

Infant & Child Development

Fall 14; 01:830:331:01
MW5: 2:50-4:10; SC 135

Instructor: Dr. Linnea Dickson

ldickson@rci.rutgers.edu

Office Hours: Tues 9:00-11:00 or by appt.

Tillett Hall 101 (Undergrad Psych Dept – Liv.)

TA: Min-Jeong Yang

Office Hours:

Rm:

Required Textbook: A Child's World, 13th Ed. by Martorell, Papalia, & Feldman; McGraw –Hill pub.

Required Online Content: access to **Connect** for the web-based (**LearnSmart**) assignments for our section. (Note: ConnectPlus includes access to the textbook in ebook form (“SmartBook”) as well as the LearnSmart assignments.)

LEARNING GOALS:

Upon successful completion of this course

- *Students will recognize the major physical, cognitive and socioemotional hallmarks of human development from conception through childhood.
- *Students will be able to recognize and distinguish among the major developmental theories.
- *Students will demonstrate the ability to “think like a developmental scientist” including:
 - *being able to critically evaluate developmental theories, research, and conclusions;
 - *understanding how change over time is conceptualized and researched.
- *Students will demonstrate the ability to apply their knowledge of the course content to real world problems.

QUICKLOOK:

Read an average of 1 chapter per week (avg. 30 pages).

Complete LearnSmart assignment for each chapter by assigned due date (est. 40-90 mins. each). 11%

Come to class: Material not in textbook will be presented.

Three (3) in-semester exams. Drop your lowest exam. 54% (27% each)

Final exam (12/19/14; 12:00). Partially cumulative. Cannot be dropped. 35%

Lectures: You are expected to attend all lectures. While the majority of lecture material will be based on information contained in your text, I will also regularly present information not found in your text. Exam questions will be drawn from both the lectures and the textbook.

Textbook: Read the textbook! For each chapter there is a LearnSmart assignment (see below) to be completed AFTER you read the chapter. Make sure you give yourself enough time to read the chapter before attempting the assignment - you will not do well if you just try to guess your way through the LearnSmart assignment without first having read the text. You are responsible for **all** information covered in the text, even if I did not go over it in lecture. Exam questions will be drawn from both the lectures and the textbook.

LearnSmart assignments: For each chapter of the textbook you are required to complete a LearnSmart assignment. LearnSmart assignments are made up of flashcard-like questions that adapt to your level of understanding. Each LearnSmart assignment is worth 1% of your grade. There are 14 LearnSmart assignments, therefore, you may miss 3 assignments without penalty. To receive credit for an assignment, you must reach 100% mastery of the material by the due date (see below or our Connect course site for due dates). **No partial credit will be awarded** - you must reach 100% mastery to receive credit. Anything less than 100% mastery (by the due date) will result in a 0 for that assignment. Each assignment contains about 60-120 items to master. If you get an item wrong, LearnSmart will present it to you again later (as many times as it takes for you get it right). The estimated time to complete the LearnSmart assignments ranges from about 40 to 90 minutes (unless you haven't read the textbook, in which case it will likely take much longer!). You should plan to break this time up into several sessions for best results.

STUDY TIP: You can always go back to a previous chapter's LearnSmart module to review the material (i.e., receive more questions), even after the due date has passed (click on LearnSmart on the right side of our ConnectPlus course site). **This is a great way to review for an exam!**

Exams: There will be 3 exams during the semester and a final (held during finals week). The 3 semester exams will consist of approximately 50 multiple-choice questions and (possibly) a few short-answer questions. The final will consist of two parts. The first will be similar to the semester exams and will cover the material from the last portion of the course (i.e., since the 3rd exam). The second part of the final will consist of approximately 30 questions drawn from material from the entire semester.

No make-ups. Your lowest score from the first 3 exams will be dropped before calculating your exam average. If you miss a semester exam, that missed exam will automatically count as the exam to be dropped. **There are no make-up exams.** I make very few exceptions to this policy – only students with documented, excusable absences will be considered for a makeup. You must contact me or our TA as soon as possible (and no more than within 1 week of the missed exam, unless you are physically unable, of course) in order to be eligible for consideration for a makeup.

The Final Exam is mandatory. You must take the final exam, and your final exam score will not be dropped. Our Final is scheduled for Fri, 12/19 at 12:00. If you have a **documented** conflict (as defined by SAS rules) with our scheduled final, please see me or our TA as soon as possible so we can make arrangements.

Your Course Grade will be calculated as follows:

LearnSmart Assignments	11%
Two in-semester exams (drop lowest of 3)	54% (27% each)
Final Exam (5/14, 8am)	35%
Extra Credit:	
Complete more than 11 LearnSmarts	3% max

Course Schedule

WEEK	TOPIC	LS Due Dates 8:00 AM		EXAMS
		Mon 8am	Wed 8am	
W9/3	Intro;			
M9/8; W9/10	Theoretical Perspectives		Ch. 1	
M9/15; W9/17	Research Methods		Ch. 2	
M9/22; W9/24	Hereditry, Behav. Genetics		Ch. 3	
M9/29; 10/1	Mon: Exam 1; Wed: Pregnancy		Ch. 4	Mon: Exam 1 Chs. 1-3; Lecture
M10/6; W10/8	Newborn		Ch. 5	
M10/13; W10/15	Years 0-3 Physical Devel.		Ch. 6	
M10/20; W10/22	Years 0-3 Cognitive Devel. Wed: Exam 2	Ch. 7		Wed: Exam 2 Chs 4-7; Lecture
M10/27; W10/29	Years 0-3 PsychoSoc. Devel.	Ch. 8		
M11/3; W11/5	Early Childhood Physical		Ch. 9	
M11/10; W11/12	Early Childhood Cognitive		Ch. 10	
M11/17; W11/19	Mon: Exam 3; Wed: Early Ch. PsychoSocial		Ch. 11	Mon: Exam 3 Chs. 8-10; Lecture
M11/24 No Class Wed	Mid-Late Ch. Physical (Thanksgiving)		Ch. 12	
M12/1; W12/3	Mid-Late Ch. Cognitive		Ch. 13	
M12/8; W12/10	Mid-Late Ch. PsychoSocial		Ch. 14	

FINAL: Fri 12/19, 12:00.

Other Important Stuff

Learning Centers. If you have difficulty taking good notes during lectures, knowing what or how to study, and/or doing your best on multiple choice exams I strongly urge you to visit one of the LRCs. Check out their website: lrc.rutgers.edu.

You can view their workshop schedule, make an appointment, and download some helpful guides.

Academic Integrity. Please make sure you are familiar with the Rutgers University Code of Student Conduct by reviewing the materials at: academicintegrity.rutgers.edu.

Special Accommodations. Please contact me as soon as feasible with documentation from the Office of Disability Services if you require special accommodations during testing. In this way we will be able to ensure that the appropriate arrangements will be in place before our first exam.

Extra Credit. There are a several ways to earn extra credit in this class.

- a) Complete more than 11 LearnSmart assignments (by their due dates). Worth 1% each. Max 3%.
- b) Post to our class Google Community – details will be discussed in class.

No other extra credit opportunities will be offered. Please do not ask.

No Grade Changes. I do not change grades except in the case that I or my TA have made a computational error. No other reason will be considered, regardless of how much you “need” a certain grade, etc. On the other hand, if you feel your points have been calculated incorrectly, please do not hesitate to contact our TA ASAP with an explanation of your reasoning.

Syllabus changes. Changes to this syllabus may be made during the semester. Please be sure to check in on our Sakai site to keep up-to-date with any changes.