

Introduction to Developmental Psychology
Psychology 211 – Fall 2005
University of Waterloo – Department of Psychology

Class Time: Mon. 4:30 to 5:50 pm Wed. 4:30 to 5:50 pm Class Location: Arts Lecture Hall Room 116	Tom Ruttan, Ph.D., C.Psych. Office Hours: by appointment Contact: 519-888-4567 ext. 3121 Email: truttan@uwaterloo.ca
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Teaching Assistants (TA's):

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This course is designed to introduce you to Developmental Psychology from prenatal stages through to middle childhood with the presentation of various theoretical and methodological approaches. Through a combination of lectures, class discussions and videos, you will explore several theories of development along with recent research as they relate to a child's physical, cognitive, language, social, moral and emotional development. The course will focus on four main areas of child development (i.e., prenatal development, infant development, early childhood and middle childhood) and in a chronological order.

The lectures in this course are *not* designed solely as a review of the material in the course's text. Although the text's material will be discussed to a certain extent, the lectures will also provide additional information that is not provided in the text. Therefore, successful completion of this course will require a mastery of both the text and lecture materials.

Text: Berk, L.E.(2005) Infants and Children: Prenatal Through Middle Childhood (5th Edition) Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon

Reading Assignments: Both the text and any handouts distributed in class are required reading for this course. You should read the indicated portions of the text *before* the lecture for which the readings have been assigned.

Tests: There are two mid-term exams plus the final exam. Each exam will follow the same format and include multiple choice and short answer items. The second mid-term exam will only cover the material covered for that particular section and not on the material covered by the first mid-term exam.

About 75% of the final exam will cover material from the last section of the course we cover while the remaining 25% will cover material from the first two sections covered.

Grading: The two mid-term tests will be worth 30% each of your final mark. The Final Exam will be worth 40% of your final mark for the course.

Policy on extra work/re-weighting of exams etc.: Your grade will be determined solely by your performance on the required tests and exams. **In fairness to all students in our course, no individual student will be allowed to re-weight an exam or otherwise improve their grade through extra work unless this opportunity is provided for the entire class.**

Policy on Missed Exams: Standard university policy will be followed in the event that a student misses a test or exam due to illness or domestic reasons. These regulations can be found in the UW Undergraduate Calendar. Reasonable requests are granted on the basis of valid medical or domestic grounds. You will need to provide formal documentation for the reason you had missed the test or exam.

Academic Offences: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. It is vital that you understand that **plagiarism can occur inadvertently, but it still constitutes an academic offence, whether intentional or not.** To avoid the possibility of committing plagiarism, we strongly recommend that students read the following information at....

<http://watarts.uwaterloo.ca/~sager/plagiarism.html>

When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 in the Undergraduate Calendar (or at http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infoucal/UW/policy_71.html). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.

Reading and Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Chapters
September 12 & 14, 2005	Introduction, history, biological & environmental factors	1 & 2
September 19 & 21	Prenatal development, birth	3 & 4
September 26 & 28	Infancy: Physical Development	5
October 3 & 5	Infancy: Cognitive Development	6
October 12 & 17	Infancy: Emotional Development	7
*****	<i>Test on October 19, 2005</i>	*****
October 24 & 26	Early Childhood: Physical Dev.	8
October 31 & November 2	Early Childhood: Cognitive Dev.	9
November 7 & 9	Early Childhood: Emotional Dev.	10
*****	<i>Test on November 14, 2005</i>	*****
November 16 & 21	Middle Childhood: Physical Dev.	11
November 23 & 28	Middle Childhood: Cognitive Dev.	12
November 30 & December 5	Middle Childhood: Emotional Dev	13

The Final exam will be scheduled between December 8 and 22, 2005.

The Academic Date section of the Calendar (printed and web site versions) clearly states the examination date period for each semester. **The examination period for this course is December 8th to 22nd. Students must note that they are required to reserve this time in their personal calendars for the examinations.** Students who are considering registering to write MCAT, LSAT, GMAT, GRE or a similar examination, should select a time for those examinations that occurs outside the University's examination period. For additional information that describes the special circumstances for examination deferment, please consult the University calendar.

Students with disabilities or special needs are advised to contact UW's Office for Persons with Disabilities (in Needles Hall) for information regarding its services and resources. Students are encouraged to review the Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.

Course Feedback: Each student will have an opportunity to evaluate this course upon its completion. In addition, you can provide feedback anonymously at any time during the course by selecting the web site below. This site is anonymous and is to be used only for *feedback* concerning the course (e.g., impressions of the text, suggested changes to material, methods of instruction enhancement, comments on the instructor, TA's, etc.) and not for specific questions related to the material. For those specific course questions, please contact either one of the TA's or the instructor. Please use the web site www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs/evaluation/211eval.html for ongoing course evaluation.