PSYCHOLOGY 211(B01)– Developmental Psychology

SUMMER 2006

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Patricia Wanschura
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Office hours: MW 3:40-4:25 pm; MW 10:00-10:15 pm
Other times by appointment


GOAL: We will study development throughout the entire lifespan, from conception to death, in such areas as physical, cognitive and psychosocial development. Our goal is to use theory, research and observation to deepen our understanding and awareness of ongoing development in all stages of life. (This is a General Education course and we’ve been asked to remind students of the General Education mission statement that is in the University Catalog (p. 9) and on the web at www.gmu.edu/departments/provost/gened/.)

TECHNOLOGY: We will be using Web CT for the syllabus, chapter notes, class activities, and grades. The best way to contact me is through e-mail.

Students automatically receive a WebCT username and password authorization when they first register for courses at George Mason. The username and password is always the same as their Mason e-mail account username and password. If you need to activate your email account please go to https://chimera.gmu.edu/e-mail/prod/index.html or the GMU homepage.

To use Web CT you will need to go to http://webct41.gmu.edu. You click on Login and it will ask for your user name and password. Then a list of courses you have on webct will appear and you click on Psyc 211B01) There is also a website that explains webct – http://www.irc.gmu.edu/Webct/default.asp and you can get technical support at webct@gmu.edu.

EXAMS: There will be 4 exams and a final. Each exam will consist of objective questions (multiple choice, true/false, matching). You will need a GREEN scantron (882-ES) – it’s the older one without the student ID. (60 points each). The final will be worth 40 pts.

In addition, there will be an OPTIONAL REPLACEMENT EXAM given on the same day at the same time as the final, after the final is completed, which can be used to SUBSTITUTE for a missed exam or a low grade. This REPLACEMENT EXAM is cumulative and all objective. I would suggest a study strategy of reviewing old exams (25% of the questions will be taken from old exams) and looking over chapter summaries. (60 points)

MISSED EXAMS: If you are unable to make an exam (e.g. illness, business, etc.), you must leave a message on my voice mail or e-mail BEFORE the scheduled exam. Otherwise you will have to use the optional cumulative exam to replace it. If you qualify to make up the exam since you contacted me before the exam for a legitimate reason, it should be done as soon as possible.

CLASS ACTIVITIES: Frequently we will have class discussions or other graded class activities. There will be 12 of these. You must be in class to do them. You can make up two of these. The topic will be posted on webct after each discussion has occurred. All make-ups must be turned in by 10:00 pm on 7/24/06. (Up to 3 points each, depending on quality of response)
PAPER: There will be one paper which will require application of course concepts to real life situations. Details and due date will be given later. (20 pts)

EXTRA CREDIT: 1) There will be 2 extra credit true/false questions on each regular exam. (8 pts)

2) EXTRA CREDIT: There will be an opportunity for extra credit for participation in a research study. I will need confirmation from the researcher and one paragraph from you describing the study and what you thought about it. OR you can choose to do a brief journal critique. (Paper assignment will be put on webct). You can choose to get credit for research OR the journal critique paper - NOT both. You can get 2 pts for each hour of research participation up to 2 hours (therefore a possible 4 pts) or 4 pts for the paper. Due date - no later than 7/19/06.

To sign up for an experiment, you must follow the following instructions:
   a) log on to www.experimetrix.com/gmu and click on new user link
   b) enter all the required information
      - don’t include dashes in your SSN
      - 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.
   c) click on register.

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 211 B01). You can also edit your information(change your password, add an additional e-mail account, etc.).

GRADES: Grades will be based on a total of 336 points – Exams 1-4 (60 pts each)- 240; Final – 40; Activities (12)(3 pts each) – 36. Paper (20 pts). Letter grades will be A=312.5 pts; A- = 302.5 pts; B+= 292.5 pts; B= 279 pts; B- = 269 pts; C+ = 258.5 pts; C = 245.5 pts; C-= 235; D = 201.5 pts; F = Below 201.5 pts.

DISABILITY HELP: 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.

HONOR CODE: All provisions of the GMU Honor Code will be followed in this class.
M 6/5 Chapters 1 & 2
W 6/7 Chapters 2 & 3
M 6/12 Chapters 3 & 4
W 6/14 EXAM 1 (Ch 1-4) and Chap 5

M 6/19 Chapters 6 & 7
W 6/21 Chapters 7 & 8
M 6/26 EXAM 2 (Ch 5-8) and Chap 9

W 6/28 Chapters 10 & 11
M 7/3 HOLIDAY
W 7/5 Chapters 11 & 12
M 7/10 EXAM 3 (Ch 9-12) and Chap 13

W 7/12 Chapters 14 & 15
M 7/17 Chapters 15 & 16
W 7/19 EXAM 4 (Ch 13-16) and Chap 17

M 7/24 Chapters 18 & 19

W 7/26 FINAL EXAM (Ch 17-19) and OPTIONAL REPLACEMENT EXAM
    7:30-10:15 pm

N.B. Each regular exam will be given from 7:20-8:10 pm. After a 10 minute break, we will start the new material at 8:20 pm.

Last day to add 6/14
Last day to drop with no tuition liability - 6/14
Last day to drop – 6/21

* Syllabus subject to change as necessary