

Developmental Psychology (Psy 374, Sec. 03)
3 credit hours
Spring 2008

Classroom location: LDB #208
Class meeting times: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30-1:50 P. M.
Instructor: Gaylynn Ratliff
Office location: Kirkley #333
Office phone: 936-294-3051
E-mail: ratliff@shsu.edu
Fax #: 936-294-3798
Department office phone #: 936-294-1174
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, & 2:00-3:00 PM , or by appointment

Course Description:

A study is made of the physical, mental, emotional growth and development of the person across the life span.

Course Goals:

Gain factual knowledge in the area of developmental psychology
Learn fundamental principles & theories related to developmental psychology
Understand how development contributes to human behavior across the life-span

Learning Outcomes:

Understand key concepts and terms related to Developmental Psychology
Describe the impact of biological, cognitive & socioemotional development on the individual
Recognize the general course of development in self & others

Required Textbook: Santrock, John W. (2007). *Life-Span Development*: 11th Edition. McGraw Hill: New York, New York. Required reading assignments are listed on the attached class calendar.

Attendance policy: Attendance is mandatory. In accordance with SHSU policy, attendance will be recorded each class period. However, grades will be based on student performance on the exams and other graded assignments. The university's full attendance policy can be found at the following website:
<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#attend>

Assignments: The required reading assignments are listed in the attached tentative calendar. Reading of the assigned chapters is critical to academic success in this class.

Exams: There will be four **regular** exams worth 100 points each. The exams will be comprised of multiple choice, true/false and essay/short answer questions. The **final exam** will be the same format as the regular exams. It will be worth 100 points. The final exam must be taken at the time designated by the University or **prior** arrangements must be made with the instructor. **Make up exams will be in essay format exclusively. Arrangements to take make-up exams must be made with the instructor within one week of the original testing date.**

Grading Plan: The grading scale is comprised of a total of 500 points. This includes four regular exams during the semester and a final exam. Grades will be primarily based on exam performance. Please be advised that exam performance is usually greatly affected by attendance. If an opportunity is given for extra credit the student **must** be in class that day to participate.

Study tips: Reading the assigned chapters and class attendance are crucial to academic success in this class. The instructor is available to assist students that may need additional guidance. The SAM center is located in A B 4 on the 2nd floor and it is an excellent resource for students wishing to receive tutoring.

Tentative Class Calendar

Date	Chapter	Topic
January		
17	Chapter 1	Introduction
22, 24	Chapter 2	Science of Life-Span
29, 31	Chapter 3	Biological Beginnings
February		
5, 7	Chapter 4	Prenatal Development & Birth
12	Exam I	
14	Chapter 5	Physical Development (infancy)
19, 21	Chapters 6, 7	Cognitive & Socioemotional Development (Infancy)
26, 28	Chapter 8	Physical & Cognitive Development in Early Childhood
March		
4	Chapter 9	Socioemotional Development in Early Childhood
6	Exam II	
11, 13	Spring Break	
18, 20	Chapters 10, 11	Physical, Cognitive & Socioemotional Development (Middle & Late Childhood)
25, 27	Chapters 12, 13	Physical, Cognitive & Socioemotional Development, (Adolescence)
April		
1	Exam III	
3	Chapter 14	Physical & Cognitive Development in Early Adulthood
8, 10	Chapters 14, 15	Physical, Cognitive & Socioemotional Development (Early Adult)
15, 17	Chapters 16, 17	Physical, Cognitive & Socioemotional Development (Middle Adulthood)
22	Exam IV	
24	Chapter 18	Physical Development in Late Adulthood
29	Chapter 19	Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood
May		
1	Chapter 20	Socioemotional Development in Late Adulthood
6, 8	Chapter 21	Death & Grieving
13	Final Exam 11:00 AM	

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Students should be advised that when papers are required that they maybe submitted to turnitin.com to check for plagiarism. For more detailed information see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

Students with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities that is located in the Counseling Center. Please note that no accommodations can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center. For more detailed information see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html.

Religious holidays: A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to the instructor a written statement concerning the religious holy days. The instructor will work with the student to assure that the missed assignments and/or exams are completed.

Visitors in the classroom: Generally visitors are not allowed in the classroom. Exceptions may be made by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

Classroom rules of conduct: Please do not talk, send, or receive messages on cell phones or other electronic devices while in the classroom. Respect your classmates by muting your cell phone. It is inappropriate to speak while others are speaking.