

ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT SYLLABUS
Summer 2012
MW 6:00 – 9:40
SEC 118

Instructor: Caroline Coffield, Ph.D.

Email: ccoffiel@rci.rutgers.edu; **Subject line: Adolescence**

Office hours: by appointment

Office hours location: SEC 118 prior to/after class

Text Book:

Required: Steinberg, L. (2011). *Adolescence*. 9th edition

Course Overview:

This course will explore adolescent development from a variety of psychological perspectives. We will examine the basic changes of adolescence (physiological, cognitive, and social); the contexts in which development occurs (family, peer, school, and work environments); and the areas of psychosocial development (achievement, autonomy, identity, intimacy). We will also briefly explore psychosocial problems in adolescence.

Course Requirements:

- **Attendance at class.** Attendance will not be taken. However, there will be in-class group assignments each class meeting. Missing more than 1 class will affect your grade.
- **In class group work**
- **3 exams.** Exams will be multiple choice and some short answer questions.
- **3 writing assignments/chat sessions**

Class Website:

- The course has a Sakai site, which you should have access to if you are enrolled in the course.
- The class slides will be posted on Sakai prior to class.

What makes the grade?

It is possible to earn **210 points** in this course.

Course grades will be based on **207 points**. It is possible to earn **3 extra credit points** by attending all classes.

- Exams will include 3 multiple-choice exams. Each exam will consist of 40 multiple choice items worth 1 point each and 2 short answer questions worth 5 points each. Each exam is worth **50 points** and will cover 1/3 of the course material. The final exam will not be cumulative. Thus, a total of **150 points** can be earned via exams.
 - Make-ups will not be permitted without a validated medical excuse; all make-ups will be given only during office hours prior to class and will be essay format.
 - Exams will be returned to you at the next class. If you would like your final exam returned to you, please bring a stamped, self-addressed envelope with you to the final exam.
- After each exam, there will be a written assignment that you are to complete at home and submit on the Sakai website. This assignment might take the form of participation in a chat discussion on Sakai, or might take the form of a brief written opinion paper. These assignments will be worth **10 points** each, for a total of **30 points**. This work will not be accepted late. Points earned through these written assignments will be added to the point total.
- Group work. There will be group work during each class. These group activities are meant to make class more interactive and applied in nature. Each group assignment will be worth **3 points** (1 will be worth 6 points) for an additional possible **30 points**. You may miss one class/one group assignment without penalty. If you attend all classes, you can earn all 30 points. These points will also be added to the point total for the course. You may not make up the in class group work.

Grading:

Grading will be based on the percentage earned of the total possible points:

A	90% or higher
B+	86% - 89%
B	80% - 85%
C+	76% - 79%
C	70% – 75%
D	60% - 70%
F	below 60%

Tentative Class Schedule:

Date	Topic & Class Plan	Assignment
July 9	Course introduction Review Syllabus Physical Changes Group Activity #1	Chapter 1
July 11	Cognitive Changes Group Activity #2 Developmental Research	Chapter 2
July 16	Social Changes Group Activity #3 Exam Preparation	Chapter 3
July 18	EXAM 1 (covers chapters 1-3) Written Assignment 1: available 12pm July 18 – 12pm July 19	
July 23	Families Group Activity #4 Peers	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
July 25	School Group Activity #5 (6 pts) Achievement	Chapter 6 Chapter 12
July 30	Work Media Group Activity #6	Chapter 7 Chapter 7
August 1	EXAM 2 (covers chapters 4-7; 12) Written Assignment 2: available 12pm Aug. 1 – 12pm Aug. 2	
August 6	Self/Identity Culture Gender Group Activity #7	Chapter 8

August 8	Autonomy Moral Development Group Activity #8	Chapter 9
August 13	Intimacy Sexuality Group Activity #9 Internalizing Problems Externalizing Problems	Chapter 10 Chapter 11 Chapter 13
August 15	EXAM 3 (covers chapters 8-11; 13) Writing Assignment 3: available 12pm Aug 15 – 12pm Aug 16	

Course Rules:

- You may not make up missed in-class group assignments.
- You may only make up a missed class exam within one week of the exam with a doctor's note or a note from your dean documenting your absence.
- Cell phones should be turned **OFF** and kept in your bags.

Academic dishonesty:

You are required to abide by the Rutgers policy on academic integrity. Please familiarize yourself with this policy. You can view it at:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/policy-on-academic-integrity>

NOTE: Your decision to remain enrolled in the course after the first class meeting is your implicit agreement to abide by everything set forth above.