

PSYC 314: Adolescent Psychology
Spring 2006

Instructor: Todd M Wyatt [twyatt1@gmu.edu]

Class Location: Krug Hall 5 (KH 5)

Meeting time: MWF 11:30-12:20

Office: Child Development Lab, David King Hall 1021, 703-993-1378

Office hours: Monday 10:30 –11:30, or by appointment

Course objective: This course will examine the emotional, cognitive, social and physical development that occurs during adolescence. Students will gain an understanding of early to current theories of adolescent development in addition to reviewing current empirical research about various topics of interest. In addition, the class is structured in an attempt to create an environment in which to discuss, debate and explore the information presented as well as student's knowledge and experiences.

Required text: Adolescence 11th ed. (2007) by John W. Santrock McGraw-Hill;
ISBN: 0073228753.

Class Organization/Participation: Students are expected to attend all scheduled class meetings. Students are responsible for all material and announcements presented in class, including announcements about changes in the schedule and assignments. Class time will be used as a platform for interactive discussion of current topics and readings. Lecture will be taken from various resources including the required text in addition to other empirical readings from psychological journals. Although attendance will not be taken into account per say, participation is. Class participation can be defined as coming to class with assigned class readings completed, discussion topics/ questions prepared, and willingness to participate during the entirety of the class.

Exams: There will be four exams throughout the semester. The exams will cover material covered in class lecture as well as the readings assigned. Exams will offer a variety of formats (e.g. multiple choice, short answer, essay, etc.). If classes are cancelled on a test day for any reason, then the test will be given on the first day classes resume.

Exam make-up policy: The following policy refers to all scheduled exams. Not included in this policy are exams taken ahead of time (through arrangement with the professor). There will be no exam make-ups or extensions without penalty except in instances such as the following:

- hospitalization or illness that has been documented and judged by your instructor as preventing you from (a) preparing adequately for a test or (b) sitting for a test
- death or serious illness in your family
- court appearances

Documentation must be provided by health officials (e.g., a physician or member of the student center health staff) in the case of illness; an immediate family member in the case of a death or serious illness in the family; and official paperwork in the case of court

dates. Students failing to produce such documentation will be penalized at least one full letter grade. Decisions about whether and when to allow a student to make up an exam will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Paper: Each student will be expected to complete one scholarly paper. Choose a topic within the domain of Adolescent Development such as: a theory of adolescence or a topic within adolescence (e.g. timing of maturation, substance abuse in adolescence, ethnic differences in adolescents and their families, eating disorders in adolescents, internet use and adolescents, etc.). All topics are subject to approval from professor. You will be expected to locate 8 empirical sources (at least 5 journal articles are required sources; do not cite other textbooks as sources) and list the sources at the end of your paper. Try to integrate one theory we have discussed in class as you consider the research. Use APA format for the paper. Papers must be typed. Papers will be evaluated on how well you organize the paper, writing, and presentation of the findings from the sources (Further information will be provided about the format of the paper, due dates etc. during class).

Evaluation and Grades: The final grade will be based on a total of 400 points as follows:

Class participation	62 points(12% of final grade)
Exams 4 (@ 70 points each)	280 points (55% of final grade)
Paper rough draft, & literature review	70 points (13% of final grade)
Final paper	100 points (20% of final grade)
	= 512 total possible points

A grade of B denotes work that surpasses basic course objectives and is considered a mark of distinction. Work exceeding this standard receives an A. Grades will be assigned according to the following points (percentages are only approximate):

A+ = 512-494 (100-97%)	A = 493-474 (96-93%)	A- = 473-461 (92-90%)
B+ = 460- 446 (89-87%)	B = 445-425 (86-83%)	B- = 424-410 (82-80%)
C+ = 409-395 (79-77%)	C = 394-374 (76-73%)	C- = 373-359 (72-70%)
D = 358- 308 (69-60%)	F = below 308 (below 60%)	

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.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to change)

Chapters are listed from textbook.

Mon. Jan. 23	Chpt. 1	The nature of adolescent development
Wed. Jan. 25	Chpt. 1&2	The science of adolescent development
Fri. Jan. 27	Chpt. 1&2	The science of adolescent development
Mon. Jan. 30	Chpt. 3	Puberty & Biological development
Wed. Feb. 1	Chpt. 3	Puberty & Biological development
Fri. Feb. 3	Chpt. 3	Biological development
Mon. Feb. 6	Chpt. 4	Cognitive development
(FEB 7 th : LAST DAY TO ADD)		
Wed. Feb. 8	Chpt. 4	Cognitive development
Fri. Feb. 10	Chpt. 4	Cognitive development
Mon. Feb. 13	Chpt. 4	Cognitive dev. (Literature Review DUE)
Wed. Feb. 15	<u>Exam #1</u>	on chpts. 1, 2, 3, & 4
Fri. Feb. 17	Chpt.5	The self, identity, emotions, & personality
Mon. Feb. 20	Chpt. 5	The self, identity, emotions & personality
Wed. Feb. 22	Chpt. 5	The self, identity, emotions & personality
Fri. Feb. 24	Chpt.6	Gender (FEB 24 th : LAST DAY TO DROP)
Mon. Feb. 27	Chpt. 6	Gender
Wed. Mar. 1	Chpt. 7	Sexuality
Fri. Mar. 3	Chpt. 7	Sexuality
Mon. Mar. 6	Chpt. 8	Moral development, Values & Religion
Wed. Mar. 8	Chpt. 8	Moral development
Fri. Mar. 10	Chap 8	Moral Development

March 12 through 19 – Spring Break

Mon. Mar. 20	Review	
Wed. Mar. 22	Exam #2	on chpts. 5, 6, 7 & 8
Fri. Mar. 24	Chpt. 9	Families
Mon. Mar. 27	Chpt. 9,10	Families/Peers (Paper Rough Draft Due)
Wed. Mar. 29	Chpt. 10	Peers
Fri. Mar. 31	Chpt. 10	Peers
Mon. Apr. 3	Chpt. 11	Schools
Wed. Apr. 5	Chpt. 11	Schools
Fri. Apr. 7	Chpt. 12	Achievement, Work, & Careers
Mon. Apr. 10	Chpt. 12	Achievement, Work & Careers
Wed. Apr. 12	Exam #3	on 9, 10, 11 & 12
Fri. Apr. 14	Discussion of paper, writing, plagiarism, APA format	
Mon. Apr. 17	Chpt. 13	Culture
Wed. Apr. 19	Chpt. 13	Culture
Fri. Apr. 21	Chpt. 13	Culture
Mon. Apr. 24	Chpt. 14	Adolescent problems
Wed. Apr. 26	Chpt. 14	Adolescent problems
Fri. Apr. 28	Chpt. 14	Adolescent problems
Mon. May 1	Chpt. 14	Adolescent problems
Wed. May 3	Chapt 15	Health Stress & Coping
Fri. May 5	Discussion/review of semesters materials (Final Paper Due at beginning of class)	

Fri. May 12 (FINAL EXAM @ 10:30-1:15) on chapters 13, 14 & additional material from throughout the semester