activity. Students are expected to attend courses in which they are enrolled. If you are sick, you are encouraged to visit the Health Center. It is your responsibility to notify your instructors of any absence due to illness or any other reason. (Student Handbook p. 13)”

You and your fellow students comprise this course to a large extent. Understanding comes from interacting and you cannot interact if you are not in class. I spend a large amount of class time using various visual aids (videos and demonstrations). You must attend class to take advantage of this teaching technique. Make sure that you complete the video worksheets and take notes on what you see in class because this information will be on the exams. **We cover something important every single class meeting.**

Class attendance will be taken each day. Class assignments as well as other exam materials (not covered in the text) will be presented. **Class discussion and participation are important.** Pop quizzes will be given if it is determined that students are not reading and are therefore not prepared for class discussion. **If a student misses a class for any reason, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor in advance and make up the work.** Regular attendance is essential to earning a passing grade in this class and is required. If you plan to drop the course, it is your responsibility to withdraw officially before the last day to drop. If you fail to do so, you may receive a failing grade in the course, instead of a “W”. **You are expected to attend each session.**

Excessive absences may result in a student being withdrawn from class by the instructor at mid-semester and if the student has missed more than 1/3 of the total class meetings without any attempt by the student to make arrangements with the instructor. If you must be absent, or must miss a session, please arrange with the instructor in advance. **You are expected to attend each session.**

- **Read** the assignments in the text. Prepare daily. Make no mistake about it, college is hard work. To be successful, you need to prepare before class and analyze information soon after. Make sure that you come to class prepared. The better prepared you are, the less time will be required in lecture and the more time we will have to devote to discussion.

Grading scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
under 60	F

Colby Community College uses an eight (8) letter system: A, B, C, D, F, WP, WF, and I. WP indicates a withdrawal from class while maintaining a passing grade. WF indicates a withdrawal from class with a failing grade. (Check the college catalog for more information concerning when and how you withdraw from a class.) I's indicate Incomplete, which can be arranged with the instructor. An I indicates you have not completed the work for the course and have arranged for an extended period of time to complete the assigned course material. An I will become a grade. Students who arrange for an I should not expect a letter grade higher than a C.

Academic Integrity

Colby Community College defines academic integrity as learning that leads to the development of knowledge and/or skills without any form of cheating or plagiarism. This learning requires respect for Colby's institutional values of quality, service and integrity. All Colby Community College students, faculty, staff, and administrators are responsible for upholding academic integrity.

Cheating is giving, receiving, or using unauthorized help on individual and group academic exercises such as papers, quizzes, tests, and presentations through any delivery system in any learning environment. This includes impersonating another student, sharing content without authorization, fabricating data, and altering academic documents, including records, with or without the use of personal and college electronic devices.

Plagiarism is representing or turning in someone else's work without proper citation of the source. This includes unacknowledged paraphrase, quotation, or complete use of someone else's work in any form. It also includes citing work that is not used and taking credit for a group project without contributing to it.

The following procedure will be used for students who violate the policy:

- First Offense – Student will receive a zero for the assignment and the student will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs.
- Second Offense – The student will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs and removed from the class.
- Third Offense – The student will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs and dismissed from the college.

Any questions about this policy may be referred to the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Student Responsibilities

1. Please make doctor and dental appointments at times that do not conflict with college classes. Because these classes do not meet daily, it is essential to be in attendance at all scheduled class meetings.
2. The calendar of academic and athletic events will be shared with all college instructors. If one of these events would prevent you from attending class, you should notify your instructor and complete the assignments **before the event** as arranged by her.

Weather Policy

"Due to state requirements mandating the number of instruction hours, Colby Community College rarely cancels regularly scheduled classes due to inclement weather. The decision to attend class during hazardous weather conditions rests with each individual student. Commuters should check, with civil authorities for weather and road conditions. (Student handbook, p. 13)"

Final Examinations

"Final examinations are required in all courses and are to be taken at the scheduled time and location. These are printed in the schedule booklet. Changes in the schedules can only be made by the Vice President of Academic Affairs. (Student Handbook p. 13)"

Academic Probation and Suspension

"A student registered for a minimum of seven credit hours who does not maintain a semester grade point average of 2.0 will be placed on probation the following semester of enrollment. If at the close of that semester the student has not raised the grade point average, the student may be placed on suspension,

during which time the student may not be recommended for admission to any other academic institution. Failure to make satisfactory academic progress may impact financial aide recipients. (Student Handbook p. 19)”

Reservation of Rights

I reserve the right to change any information contained in this document, when necessary, with adequate notice given to the student. Notice shall be given in the classroom during class time. It is the students' responsibility to keep up with any changes, modifications, adjustments or amendments that are made to this document

Accommodations for Students With Disabilities

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the responsibility of each student with a disability to notify the college of his/her disability and to request accommodation. If a member of the class has a documented learning disability or a physical disability and needs special accommodations, he/she should contact Student Support Services, which is located in the Student Union.

Equipment

Students will have access to computers in Bedker rooms 704, 706, and 707. Internet access for research purposes is available on the computers at these locations also.

Bibliography

Berger, Kathleen Stassen. (2009). *The Developing Person*. 5th Edition

Resources

Trotter, Kathy H. (2004). *Observing Children and Adolescents*. Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Attachment B

Guidelines for Topic Projects

Research projects are due one week before our scheduled final time.

The topic must be related to child development.

You need to return the form (next page) to me by _____ to have your topic approved. I encourage you to do this BEFORE.

1. **DUE DATE** – Projects are due at our final meeting during finals time. Late projects will be accepted but graded more strictly. NO late projects will be given an A.
2. **FORM**- There are many options... digital story, wiki, and other options!
3. **TEXTBOOK**- Read the relevant parts of the textbook before beginning your research to help you put your topic in its proper context. Consult the subject Index to help you find the material you need.
4. **ORGANIZATION**- Your topic should be organized as follows:
 - i. **Introduction.** clearly and concisely describe the topic 2) the question(s) you will investigate, and 3) the various points of view or differing explanations proposed in the scientific articles on which you are basing your paper.
 - ii. **Research on the topic**
 - iii. **Your opinions.** A very important part of the topic is your own opinions and ideas, based on the research you have read. Indicate which sources you agree with and which you don't, and why. What conclusions can you draw from your

reading? What important questions related to your topic remains unanswered?

- iv. **Bibliography.** All the books, journals and internet sources used for your paper should be listed alphabetically in a bibliography at the end. You should follow a consistent format or the format in the style manual of the American Psychological Association.
- v. **Plagiarism.** When you copy something word for word, or when you are merely rephrasing ideas from someone else's text, you must cite your source, including the last name of the author and the date of publication in parentheses. If you use someone else's words and ideas without citing them, you are committing plagiarism and may receive an F.
- vi. **Topics.** A list of possible topic is available.

6. You will present your project to the class.

RETURN THIS SHEET BY _____.

Name _____.

Date _____

Your topic _____

Why did you choose this topic?

Briefly outline your topic:

Do you know how to find and use at least three scientific references in the Library that you will use for your topic? Yes-_____ No_____

Aug.	21	Week 1	Ch 1	Introduction
	23		Ch 2	Theories of Development
	28	Week 2	BEGINNINGS	
	30		Ch 3	Heredity and Environment
Sept	4	Week 3		
	6		Ch 4	Prenatal Development and Birth
	11	Week 4		
	13		TEST DAY	
	18	Week 5	THE FIRST TWO YEARS: Infants and Toddlers	
	20		Ch 5	Biosocial Development
	25	Week 6		
	27		Ch 6	Cognitive Development
Oct.	2	Week 7		
	4		Ch 7	Psychosocial Development
	9	Week 8	TEST	
	11			
	16	Week 9	THE PLAY YEARS	
	18		Ch 8	Biosocial Development

Nov.	23	Week 10	Ch 9	Cognitive Development
	25			
	30	Week 11	Ch 10	Psychosocial Development
	1			
	6	Week 12	No Class - Student Advisor Day	
	8		THE SCHOOL YEARS	
	13	Week 13	Ch 11	Biosocial Development
	15		Ch 12	Cognitive Development
	20	Week 14	Ch 13	Psychosocial Development
	22		No Class - Thanksgiving	
Dec.	27	Week 15		
	29		Child Observation	
	4	Week 16	Child Observation	
	6		Child Observation	
	11		Child Observation	
	12th-14th	Finals	FINAL: Turn in Child Observation Reports	