

COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPT./NUMBER PSYC 201
 UNITS OF CREDIT 3 LEC. HOURS/WEEK 3 COURSE LENGTH one semester
 DEGREE APPLICABLE X LAB. HOURS/WEEK _____
 NON-DEGREE APPLICABLE _____ OTHER HOURS/WEEK _____

1. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Study of the physical, perceptual, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development of children. Emphasis is on current methods, findings, and theory.

2. CLASS SCHEDULE DESCRIPTION (125 characters)

A research-based treatment of the biological and experiential forces that shape and influence human development during the childhood years.

3. PREREQUISITES AND COMPETENCY LEVELS REQUIRED (Title 5 Plan, p. 19)

Eligibility for ENGL 800.

Successful completion of a college level course in General Psychology.

4. COURSE OBJECTIVES (Must include objective(s) which involve "critical thinking,"

Title 5 Plan, p. 20.) Tests are designed to measure the following. The student should: (1) acquire basic familiarity with evolutionary theory, genetics, and prenatal development as necessary background for the rest of the course; (2) come to appreciate the centrality of experimental method to the field of child development (especially since 1960); (3) be able to distinguish between experimental and other research methods and have a grasp of the advantages and disadvantages of each; (4) be familiar with the general thrust of the developmental theories presented and aware of some of the research findings related to these.

5. RECOMMENDED TEXT MATERIALS

See attached syllabus.

Text is changed fairly frequently because of the rapid pace of change in this field.

6. SUPPLIES NEEDED

See attached syllabus.

7. SCOPE OF THE COURSE (Attach topical outline)

See attached topics list.

8. EVALUATION (Include examinations, skills demonstrations, writing assignments, and other measures of ability to apply critical analysis. Include standards of evaluation where appropriate. Examples to be on file in Division Office.)

See attached syllabus and library assignment handout.

PREPARED BY:

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8. Cognitive Development
 - Piaget's Stages of Cognitive Development
 - The Debate about Stage Theory
 - The Information Processing Approach
 - Development of Memory: Attention, Metamemory, Memory Strategies, and Executive Control Process
9. Individual Differences in Intelligence
 - Measuring Intelligence, Intelligence Tests
 - Different Kinds of Intelligence
 - Adoption Studies
 - Compensatory Education
 - Intellectual Extremes: Giftedness and Retardation
10. Socialization
 - Psychoanalytic Theory
 - Parenting
 - Parenting Roles
 - Parenting Goals
 - Aspects of Parenting
 - Childrearing Climate
 - Limits on Parental Choice
 - Divorce and One-parent Families
11. Development of Sexuality
 - Physical Dimorphism
 - Psychological Dimorphism
 - Sex Roles
 - Sex Differences in Mental Abilities
 - Sex Discrimination
12. The Social Environment
 - Changing Approaches to the Study of Environmental Influences:
 - Overly-narrow, Parent-centered Approach
 - The Broader Environment--Nested Systems:
 - Microsystem
 - Mesosystem
 - Exosystem
 - Socioeconomic Factors
 - Community Organization and Disorganization
 - Peer Relationships
 - Play and the Culture of Childhood
 - Influence of Schools
 - Influence of Television
13. Moral Development and Development of Self-control
 - Prosocial Behavior: Cooperation, Helping, Sharing, and Altruism
 - Self-control and Delay of Gratification
 - Moral Development: Emotional, Behavioral, and Cognitive Aspects

CHILD DEVELOPMENT -- PSYC 201

Topic Areas Covered

1. Introduction to Child Development
 - The Changing Concept of Childhood
 - Importance of Culture (some historical comparisons)
 - The Modern Child
 - Theory and Methods of Research
2. Biological Foundations of Development
 - Introduction to Evolution and Genetics
 - Prenatal Development
 - Teratogens
 - Childbirth Issues
3. Growth, Maturation, and Individual Differences
 - Reflexes of the Neonate
 - Trends in Motor Development
 - Norms
 - Differentiation and Hierarchic Integration
 - Individual Differences in Temperament
4. Neural, Sensory, and Perceptual Development
 - Development of the Brain and Nervous System
 - Sensory Abilities of the Infant
 - Perceptual Abilities of the Infant
 - Trends in Perceptual Development:
 - Increased Differentiation
 - More Optimal Attention
 - Increased Efficiency of Information Pick-up
5. Social and Emotional Development
 - Theories of Attachment and Related Research
 - Emotion: Aspects of Emotion (cognitive, physiological, behavioral)
 - Universals and Individual Differences
 - Frustration and Aggression
 - Teaching Coping Behavior
6. Learning
 - Sensorimotor Learning Processes: Habituation and Conditioning
 - Symbolic Learning Processes:
 - Social Learning Theory
 - Gagne's Hierarchical Model
 - Biological Constraints on Learning
 - Alternative Conceptions of the Learner: Mechanistic vs Organismic
7. Language Development
 - Hierarchical Structure of Language: Phonemes, Words, Syntax
 - Semantics and Pragmatics
 - Typical Developmental Sequence
 - Biological Basis of Language
 - Pidgin and Creole
 - Deaf Children