

**PSYCHOLOGY 376: CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
SPRING 2013**

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**Lecture Place and Time:** 101 LLCS; Tues & Thurs 12:00pm – 1:20pm

**Course description:** This course provides an introductory overview of the theories, methods and phenomena of child development. We will cover many aspects of physical, cognitive/intellectual, and social/emotional development, focusing primarily on the early childhood period. The approach to these topics is scientific, with an emphasis on recent research findings.

**Course website:** <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu>

You must have an email address and be registered for this course in order to log on to Blackboard. If you do not have an email address, go to the Information Technology Center (ITC) in McKenzie Hall (<https://it.uoregon.edu/>). For help with Blackboard visit: <http://library.uoregon.edu/scis/blackboard/help/index.html>

**Textbook** (2 copies are on reserve in the Knight Library):

Siegler, R., DeLoache, J., & Eisenberg, N. (2010) *How Children Develop*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. New York: NY: Worth Publishers.

Textbook website: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/siegler/>

**Lectures and Readings:** Although the instructor has attempted to coordinate the lectures with the readings, they frequently will be independent of each other. Some material will be covered in both reading and lecture, but much of the material in the reading will not be discussed in class and new information not covered in the reading will be presented during class time. The quizzes and exams will cover material from both lectures and readings. It is anticipated that you will need to attend the lectures and spend a substantial amount of time outside of class (reading and studying) to do well in this course.

**Quizzes:** Ten weekly open-book quizzes will be given, each covering the material in the readings and lectures prior to the quiz day. Quizzes will be administered online via Blackboard. Every week between noon on Friday and noon on Monday you will be able to access the quiz for that week under Course Documents. Once you begin, you will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. Use of your book, notes, or lecture slides is acceptable. Quizzes will typically include 5-10 multiple-choice or short-answer questions worth 10 points in total. The top 8 quiz scores will be summed to make your quiz grade for the course (i.e. your lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped). Quiz questions are designed to make you think about the material deeply, to enhance learning and consolidate what you have read and heard in lecture that week. Some questions will address content delivered during the lecture, but not shown on the lecture slides or in the readings. The questions will often target conceptual understanding of the material, as opposed to simple definitions of terms. In other words,

they are not “easy” questions. Make sure you read the entire question and all response options carefully. Please email the TA if you are having difficulty with any technical aspects (such as your browser crashing during the quiz, so the TA can reset it). If you have concerns about the availability of Internet access, it would be wise to plan on taking the quizzes at Knight Library or in the Psychology computer lab (STB 186). Keep in mind that email responses will be as timely as possible, but that if for some reason a response does not arrive soon enough, reasonable accommodations can usually be provided – up until the answers are released on Blackboard. After that point, the scores are fixed. It is a good idea to print out the quiz as you are taking it, in case of any technical difficulties, and to keep a record of your responses. This will also help you study for the exams. About 24 hours after the quiz window closes, the answers will be released and you will be able to see your score. You are strongly encouraged to review the answers each week for two reasons:

- 1) Research has shown that this helps you learn more – you solidify the correct answers in your mind and retain them over a longer period of time. Research also suggests you will want to review the answers as soon as possible to get the maximum benefit.
- 2) Some of the exam questions will be drawn directly from the quizzes.

*Academic honesty and the weekly quizzes:* At the beginning of each quiz you will agree that: 1) you are taking the quiz alone, 2) you will not share questions or answers with other students who take the quiz later in the 72-hour period, and 3) you did not receive questions or answers with other students who took the quiz earlier in the 72-hour period. If you take this course requirement seriously, it will help you do better in the class. You are more than welcome to study with others and share responsibilities for outlining the chapters and lectures, however you are not to take the quizzes as a group or share/receive information about the quizzes inappropriately. See below for more information about academic honesty.

**Exams:** There will be one midterm and a final exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points towards your final course grade. The format for the exams will be closed-book (i.e. you may not use books, computers, notes, cell-phones, printouts, etc.), multiple choice and (possibly) short answer, and will be based on material up to the time of the exam (i.e. the final exam will not be cumulative). At the time of the final, students who want to improve their midterm exam grade will have the opportunity to take a makeup for the midterm (in addition to the final). If a student takes the midterm on the scheduled date and also completes the makeup exam, the higher of the two midterm exam scores will be used for the course grade. The final exam will be given at the time listed in the university's final exam schedule (Thursday, June 13, 8:00am-10:00am). Students will **not** be able to schedule the final for any other time. The **only** makeup for midterm will be given at the time of the final exam.

**Paper:** Students will write a paper (5 pages double-spaced) in which they summarize the research findings addressing an important and controversial question about child development (e.g., should parents spank their children? What type of preschool is best for children?). Pick a topic that is of real interest to you – something you have always wanted to know about children. Students will present the research evidence from multiple “sides” to the controversy and decide what they think is the best answer to the question. Students will pick a topic from a list of topics provided or can come up with their own topic (if it is first approved by the instructor). The paper will be worth 100 points towards your final course grade. The paper is due the Monday of Finals week (Monday, June 10) by noon. Papers will be turned in via SafeAssign on Blackboard. Late papers will be marked down 10% per day that they are late and may not be turned in for a grade past the Friday of Finals week (Friday, June 14).

**Important Dates:**

<b>Thursday, April 18:</b>	No class because of the Society for Research in Child Development Conference
<b>Tuesday, April 30:</b>	Midterm Exam
<b>Monday, June 10:</b>	Deadline for paper. Late papers will be marked down 10% per day late.
<b>Thursday, June 13 (8-10am):</b>	Final Exam

**Final grades:** Final grades will be based on the total number of points earned for the quizzes (80 points), paper (100 points), Midterm (100 points), and the Final exam (100 points). The total number of possible points is 380. Letter grades will be assigned in the following way: The average of the two highest scores in the class will serve as a reference point (e.g., if the two highest grades in the class are a 360 and 376, the reference point will be 368). If your total number of points is:

90% to 100% of the reference point, your grade will be A

80% to 89% of the reference point, your grade will be B

70% to 79% of the reference point, your grade will be C

60% to 69% of the reference point, your grade will be D

Less than 60% of the reference point, your grade will be F

Within each letter grade, a plus will be assigned to scores within the top 2% and a minus to scores within the bottom 2%.

**Academic Honesty:** All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. No form of cheating or plagiarism will be tolerated. Plagiarism is the inclusion of someone else's product, words, ideas, or data as one's own work. When a student submits work for credit that includes the product, words, ideas, or data of others, the source must be acknowledged by the use of complete, accurate and specific references. By placing one's name on work submitted for credit, the student certifies the originality of all work not otherwise identified by appropriate acknowledgements. On written assignments, if verbatim statements are included, the statements must be enclosed by quotation marks and a citation must be provided. Unauthorized collaboration with others on papers, projects, quizzes, or exams can inadvertently lead to a charge of plagiarism. In addition, it is plagiarism to submit work in which portions were substantially produced by someone acting as a tutor or editor, or work you have produced for a different course. You will be required to submit all of your individual written work to SafeAssign. This technology will be used to prevent plagiarism, protect the originality of student work, ensure a level playing field, and make you more aware of and knowledgeable about plagiarism. When you submit papers, they are checked against SafeAssign's comprehensive databases of source material (which includes published sources, websites, other students' papers, etc.). The papers are then delivered to us, along with reports about how original the papers statistically appear to be. If in doubt regarding cheating or plagiarism on an assignment, consult the instructor **before** you turn in an assignment. If cheating is discovered on the quizzes or exams or plagiarism on the paper, then the University will be notified and appropriate action will be taken.

**Accommodations:** If one of the following applies to you, please see the instructor as soon as possible to make adjustments. You are strongly encouraged to contact Disability Services (346-1155) if you have a non-documented condition that creates difficulty for you as a student.

- Documented (or non-documented) learning or medical disability requiring a need for adjustments to help you learn
- On a sports or other University team that travels this quarter
- English is not your first language

With advanced planning, adjustments are relatively straightforward. Adjustments at the last minute can be problematic and sometimes are not possible.

### OUTLINE OF LECTURE TOPICS (subject to change)

	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings (pgs.)</i>	<i>To Do</i>
Wk 1	April 2	Course Overview / Introduction to the Scientific Study of Children	Chapter 1	
	April 4	Prenatal Development	Chapter 2	Quiz 1 online (by Monday)
Wk 2	April 9	Early Infancy	Chapter 3	
	April 11	Infant Perception and Cognition	Chapters 4 and 5	Quiz 2 online (by Monday)
Wk 3	April 16	Infant Perception and Cognition	Chapters 4 and 5	
	April 18	<b>No Class: Society for Research in Child Development Conference</b>		Quiz 3 online (by Monday)
Wk 4	April 23	Development of Language	Chapter 6	
	April 25	Conceptual Development	Chapter 7	Quiz 4 online (by Monday)
Wk 5	April 30	<b>Midterm Exam in class</b>		<b>Take Midterm Exam</b>
	May 2	Pretend Play and Imagination	pp. 271-273	Quiz 5 online (by Monday)
Wk 6	May 7	Theory of Mind and Autism	pp. 93, 255, and 267-271	
	May 9	Intelligence	Chapter 8	Quiz 6 online (by Monday)
Wk 7	May 14	Emotional Development	Chapters 9 and 10	
	May 16	Attachment and Temperament	Chapters 10 and 11	Quiz 7 online (by Monday)
Wk 8	May 21	Attachment and Temperament	Chapters 10 and 11	
	May 23	Development of Self	Chapter 11	Quiz 8 online (by Monday)
Wk 9	Mar 28	Family and Parenting	Chapter 12	
	May 30	Peer Relationships	Chapter 13	Quiz 9 online (by Monday)
Wk 10	June 4	Moral Development – Guest lecture by Jacob Levernier	Chapter 14	
	June 6	Gender Development	Chapter 15	Quiz 10 online (by Monday)
Finals	Mon, June 10	<b>Final Paper Due via SafeAssign by noon</b>		<b>Final Paper Due</b>
	Thurs, June 13	<b>Final Exam 8:00-10:00am in LLCS 101</b>		<b>Take Final Exam</b>