

St. Jerome's in the University of Waterloo
Department of Psychology
Psychology 315 – Fall 2010
Adolescence
Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. M. Drysdale
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Email: mdrysdal@watarts.uwaterloo.ca
Office Hours: T 11:30 – 12:30 & 4:30 – 5:00 and TH 11:30 – 12:30, or by appointment
Lectures: Tuesday 6:00 – 8:45, STJ 2017
Teaching Assistants: Caitlin Chiupka, SJU 2021, cachiupk@uwaterloo.ca
Office hours: Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00
Nathaniel Stevens, BMath, SJU 2021, nstevens@mail.student.math.uwaterloo.ca
Office hours: By appointment

Course Overview:

The period of adolescence is characterized as a complex interaction between the individual and his/her environment. This course introduces students to the nature of this interaction as well as the various aspects of adolescent development. Topics to be covered include: the biological, cognitive, and social changes that take place during the adolescent period; adolescence in different contexts; psychosocial development; and difficulties of adolescence. The course is also developed to foster critical and incisive thinking about current adolescent issues. The way adolescents are portrayed in the media will also be emphasized.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will have an understanding of:

- the process and importance of theoretical foundations in the investigation of adolescent development
- aspects of physical development during adolescence
- the current emphasis on body image and physical appearance
- the process of cognitive development
- social learning theory and the development of self-concept and self-esteem
- the processes and problems of developing a strong identity
- the role of family and peer relationships on adolescent development
- school transitions and the social context of schools
- adolescent sexuality
- challenges and problems faced by adolescents
- the portrayal of adolescent development in the media
- professional and scholarly writing in the field of psychology
- professional and scholarly presentations and debates on current adolescent issues

Required Texts:

Santrock, J. W. (2010). Adolescence (13th edition). New York, NY: M^cGraw-Hill.

Drysdale, M., & Rye, B.J. (2009). Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Adolescence (2nd edition). Dubuque, IO: M^cGraw-Hill.

NOTE: As an upper level psychology course, students are expected to evaluate critically the literature on the topics presented. It is important to keep up with the readings so you are prepared for the in-classroom assignments. There are written components for this course. Students are expected to write in a scholarly fashion at a university level.

Correspondence:

Students using the telephone to contact me **must** include their first and last names, student number, and course in which they are enrolled. Please address me as Professor or Dr. Drysdale. Always email using UW-ACE. Please allow at least 24 hours for an email sent between Monday and Thursday and allow the weekend for a response to an inquiry made on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. For content related questions, request for extra help with the content, or to go over one of your exams, please contact a TA (Caitlin or Nathaniel). For all other inquiries or questions, please contact me (e.g., missing an exam, problems with the course, or extra help if a TA is not available).

If you miss a lecture, the best way to get notes is with an email request (using ACE) to the class.

Do not email or telephone asking for grades. For security reasons, grades are not released over the telephone or by email.

If my door is open, outside of office hours, feel free to approach. If I am busy, I will let you know. Please don't be offended if I can't drop what I am doing to talk. I will schedule a convenient time for both of us. This is especially important for students who have conflicts with my office hours.

Evaluation:

Midterm:	40%	October 26 th
Final Open-Book Exam:	25%	November 30 th
Debate:	25%	November 2, 9, 16, 23 (announced on September 21 st)
Class Participation:	10%	

NOTE: Students **MUST complete** all 4 assessments to receive credit in the course.

NOTE: EXAM DATES and DUE DATES ARE FINAL: PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST ANY ALTERNATE DATES/TIMES (medical exceptions excluded, see below). REQUESTS FOR CHANGING THE WEIGHTING OF EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Midterm:

- The midterm will cover the lecture material, video material, textbook material, and all additional readings. Some of the textbook may be assigned as “Independent Study” meaning that students will be expected to read chapter sections that are not discussed in class.
- The midterm will consist of multiple-choice questions.

Final Open-Book Exam:

- The final exam **will be cumulative** and will consist of two short-essay questions.
- Throughout the term, students will watch feature films targeted at adolescents and having adolescent(s) in the lead role(s). The content in these films will be the basis for the final exam.
- Questions will cover the following:
 - How adolescents are portrayed in the films.
 - The messages/values expressed to adolescents with respect to:
 - Sex, Violence, Drugs, Schools, Parents, Friends and peers, Physical appearance/Body image & Merchandise
 - Linking the content to the following course material:
 - Physical & emotional changes
 - Cognitive advances
 - Peer pressure
 - Identity formation (including gender identity and sexuality)
 - Rebellion
 - Changing relationships
 - Parent-adolescent relationships
- **Materials allowed for the final: course textbooks, lecture notes, debate notes, all handouts, and video notes.**
- Writing style is very important. APA format, spelling, grammar, and punctuation count.

Debates:

- A debate is a formal discussion, a consideration of issues, or a formal presentation of contrasting ideas. It can also be viewed as an argument. There are two sides to every debate: the *Affirmative* and the *Negative*.
- In groups of three, you will be assigned an issue and a side (Affirmative or Negative) from *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Adolescence – 2nd edition*. Issues and sides will be assigned by a draw and announced on September 21st.
- Please submit your group names to Caitlin by noon on September 20th via email using ACE.
- If for religious or cultural reasons you cannot take a “side” on a particular issue, please inform me in writing by noon on September 20th.
- Format for the debate:
 - The Constructive Section (max. 16 minutes)
 - 1st *Affirmative* Constructive Speech (3 – 4 minutes)
 - 1st *Negative* Constructive Speech (3 – 4 minutes)
 - 2nd *Affirmative* Constructive Speech (3 – 4 minutes)
 - 2nd *Negative* Constructive Speech (3 – 4 minutes)
 - The Question and Discussion Section (5 minutes)
 - Debaters ask and answer questions or provide further evidence supporting their arguments
 - No new arguments can be introduced
 - One minute maximum for each contribution, alternating between sides
 - Five minute break to prepare rebuttals
 - The Rebuttal Section (debaters summarize arguments & attack opponent’s points) (max. 8 minutes)
 - *Negative* Rebuttal Speech (3 – 4 minutes)
 - *Affirmative* Rebuttal Speech (3 – 4 minutes)

- Each member of the group will deliver one of the speeches for that side.
- Each group is responsible for gathering research/evidence beyond what is provided in the *Taking Sides* book. Refer to the additional readings section or do your own research.
- Strict adherence to time limits is required. If you go over, the bell will ring and you will have 10 seconds to wrap up before you are cut off. Marks will be deducted for going over the time limit.
- Each group will submit their speeches, reference list, and notes for the rebuttal at the end of the debate.

Class Participation:

- Marks will be based on the following:
 - Taking a “side” (*Affirmative* or *Negative*) on a debated issue and submitting a written response stating your opinion and why you chose it. This can be point form. It must be completed immediately following the debate. You will have 5 minutes to complete it. It will be based on the evidence provided during the debate – therefore you **MUST** make reference to specific statements made by the Teams. (maximum 1 page)
 - Each response you make is worth a maximum of 1%. Therefore to get full marks for class participation, you must submit 10 high quality responses. You are permitted to more than 10 and keep the 10 highest scores.

POLICY REGARDING CHEATING

CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Students are referred to the university policy on academic offences. Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, obtaining information about a test in advance, having crib/cheat notes, and/or having information written on your body are all examples of cheating. Students found cheating will: receive a zero (0%) on the test and be asked to leave the room if cheating materials cannot be confiscated OR have cheating materials and the answer booklet/scantron confiscated and be given a new exam that must be completed in the time allotted.

A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, invigilators of the tests can ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students’ papers, remove baseball caps, check for crib/cheat notes, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront or as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring. It is strongly recommended that you **do not** sit with friends during the examinations. All incidences of cheating will be reported to the Department Chair and the Associate Dean.

POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS OR ACCOMMODATION – University of Waterloo

Students are entitled to a rescheduling of exams or an extension of deadlines for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons. Students are also entitled to rescheduling of exams based on religious grounds. *Students must provide confirmation of an illness to the instructor within 48 hours of the exam or due date by submitting a completed University of Waterloo Verification of Illness Form to support requests for accommodation due to illness.*

Students who consult their own physician must provide the UW form to the attending physician for completion. The University of Waterloo charges a fee for a “*Verification of Illness*” certificate.

Deferrals of exams and extension of due dates are decided by the instructor (see Dr. Drysdale’s Policy below). If a student completes an exam while ill, the grade stands. False claims of illness and/or submitting false documentation constitutes an academic offense that is subject to disciplinary action under Policy #71.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and the Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered (University of Waterloo Calendar).

PROFESSOR’S REQUIREMENTS REGARDING ILLNESS

Only on the documented basis of illness or other extreme circumstance will students be permitted to write a make-up test. **In the case of illness, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor *PRIOR to the due date or exam date*, (the voice mail stamps the date and time of telephone calls).** The student must provide an *official “Verification of Illness” certificate* from the University of Waterloo - which states that, due to medical reasons, it was **impossible** for the student to write the exam at the scheduled time (i.e., severe illness). Doctors’ notes, forms created by a physician or clinic, or a note scribbled on a prescription pad is **not an acceptable medical certificate.**

If you are sick and you contact me after the exam, you will NOT be permitted to write the test. You will receive a ‘zero’ on that test.

Exception to this: if you are involved in an accident on your way to the exam (documentation required) and as a result you are not able to call me. If you are extremely incapacitated, in hospital, or have had an unexpected death in the family within 24 hours of the test, then have a friend or family member call ASAP.

Any student missing an exam with a valid reason must write a make-up exam. The make-up exam may differ in format from the original exam (e.g., an entire essay exam). Eliminating an exam from the course requirements and redistributing grades is not an option. All exams MUST be completed to receive a final grade in the course.

Please note that the following are **NOT** valid reasons for rescheduling an exam:

- Travel plans (athletic or personal)
- Missing your bus or ride to campus
- Work overload. You can have as many as 5 exams in a single day during the regular term and be expected to write all of them.
- Sleeping-in or alarm clock problems.
- Forgetting you had an exam or forgetting you were registered in the course.

RELEASE OF GRADES:

When tests are graded, the results will be posted on UW-ACE. Grades are not released over email or telephone. Do not send an email to the Instructor or TA regarding “when will the grades be posted?” We endeavour to complete the grading as quickly as possible.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, DISCIPLINE, AND GRIEVANCE

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Federated University and Affiliated Colleges are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: All students registered in courses at St. Jerome’s University are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed following St. Jerome’s University Academic Discipline Procedure and UW Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. In such a case, contact the St. Jerome’s University Grievance Officer. Read St. Jerome’s University Handbook, Section 4, item 8, www.sju.ca/faculty/SJU_handbook/grievance_policy.html.

Academic Integrity website (Arts): http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (UW): <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/>

PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS*

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under St. Jerome’s University Academic Discipline Procedure or Grievance Policy if a ground for an appeal can be established. In such a case, contact the St. Jerome’s University Appeals Officer. Read St. Jerome’s University Handbook, Section 6.4, www.sju.ca/faculty/SJU_handbook/examinations_grades_standings_and_appeals.html.

More information regarding appeals can be obtained by the Ombudsperson's Office (Student Life Centre, Room 2128, 885-1211). The full text of **Policy 70** is available on the Web as well as from the Secretariat (Needles Hall, Room 3060). <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.pdf>

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Note for students with disabilities:** The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.
- **Laptops are permitted for note-taking purposes during the lectures** – however – other usage is not permitted (e.g., Facebook, Skype, Internet searches, streaming, gaming, etc.). Such usage is distracting to the instructor and to the students around you. If you are caught using your computer for anything besides note-taking, you will be asked to turn your computer off and/or leave the room.
- **Absolutely no cellular telephones and/or headphones** are permitted during the lectures or examinations.

- **Student ID Cards** are necessary for examinations. Please place them on the corner of your desk.
- **Baseball caps** are not to be worn during examinations.
- **Backpacks** must be stored at the front or back of the classroom during examinations. Purses and other small personal items must be stored beneath the desk.
- Students who are dissatisfied with their academic achievement are *strongly* encouraged to seek advice from a study skills counsellor at Needles Hall (**888-4567, Ext. 32655**), the teaching assistant, or the professor *prior* to their next exam(s). Please let us know if you are having difficulty understanding the course content or having difficulty with the testing.
- If you bring beverages and/or food into the classroom, please take your empty cups, tins, wrappers, crumbs, etc. with you and dispose of them in the wastebasket.
- Please do not email the professor or the TA requesting information on required readings/chapters for exams. Please refer to your outline.

Lecture & Exam Schedule and Required Readings

Date	Topic	Sanrock Chapter	Taking Sides Issues
September 14	Introduction Historical Perspective Today's Adolescents The Science of Adolescent Development	Chapter 1	
September 21	The Brain & Cognitive Development + Movie	Chapter 3	
September 28	Movie		
October 5	The Self, Identity, Emotion, & Personality Movie	Chapter 4	
October 12	Families, Peers, & Schools Movie	Chapters 8, 9, & 10	
October 19	Adolescent Problems Videos	Chapter 13	
October 26	Midterm (40%)	Chapters 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 13	
November 2	Group Debates – Adolescent Health	Chapter 2	Issues 3, 5, 6
November 9	Group Debates – Sex and Sexuality	Chapter 6	Issues 7, 9, 11
November 16	Group Debates - Relationships	Chapters 8 & 9	Issues 12, 13, 14
November 23	Group Debates – The Media and Problem Behaviors	Chapters 12 & 13	Issues 15, 16, 18, 19
November 30	Final Open-Book Exam (25%)	Cumulative – all term material	