

**Psy 211**  
**Fall 2006**  
**Tuesday & Thursday @ 7:30 am – 8:45 am**

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Instructor: Sarah Caverly  
Office: David King Hall 1024  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 – 9:45 (or by appointment)  
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*Course Description:* Developmental Psychology is the study of human development throughout the lifespan. Students should gain a basic knowledge of how psychological theory contributes to our understanding of the many facets of human development.

*Course Objectives:*

1. To describe the developing person at different periods in the life span.
2. To provide a perspective on the changes that take place during an individual's life, from birth to death.
3. To examine possible causes or sources of developmental change and reasons for disturbances in the development process.
4. To demonstrate how different theoretical perspectives affect or determine the research and applications that arise from them.
5. To describe objective techniques and skills for observing human behavior.

**Required Text:**

Papalia, D. E., Olds, S. W., & Feldman, R. D. (2007). Human Development, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill .

*Technology:* Students will be expected to have activated their GMU email account by the first week of class. I will use this account to contact you periodically during the course of the semester, so you are encouraged to check this account frequently, or have your mail forwarded to an account that you do use regularly. WEBCT will not be used for this course. Student will also be required to use the internet for research purposes on select homework assignments, as well as their 'lot in life' paper project. Internet access is available on campus at the various computer labs.

**Course Requirements and Assignments:**

1. **Attendance and class participation:** In this course active discussion and contributions from each member of the class is expected. Regular attendance will be necessary for you to fully understand the material.
2. **Exams:** There will be 4 exams over the course of the semester, with the option to drop the lowest score. The exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer, essay and true/false items. The final exam will be a cumulative exam. Make-up exams will not be offered, instead students will be required to use that as their exam score that is dropped. Students will need to bring scantron sheets, lined paper, #2 pencils, and an eraser to all exams.
3. **Projects:** In addition to the exams, there will be homework assignments, and short in-class assignments that may not be announced. All of these assignments will be worth between 5 to 15 points each. If you must miss class, you may submit the homework via e-

mail before class. For the in-class assignments you must be in-class to participate or no points will be received. Some of the projects may require internet access to complete.

4. **Lot in Life Project:** Students are required to write a paper, which focuses on their selected 'lot in life' topic. An outline of the requirements will be provided to you in class and due dates are listed on the course outline.
5. **Extra credit:**
  - a. **Option 1:** You may participate in psychology research projects for up to 5 Hours of extra credit. Each hour will be worth 2 pts. I will need to be notified by the researcher at the end of the semester of your participation and you will need to write one short paragraph about each project and turn it in to me, no later than May 5, 2005. The paragraph needs to identify the study, and comment on the mechanics of the study – clear instructions? Demand characteristics a problem? Etc.
    - i. To sign up for an experiment, you must follow the following instructions:
      1. log on to [www.experimetrix.com/gmu](http://www.experimetrix.com/gmu) and click on new user link
      2. enter all the required information
      3. don't include dashes in your SSN
      4. use your GMU e-mail account (your password will be sent to this account). If you do not know your GMU e-mail account, log on to <http://www.gmu.edu/mlnavbar/finder/index.html> and enter your last name to find your GMU e-mail account
      5. click on register
    - ii. Your login and password will be sent to your GMU e-mail account. You will need to log on to the site to activate your account within 3 days or else you will need to re-register. Click 'log in' to access your account. You will need to select your course by clicking on the 'Edit your course Selection link' (Psyc 313 004). You can also edit your information (change your password, add an additional e-mail account, ect.).
  - b. **Option II:** You may sign up to participate in the psychology research lectures that are offered if you are not interested in participating in research. You will need to write one short paragraph about each lecture, and turn it in to me, no later than May 5, 2005. The paragraph needs to identify the purpose of the lecture, and comment on the contents. Follow the same steps as above to sign up for a lecture.

### **Grading Procedures:**

Exams (100 points each):	300 points (100 pts each)
In-Class Projects:	100 points (5 - 15 points each)
Lot in Life Paper:	100 points

Total points possible: 

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 500 points

A = 460 - 500	B+ = 435 - 449	C+ = 385 - 399	D = 300 - 349
A- = 450 - 459	B = 415 - 434	C = 350 - 384	F = 299 and below
	B- = 400 - 414		

### **Honor Code:**

The Honor Code will be strictly enforced. "Cheating encompasses the following: 1) the willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized, unfair, dishonest, or unscrupulous advantage in academic work over other students; 2) the above may be accomplished by any means whatsoever, including, but not limited to, the following: fraud, duress, deception, theft, trick, talking, signs, gestures, copying from another student, and the unauthorized use of study aids, memoranda, books, data or other information; 3) attempted cheating. Plagiarism encompasses the following: 1) presenting as one's own the works, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgement; 2) borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the

pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement. Lying encompasses the following: The willful and knowledgeable telling of an untruth, as well as any form of deceit, attempted deceit, or fraud in an oral or written statement relating to academic work.” See the University handbook for further information regarding cheating and plagiarism.

**Disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

<b>Tentative Course Outline</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Aug. 29	The Study of Human Development	Chap 1
Aug. 31	Theory & Research	Chap 2
Sept. 5	Forming a New Life	Chap 3
Sept. 7	Physical Development the First 3 Years	Chap 4
Sept. 12	Cognitive Development the First 3 Years	Chap 5
Sept. 14	Cognitive Development the First 3 Years	Chap 5 Cont.
Sept. 19	Psychosocial Development the First 3 Years	Chap 6
Sept. 21	Psychosocial Development the First 3 Years	Chap 6 Cont.
<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>Chap 1 – 6</b>
Sept. 28	Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood	Chap 7
Oct. 3	Physical and Cognitive Development In Early Childhood	Chap 7 Cont
Oct. 5	Psychosocial Development in Middle Childhood	Chap 8
Oct. 10	<b>No Class – Columbus Break</b>	
Oct. 12	Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood	Chap 9
Oct. 17	Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood	Chap 9 Cont
Oct. 19	Psychosocial Development in Middle Childhood	Chap 10
Oct. 24	Psychosocial Development in Middle Childhood	Chap 10 Cont.
Oct. 26	Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence	Chap 11
Oct. 31	Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence	Chap 11 Cont.
Nov. 2	Psychosocial Development in Adolescence	Chap 12
<b>Nov. 7</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>Chap 7 - 12</b>
Nov. 9	Physical & Cognitive Development in Young Adulthood	Chap 13
Nov. 14	Psychosocial Development in Young Adulthood	Chap 14
Nov. 16	Physical & Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood	Chap 15
Nov. 21	Psychosocial Development in Middle Adulthood	Chap 16
Nov. 23	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	
Nov. 28	Physical & Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood	Chap 17
Nov. 30	Psychosocial Development in Late Adulthood	Chap 18
	<b>'Lot in Life' Project Due</b>	
Dec. 5	Dealing with Death & Bereavement	Chap 19
<b>Dec. 7</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>	<b>Chap 13 - 19</b>
<b>Dec. 12</b>	<b>Reading Day</b>	
<b>Dec. 14</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM (Optional)</b>	<b>Comprehensive</b>

