

# ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

Fall 14; 01:830:333:03  
MTh 12:00-1:20; LSHAud

Instructor: Dr. Linnea Dickson

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

Tillett Hall 101 (Undergrad Psych Dept – Livingston)

TA: Mary Himmelstein

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Office Hours: Tues 1:30-2:30; or by appt.

Rm: Tillett 409

Required Textbook: Adolescence, 15<sup>th</sup> edition. by J. Santrock; McGraw –Hill pub.  
ISBN: 978-0-07-803548-7 or 9781308273044. Earlier editions should also be okay.

Also required: 1 pack of 3x5 index cards.

## Course Goals:

- \* Students will be able to define the three major issues addressed by developmental psychology and apply them to their understanding of the major theories of development.
- \* Students will gain an understanding of the current knowledge of adolescent development, including physiological, cognitive, emotional and social development.
- \* Students will be able to define and recognize research methods designed to address questions of developmental change.
- \* Students will be able to think critically about and interpret the results of developmental research.

## What to expect from the class and from me:

You can expect me to be on time, enthusiastic, and well prepared for each class meeting. I am usually available just before and after class for quick questions, etc. I will also be available during my office hours each week. If you cannot make my office hours, please email me, indicating a few times that you are available, so that we can set up a time that is good for both of us.

This is a 300-level course at a major research university. As such, you can expect that this course will be challenging. We will look in depth at several major developmental theories as well as delve into the specifics of how developmental research is carried out and interpreted. **If you are looking for an “easy” course where simple “common sense” will suffice at exam-time, this course is not for you.**

**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. You are responsible for **all** information covered in the text, even if I did not go over it in lecture.

**In-Class Questions (ICQs):** Periodically (approx. 12 – 15 times during the semester) I will ask you to answer a short question pertaining to the day’s lecture. You will answer

these on 3x5 index cards and hand them in immediately. The type of question will vary. For example they may check for your understanding of a specific concept; ask you to apply a concept to your daily life; make connections between concepts; or even give me feedback on your experience of the day's lecture. Your answers will be short; 1 or 2 sentences will suffice. You must be present when the ICQ is given and hand in your answer immediately to receive credit. Answers will not be scored for accuracy: Any reasonable attempt will be given full credit (1pt).

**TAKE NOTE:** Asking a classmate to answer and/submit an ICQ for you, or answering/submitting one for a classmate is a **violation** of the Rutgers University Student Code of Conduct and will be treated accordingly (see link below). Don't do it!

**ICQ Point Calculation:** In-Class Questions will account for 9% of your grade. Since each question is worth 1% of your grade and there will be more than 9 ICQs, missing one or two questions due to absence from class will not negatively affect your grade. ICQ points that you earn above the 9% may be added to your course grade as extra credit. More information on this will be given during class.

### Exams

There will be 3 exams during the semester and a final (held during finals week). The 3 semester exams will consist of approximately 40-60 multiple-choice 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 3<sup>rd</sup> exam). The second part of the final will consist of approximately 20-30 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 ASAP (at least within 1 week of the missed exam) in order to be eligible for consideration for a makeup. Makeups must be taken as soon as possible.

**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 **Tues 12/16/14, 12-3pm**. If you have a **documented** conflict with our scheduled final, please see me or our TA as soon as possible for information regarding alternate accommodations. Be sure to bring a copy of your official exam schedule for verification.

Your Course Grade will be calculated as follows:

ICQs*:	9%
Two in-semester exams (drop lowest of 3)	56% (28% each)
Final Exam	35%

Some extra credit MAY be awarded for ICQs above minimum required. **No other extra credit will be offered for any reason.**

## Course Schedule (Subject to change)

WEEK	TOPIC	READING	NOTES
1: Th 9/4	Intro	Chapter 1	
2: Mon 9/8 Th 9/11	Intro	Chapter 1	
3: Mon. 9/15 Th. 9/18	Puberty	Chapter 2	
4: Mon 9/22 Th. 9/25	Brain & Cognition	Chapter 3	
5: <b>Mon. 9/29</b> Th. 10/2	<b>EXAM 1</b> Identity	----- Chapter 4	Ex.1-Chs. 1-3
6: Mon. 10/6 Th. 10/9	Emotion/Personality Gender	Chapter 4 Chapter 5	
7: Mon. 10/13 Th. 10/16	Gender Sexuality	Chapter 5 Chapter 6	
8: Mon. 10/20 <b>Th. 10/23</b>	Sexuality <b>EXAM 2</b>	Chapter 6 -----	Ex.2-Chs. 4-6
9: Mon. 10/27 Th. 10/30	Morality	Chapter 7	
10: Mon. 11/3 Th. 10/6	Families	Chapter 8	
11. Mon. 11/10 Th. 11/13	Peers & Relationships	Chapter 9	
12. <b>Mon. 11/17</b> Th. 11/20	<b>EXAM 3</b> Schools	----- Chapter 10	Ex3.-Chs. 7-9
13. Mon 11/24 <b>TUES. 11/25</b>	Schools Achievement & Work	Chapter 10 Chapter 11	<b>Thurs classes on Tues</b>
15: Mon. 12/1 Th. 12/4	Achievement & Work Culture	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	
16: Mon. 12/8	Last Class		

**FINAL: Tues, 12/16/14, 12:00-3:00PM**

## 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](http://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](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu). I take this very seriously. Suspected cheating on exams or ICQs will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and may result in serious academic penalties.

**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.

**No Extra Credit.** I do not offer extra credit opportunities for any reason. 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.