

PSYCHOLOGY 2100
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY: ADOLESCENCE

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 Office Hours: Wed. 9:00-10:00 a.m. & Thurs. 12:00-1:00 p.m.

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Required Text: Adolescence, 8th Edition
 Author: Laurence Steinberg
 Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Final Exam: Tuesday, April 28, 2009, 1:30 – 3:20 p.m.

Blackboard Username is your A number
 Password is your Banner password

Course Description:

This course will focus on the psychological development of adolescents by integrating biological, cognitive, social and moral aspects of growth. The influence of family, peers, school, culture, work and the media in the adolescent's life will be examined. The concepts of the development of identity, autonomy, intimacy, sexuality, achievement, moral values and religion. Current issues related to substance abuse, delinquency and other psychological problems and disturbances, including depression, suicide, eating disorders and ADHD will be discussed.

Course Objectives:

During this course, students will:

1. Explore the fundamental changes of adolescence using a multidisciplinary approach.
2. Explore biological transitions of adolescence, including the impact of puberty.
3. Examine cognitive transitions of adolescence.
4. Examine social transitions in which adolescents are engaged, including the transition into adulthood in contemporary society.
5. Examine the influence of the family on adolescent behavior and development.
6. Explore the impact of peer groups on adolescent behavior and development.
7. Examine adolescents in the context of school settings.
8. Examine the role of work and leisure during the period of adolescence.
9. Explore psychosocial development during adolescence.
10. Examine the formation of identity, including self conceptions and self esteem as adolescent issues.
11. Explore the development of three types of autonomy in which adolescents engage.
12. Explore perspectives on adolescent intimacy, including dating and romantic relationships.

13. Examine sexuality and sexual orientation as a developmental issue of adolescence.
14. Examine achievement motivation and beliefs during adolescence. Learn about the influence of environment on adolescent achievement.
15. Explore psychosocial problems in adolescence, including substance use and abuse, antisocial behavior, depression, suicide and other internalizing behaviors. Examine stress and coping in adolescence.

Course Organization:

Your study of adolescent development in this course will focus on several learning modalities. First, you will be expected to thoroughly read each chapter, and to attend each class. Video segments are incorporated into some of the PowerPoint presentations. Guest speakers will lead the lecture on occasion. You will be required to write 4 short, informal papers over the course of the semester. These papers will be based upon your reading of the assigned articles. Guidelines for these papers are found on Page 3 of this syllabus. In general, we'll cover one chapter each week over the course of the semester.

Course Requirements:

1. **General Requirements:** You are expected to attend class, keep current with assigned readings, complete assignments on time, prepare for and take exams during the time indicated on the syllabus, and to participate in class discussions. During class discussions, students are expected to be respectful of the opinions stated by others and to listen while others students are speaking.
2. **Exams** - There will be three interval exams and a final exam. The final exam will cover the portion of the material presented in the last 3 chapters, and will also include some comprehensive review items. Exams will be comprised of multiple choice questions and will cover material from the reading assignments and videos.

There will be no make-up exams. If you do not attend class on the date of an exam you will receive a score of 0 for the exam. Under extenuating circumstances arrangements can be made to take the exam prior to the exam date if the situation is discussed with the instructor beforehand.

3. **Informal Papers** - 4 informal papers are required. Guidelines for the informal reaction papers are discussed on Page 3 of this syllabus.

Extra Credit – Opportunities will be offered intermittently throughout the semester during class, so come to class!

Grading System:

The grade you receive in this course will be determined by the number of points you have accumulated at the end of the semester. Point values are as follows:

REQUIRED:

1. Exams 1, 2, and 3 - 150 points (50 points each)
2. Final Exam – 100 points (50 points covering the chapters and 50 points on review comprehensive items).
3. Short Papers – 100 points (4 papers X 25 points each)

OPTIONAL:

Extra Credit – Opportunities will be offered intermittently throughout the semester during class.

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE = 350

A	=	95% and above	C	=	73 - 76%
A-	=	90 - 94%	C-	=	70 - 72%
B+	=	87 - 89%	D+	=	67 - 69%
B	=	83 - 86%	D	=	60 - 66%
B-	=	80 - 82%	F	=	Below 60%
C+	=	77 - 79%			

Informal Paper Guidelines:

Informal reaction papers are required for this course. The four papers are worth 25 points each for a total of 100 points. Papers must be turned in at the beginning of class according to the schedule printed in the syllabus and in the table below. Papers will not be accepted electronically unless arrangements are made with the instructor prior to the beginning of class. Five points will be deducted for each day the paper is late. Please check the course schedule so you'll know which paper to read for the due date indicated.

Guidelines:

- 1) Read the specified article posted on Blackboard for each informal paper.
- 2) Format for papers:

Heading: The first page should be a cover sheet, which includes the following:
Your name, date, paper number (as listed in the syllabus), title, and authors of the article

Length: 3 - 4 pages, **double spaced**. (Note: Papers must be at **least** 3- **FULL**, well-written pages to receive full credit. Do not exceed 4 pages.)

Margins: 1 inch margins all around. (If you use *Microsoft Word*, be aware that the default margin is 1.25 inches. Change the margins to 1 inch using page set-up)

Font: **12 point Times New Roman** font. Each student is *required* to use the same font, so please be attentive to the font you are using.

Source: Cite the title and the number of the article at the beginning of your paper.

Content: In the first 3-4 paragraphs of your paper describe the article in some detail. Focus the rest of your paper on your reactions to the issue as the authors present them. You should discuss issues such as the following: Your experience with the topic, how much did you know about the topic prior to reading the article? Do you believe the topic represents a legitimate concern? Be sure to comment on your reflections or opinions (i.e., do you agree or disagree with the author(s)' view of the topic? Do you have other solutions to the problem? You may also focus comments on the quality of the article.) **MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOUR PAPER IS FREE OF SPELLING AND GRAMMATICAL ERRORS. Points will be deducted for formatting errors and for spelling and grammatical errors.**

Due dates for the informal papers are listed below and in the syllabus. Please check the course schedule so you will know which paper to read for the due date indicated.

Paper No. 1	January 15, 2009
Paper No. 2	February 12, 2009
Paper No. 3	March 19, 2009
Paper No. 4	April 16, 2009

PLEASE NOTE:

Students with physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

Course Schedule

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Date</u>
Chapter 1: Biological Transitions	January 6, 8
Chapter 2: Cognitive Transitions	January 13, 15
Paper #1: “Adolescent Stress” (Due January 15)	
Chapter 3: Social Transition	January 20, 22
Exam 1 (CHAPTERS 1-3): January 27	
Chapter 4: Families	January 29, February 3
Chapter 5: Peer Groups	February 5, 10
Chapter 6: Schools	February 12, 19
Paper #2: “A Nation of Wimps” (Due February 12)	
*****FEBRUARY 17 - NO CLASS – ATTEND MONDAY SCHEDULE*****	
Chapter 6: Schools (Continued)	February 19
Chapter 7: Work, Leisure, & Mass Media	Feb. 24, 26
Exam 2 (CHAPTERS 4-7): March 3	
Chapter 8: Identity	March 5, 17
*****USU SPRING BREAK MARCH 9 – 13 ENJOY!*****	
Chapter 8: Identity (Continued)	March 17
Chapter 9: Autonomy	March 19, 24
Paper #3: “The Future of Adolescence” (Due March 19)	
Chapter 10: Intimacy	March 26, 31
Exam 3 (CHAPTERS 8 – 10): April 2	
Chapter 11: Sexuality	April 7, 9
Chapter 12: Achievement	April 14, 16
Short Paper #4: “Adolescents Who Self Injure” (Due April 16)	
Chapter 13: Psychosocial Problems	April 21, 23

FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2009, 1:30 – 3:30 P.M.

(CHAPTERS 11 - 13 & COMPREHENSIVE ITEMS)