

Syllabus Adolescent Development

333 section H6 – Summer 2015

Version 07-5-2015

Who

Instructor: Estelle Mayhew

Instructor email: emayhew@rci.rutgers.edu

Email procedures

Politesse

- Please remember to SIGN (that means first and last name) your emails.

When/where

Class location: Tillett Hall 226

Class time: Mondays & Wednesdays 6 - 9:40 pm

Office hours instructor: Thursdays 1:40 - 2:15 pm or by appointment

Office location instructor: Room 229, Tillett Hall Livingston Campus

Office hours and exams

To arrange office hours "by appointment"

- If you can't make my standard office hours we can meet "by appointment". What this means is that we need to coordinate our schedules. The fastest way to do that is to send me the slots of time that you can reasonably make it to my office (Tillett 229, Livingston campus), and I will look at those and pick some times that also work with my schedule (which varies from week to week).
- Example of timeslots:
Mondays 10-12 and 3-4, Tuesdays 9-12, Wednesdays after 4, Thursdays before 2, Fridays no availability.
- Sending me just one time is almost never going to work, so be comprehensive the first time and save us some email back and forth.

Looking at your exam

(A) *To see your exam -- come to office hours*

- If you wish to see your exam (and this is a **very** good idea) then you must visit during office hours.
- **Bring your review question sheets** (the answers you prepared to the review questions) when we discuss the exam, so we can see how your preparation for the exam can be tweaked.

(B) *What to look for in your exam*

- Look at the questions you got wrong.
- Then try to figure out **why you got them wrong!** Did you not know the answer at all? Did you not know which of two answers was correct? Did you read the question too quickly and

misunderstand what was being asked? Did you overthink? Were all your mistakes on one topic? What type of questions did you get wrong? Fact questions, concept questions, application questions?

- Once you diagnose what types of mistakes you made, consider how to change your studying so that you don't make this type of mistake again (or fewer of them in any case).

What

The goal of this course is to examine adolescent development. We will look at the basic changes that take place in adolescence (physiological changes, changes in thinking, changes in social interactions), the context within which these changes take place (adolescents in family, peer, school, work and community environments), and the psychosocial areas in which development takes place (identity, intimacy), we will briefly look at psychosocial problems in adolescence. We will also look at how the research is done in this developmental field.

Required Readings

Available at the Livingston bookstore

(1)

Jeffrey Jensen Arnett *Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood*, 5th edition. Pearson.

I realize this book is expensive, as all college textbooks are. I honestly don't care if you rent it, or get a second hand copy, the loose-leaf version, some international edition that officially isn't supposed to be sold in the U.S., or whatever. I do care that you get the book, or to put it differently: PLEASE get the book. If you get an older version you do so at your own risk, as I don't own copies of the earlier versions.

The bookstore has it packaged with the second requirement (virtual teen), and I think that the combination is probably a reasonable deal, but I leave it to your judgment.

There will be a number of copies of the book on reserve in the Kilmer library.

(2)

- You must get the student access number for VIRTUAL TEEN. It is available packaged with the book at the bookstore, but you can buy standalone access. Standalone access from the website myvirtualteen.com is \$33. I do not know what the bookstore charges.
- ISBN 0205800823.
- You will be raising a virtual child through the age of 18, and some of the assignments require your answers to some of the questions related to the ones that pop up while you raise your child.
- Raising your child requires 7-10 hours over the course of our session. The assignments relating to virtual teen will amount to about 10% of your grade.

- The class code for this semester is 296.
- Information about virtual teen will be on the Sakai site under the “FAQ” tab
- **The assignments will be on SAKAI and need to be turned in on Sakai.**

Class Website

- The class has a Sakai website which you should have access to if you are enrolled in the course.
- Make sure you check that you can access our site, and keep an eye on announcements from the site.
- I will not be posting the slides, instead I will post a Word file with the text on the slides, before class. You can either print this out (it will be posted at least 2 hours before class) and take notes on the printouts, or take notes in the word file itself (this should take less paper than printing the slides).
- Virtual Teen assignments will be posted Sakai under "tests and quizzes". There will be 5 assignments, with one due each week, starting week 2.
- Most importantly review questions will be posted on Sakai. They basically spell out what you should know for each exam. If you thoroughly know the answers to the review questions, you will do well in the course.

Tentative Class Schedule

Class	Dates	Topic	Readings	VT assignments
1	Mon July 6	What is this course? Intro VT What is adolescence? Theories & Research	Chapter 1	
2	Wed July 8	Research cont'd Biology of puberty Biological issues	Chapter 2	
3	Mon July 13	Changes in cognition Consequences of cognitive changes	Chapter 3	VT1 due 7/14
4	Wed July 15	Family relationships Changing families	Chapter 7	
5	Monday July 20	Peer groups Popularity & Rejection	Chapter 8	VT2 due 7/20
6	Wed July 22	Structure of education School climate	Chapter 10	
7	Mon July 27	Exam 1 Work Occupational choice	Chapter 11	VT3 due 7/28
8	Wed July 29	Self-conception & self- esteem	Chapter 6	

		Identity		
9	Mon Aug 3	Identity cont'd Religious moral political Development Media	Chapter 4	VT4 due 8/3
10	Wed Aug 5	Media cont'd Development of intimacy Romance/sexuality	Chapter 9	
14	Mon Aug 10	Internalizing problems Externalizing problems	Chapter 13	VT5 due 8/10
15	Wed Aug 12	Exam 2		

What makes the grade?

(1) Exams

- There will be two non-cumulative exams. Each exam is worth 40% of the grade.
- Exam characteristics:
 - 60 Multiple choice questions
 - Covers lecture, see review questions

(2) Virtual Teen Assignments

- 10% of your grade will be assignments related to Virtual Teen. They will be posted on the schedule on Sakai and listed under Tests and quizzes. They will have a deadline, after which you CANNOT submit the assignment.
- These assignments are your own work, and may not be completed together with other people.
- Your virtual teen needs to be linked to our class, and I may well peek at how your child progresses. There are no “correct” and “incorrect” ways to raise your child, but I do expect you to think carefully about your decisions, the way you would if you raised a real child. The main purpose of the assignments is for you to show your thinking about your decisions.
- SAVE the assignment, (in a separate file, and in Sakai) both right before you submit it, and in cases where you 'are going to get back to it at some point'. Sakai messes up quite regularly, integrate that fact into your plans for doing assignments.
- See the FAQ tab in Sakai for more information on VT assignments.

(3) Online quizzes and In-class activities

- 10% of your grade will be comprised of points gained by taking online quizzes or participating in In-class activities. These will be spread out during the 6 weeks of our session, and will be announced in class.

How to do well in the course

- Come to class, and arrive in time.
- This is a summer class, and one that meets only 12 times. That means we will have a LOT to cover during our classes. Make sure you are in a physical state to take in information during class, I will vary the tempo, show videos, have activities and breaks, but we will still be dealing with 3 hours and 40 minutes of class time.
- Keep up with the work. Readings that don't seem like much over a 15-week semester become a huge load during the summer.
- **Prepare the answers to the review questions, start early. These questions are your guide to what you should know. So KNOW the answers, be able to explain them to your roommate/family/friends!**
- Announcements are at the beginning of class, and they are frequently important! Make sure you arrive in time.
- Pay attention in class (i.e. what is getting explained/emphasized)

Grading Scale for letter grades end semester

A	90% or higher
B+	85% - 89%
B	80% - 84%
C+	75% - 79%
C	70% - 74%
D	60% - 69%
F	below 60%

Course Ground Rules

(a) In class

I really only want you in class if you are going to be paying some attention, so be so kind as to turn off your cell phone. If you urgently need to have a conversation, or watch YouTube you are free to do so, but go elsewhere. Other people want to learn the material, even if you are currently not so inclined. If you are having a conversation disturbing others, I will ask you to leave.

(b) 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/integrity.shtml>
Read the section on level three violations and the sanctions that follow!

(c) Absences from class

It is your responsibility to arrange to obtain information (other than the downloadable class notes, and those are outlines) if you miss a class. Please do not ask or send email to the professor.

If you can, arrange in advance for someone in the class that you know to take good notes for you. Most of the videos are not available for separate viewing. If there is a web version of the videos, I may post links on the sakai website, but you cannot count on being able to see all video material if you miss class.

(d) Missing an exam

- There will be non-cumulative make-up exams.
- ONLY for those who present a doctor's note or a Dean of Students' note within a week of the missed exam to the instructor can take this without penalty, see below for makeup policy for those who do not have a valid excuse.

You will be allowed to take a make-up exam if, within one week of the exam, you present a doctor's note or letter from your dean's office to the professor.

(a) For illnesses: I need a doctor's note to verify your illness. So if you get sick, *get a doctor's note*.

(b) For car accidents: the dean will most likely ask for a police report to verify that the accident took place.

(c) For personal or family emergencies: the dean will most likely require some verification of the emergency (such as a death certificate or obituary if a relative has died). If it is a personal issue of some other nature, it will be up to the judgment of the dean to determine whether or not you should be excused from the exam (and thus be allowed to take the make-up).

Basically folks: I need some paper documentation from you.

- Those who miss the exam because they forgot, overslept, were inebriated, or whatever other reason that is not really an excuse, have to come to talk to me within one week of the exam, and will probably be allowed to take the makeup exam with a penalty: 8% off the top of the exam grade. In the end that is better than a zero for the exam.

Note: Your decision to remain enrolled in the course after the first class session is your implicit agreement to abide by everything stated above.