

Developmental Psychology

PSYC 211 – 004 Spring 2009

Instructor: Andrea Fitzgerald **Class time:** T/Th 3-4:15pm
E-mail address: afitzge3@gmu.edu **Class location:** DK 2053
Course website: <https://gmublackboard.com> **Office hours:** by appointment

Recommended text: Santrock, J. W. (2008). *Life Span Development* (11th ed). Boston: McGraw-Hill

Additional readings: Articles relating to the topics covered in class may be distributed throughout the semester.

Course objective:

The objective of this course is for the student to become familiar with and understand the field of human development within a biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional framework. Our goal is to use theory, research and observation to deepen our understanding and awareness of ongoing development in all stages of life from conception to death.

Exams:

There are a total of **four exams** (3 non-cumulative interim exams and 1 **cumulative final exam**) consisting of multiple choice, true/false, matching and fill-in-the-blank questions. You may drop your lowest grade on any one of the **first 3 interim exams**. **The final cannot be dropped**. The two highest interim grades will then each count for 30% of your grade. The final will count for 40%.

Missed exams:

There are NO make-ups for a missed exam. Because the lowest exam grade is dropped, if you are late or absent and miss an exam that will be the one that is automatically dropped (not including the final). No exceptions. If you know ahead of time that you have to miss more than one exam drop the class now. The final can NOT be made up at another time.

Attendance & Course Content: It is strongly recommended that you attend class. Not all of the material covered in class comes from the textbook, and not all of the material in the textbook will be covered in class. Any material covered *in class* will be the basis of exams. I will post outlines of each chapter on Blackboard before each class and encourage you to print and bring these outlines to class with you. Remember, these are **OUTLINES** not complete notes. You are expected to complete the notes yourself by attending class. If you miss class, please use the posted outlines as a guide and ask your fellow classmates for notes and/or read your textbook before coming to me. I will be happy to meet with you to discuss anything after you do this, however *I will not send you notes*.

NOTE: You are responsible for any and all announcements and modifications made to the syllabus whether you are present each week or not.

Technology statement: Required knowledge of technology for this course includes the ability to retrieve announcements and/or handouts sent via email to your GMU address. You are responsible for making sure your account has enough available space to receive such emails. I will also be using Blackboard to post weekly outlines, announcements, as well as grades. You are expected to regularly access this course website: <https://gmublackboard.com>

Developmental Psychology PSYC 211 – 004 Spring 2009

The GMU honor code will be strictly enforced. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be reported to the University Honor Board &/or penalized. Please refer to the University Honor Code if you have further questions about what is expected of you and your level of academic integrity.

Students with 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.

Add/Drop Deadlines:

The last day to add a class is **February 4**

The last day to drop a class is **February 20**

		Tentative Course Schedule:	Assignments Due:
T	1/20	NO CLASS	Syllabus, Ch 1 & 2
Th	1/22		
T	1/27		Ch 3
Th	1/29		Ch 3
T	2/3		Ch 4
Th	2/5		Ch 4
T	2/10		Ch 5
Th	2/12		Ch 5 & review for exam 1
T	2/17	EXAM 1	(Ch 1-5)
Th	2/19		Ch 6
T	2/24		Ch 6
Th	2/26		Ch 7
T	3/3		Ch 7
Th	3/5		Ch 8
T	3/10	NO CLASS NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK March 9-15
Th	3/12		
T	3/17		Ch 9
Th	3/19		Ch 9
T	3/24	EXAM 2	catch up day & review for exam 2
Th	3/26		(Ch 6-9)
T	3/31		Ch 10
Th	4/2		Ch 11
T	4/7		Ch 12
Th	4/9		Ch 13
T	4/14		Ch 15
Th	4/16		catch up day & review for exam 3
T	4/21	EXAM 3	(Ch 10-13,15)
Th	4/23		Ch 16 & 17
T	4/28		Ch 18 & 19

Developmental Psychology PSYC 211 – 004 Spring 2009

Th	4/30		Ch 21
T	5/5		Catch up day & review for final exam
T	5/12	FINAL EXAM	cumulative

Grades:

Interim Exams (2 x 30%)	60%
Final Exam	40%

Total	100%
--------------	-------------

97% & above	A+
93-96%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79	C+
70-76%	C
60-69%	D
59% & below	F

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit questions will be offered on each of the exams. Additionally, extra credit “pop quizzes” may be given throughout the semester. These will be given without notice, and credit will be given only if the correct answer is provided. There are no make-ups and no penalties for missing an extra credit pop-quiz. Therefore I encourage you to keep up with the material, and attend class in order to receive extra-credit opportunities.