

Principles of Developmental Psychology
Rutgers University, New Brunswick; 01:830:271
Summer 2017; First Session (May 30 – July 7)
Thurs 6-9:40pm, IN CLASS: Tillet 103D

Dr. Linnea Dickson
Online Office Hours: Wed 6-7:00pm – Sakai Chatroom
In-Person Office Hours: by arrangement; Tillet 101
Email: ldickson@rci.rutgers.edu

Syllabus may change.
Check Sakai often!

Required Textbook: Santrock, J.W., Essentials of Life-Span Development 4th ed; (ebook is acceptable and is available when you register for Connect. See below.) If you would like a physical copy of the text, 3rd edition should be fine. Regardless of the book format you choose, you must buy access to Connect (see below).

Required Online Materials: Connect web-based (**LearnSmart**) assignments for our section:

<http://connect.mheducation.com/class/1-dickson-sum17-01830271b6>

You must buy access to Connect and register for this section (follow the link above). You can buy access online or through the bookstore. (Students using financial aid must buy access through the bookstore.)

A physical textbook is not required, but is suggested. You can order a reduced-price loose-leaf version online from your Connect account.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a hybrid course, which means that we will be meeting both online and in class. A significant portion of your course work (and course grade) will take place online. It is imperative that you have reliable internet access.

The reading load for this course is intense – you will be reading a 17-chapter textbook in 6 weeks! If you do not have the time and inclination to do a great deal of reading this is not the course for you.

COURSE GOALS

Upon successful completion of this course

*Students will recognize the major physical, cognitive and socio-emotional hallmarks of human development at each major period of the lifespan.

*Students will be able to recognize and distinguish among the major developmental theories.

*Students will demonstrate a beginning ability to “think like a developmental scientist” which includes:

- *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.

COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE

Attendance-In Class. Attendance at our Thursday class meetings is **mandatory**. Missing just one summer class is equivalent to missing about 1½ weeks of class during the regular semester. Participation in discussions and GroupWork Projects during class meetings is a significant portion of your grade. Given that, a student who misses even just one class is at significant risk of failing the class. If you are not sure you will be able to attend every class I strongly suggest you not sign up for this course.

PARTICIPATION

GroupWork. Each week you will work with a group of 4 or 5 students (assigned by me) on a project related to the week's topic.

During the Week: You will do most of the work on your GroupWork project during the week, outside of class. Before the end of class on the Thurs before, you must have set an agreed-upon time to meet with your whole group (online or in person). By **Tues night at 8PM** your group must have created (and shared with me) a **Google Doc** containing, at the very least, an outline of the information you will cover in your presentation, a list of who is doing/did what, and plans for the presentation (e.g., the theme or pretext, who plays which part, etc.). I will look over these by no later than Wed at noon and add comments/suggestions as needed.

In Class: During class Thursday you will work with your group to complete your project and present it to the class.

Grading: Your GroupWork score for each week will consist of 3 parts: a) your **Individual** contribution to the project throughout the week (15 points); b) the overall grade for the project **Content** (20 points); and c) the grade for your group's **Presentation** (10 points). Each group member will receive the same score for parts b and c. GroupWork is worth 45% of your course grade.

Your **Individual** contribution score will be based in part on your **groupmates' ratings of your effort and contributions**. Failure to contribute substantially during GroupWork discussions/preparations may also cause you to forfeit Content points as well. You must participate in the presentation to receive GroupWork presentation points.

ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS

LearnSmart assignments: For each chapter of the textbook you are required to complete a LearnSmart assignment. LearnSmart assignments consist of flashcard-like questions that adapt to your level of understanding. Each LearnSmart assignment is worth 1% of your grade. There are 17 LearnSmart assignments, therefore, you may miss 2 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, in addition to the time spent reading the text. You should plan to break this time up into several sessions for best results.

Threaded Discussions (“ThDs”). Each week I will pose a question related to the week’s reading. You are required to post at least one response to the week’s topic by midnight Monday (due date for first week is Wed. at 5:00) and responses to two classmates’ posts by midnight Wednesday (due date for first week is Thurs at 5:00). Your discussion posts will be graded for quality and must conform to “netiquette” guidelines (see “Guidelines for ThDs” under Resources on our Sakai course site). Your posts and responses to the weekly discussions are worth 3 points per week, for a total of 18% of your course grade.

Chatroom. Use the Sakai chatroom to communicate with me during office hours (keeping in mind that everyone can see what everyone else says in this chatroom – use email to communicate with me privately), and chatting with your fellow students about the course, assignments, study-buddy requests, etc. You do not have to ever post in the chatroom (though I suggest that you do make use of it). Even if you don’t plan on posting in the Sakai chatroom you should “stop in” periodically to see if there is anything useful/interesting going on.

Grading Your course grade will be calculated as follows

Syllabus Quiz	2%
LearnSmarts.....	15%
Threaded Discussion Participation	18%
Individual GroupWork contribution	15%
GroupWork Project Content	20%
GroupWork Presentation	10%
Final Exam.....	20%

Extra Credit Opportunities

Participate in research conducted by Psychology Dept. researchers: variable

Complete more than 15 LearnSmart assignments (by their due date): 1% each (2% max)

Complete Lecture Study Guides by due date (answers must be hand written): 0.5% each (2.5% max)

Study Guides 1-3 due Thurs 6/22

Study Guides 4 & 5 due Thurs 7/6

You may earn a MAXIMUM of 4% points of extra credit.

No other extra credit will be offered.

SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introduction and Foundations

Reading: Textbook chapters 1 and 2.

Online:

Sakai: Sign on to our Sakai course site using your Rutgers netID. Familiarize yourself with the site. Notice that there is a tab (left side of screen) for each week of the course. You can find links to almost everything you need for each week under these tabs. Check under WEEK 1. Read the syllabus!

Syllabus quiz (located under Week 1): You must score 100% to earn credit for this assignment. You may take the quiz as many times as needed to earn the 100%. The quiz will only be available until **11:55pm Friday** – you must complete it (with a score of 100%) to earn credit for it.

Textbook assessments: Register for Connect for our course and textbook. Enroll in our section by following this link <http://connect.mheducation.com/class/1-dickson-sum17-01830271b6>. Complete **LearnSmart** assignment for **chapters 1 and 2** by **11:59pm Fri**. See more complete instructions above.

Threaded Discussion: Post a response to **both** topics in the “Getting to know each other” Discussion by **5:00 Wed night** and respond to **2** of your classmates by **5:00 Thurs night**. Make sure you review the Guidelines for Threaded Discussions tab (under Resources in our course site) before you post.

Wed 6-7:00: Say “Hello.” Sign on to our Sakai site and enter the Chatroom. I’ll be there. Introduce yourself and ask me any questions you may have about the course. No GroupWork Project this week.

In Class (Thursday)

Introduction

Lecture

Group Work

Week 2: Infant & Toddler Years

Reading: Textbook chapters 3-5

Online

Threaded Discussion: Breast Feeding. Post by **11:55p Mon night**, and respond to 2 classmates by **11:55p Wed night** (note due date is different than for Week 1).

Textbook assessment: Complete **LearnSmart** assignment for **chapter 3 by 11:59pm Tues and chapters 4 and 5 by 11:59pm Fri**.

GroupWork: Design a Toy. Work with your groupmates during the week.
Google Doc due Tues 8pm.

In Class (Thursday)

Lecture
GroupWork
Presentations

Weeks 3-6 will follow the same schedule as Week 2, unless otherwise noted. See “Schedule Overview” below for topics and due dates.

Schedule Overview

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1. 5/29 - 6/2 History and Foundations	Happy Memorial Day!	*Read Syllabus *Sign on to Sakai * Syllabus Quiz Start Reading Start LearnSmart	Discussion: Get to know each other Post by 5:00PM	Discussion: Respond to classmates by 5:00PM CLASS 6-9:40PM Tillett 103D	11:55pm: LearnSmart Chs 1&2 due * Syllabus Quiz Due 11:55PM
2. 6/5 – 6/9 Infant & Toddler Years	Post by 11:55PM: Discussion: Breastfeeding	11:59PM: LearnSmart Chapter 3 due	Discussion: Respond to classmates by 11:55PM	CLASS 6-9:40PM Toy Presentations	11:59pm: LearnSmart Chapters 4&5 due
3. 6/12 –6/16 Middle & Late Childhood	Discussion: Parenting Styles Post by 11:55PM:	11:59PM: LearnSmart Chapter 6 due	Discussion: Respond to classmates by 11:55PM	CLASS 6-9:40PM	11:59pm: LearnSmart Chapters 7&8 due

Continues.....

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4. 6/19 - 6/23 Adolescence	Discussion: Crowd Membership Post by 11:55PM	11:59PM: LearnSmart Chapter 9 due	Discussion: Respond to classmates by 11:55PM	CLASS 6-9:40PM	11:59pm: LearnSmart Chapters 10&11due
5. 6/26 – 6/30 Early & Middle Adulthood	Discussion: Cohabitation Post by 11:55PM	11:59PM: LearnSmart Chapter 12 due	Discussion: Respond to classmates by 11:55PM	CLASS 6-9:40PM	11:59pm: LearnSmart Chapters 13&14 due
6. 7/3 –7/7 Late Adulthood & End of Life	Happy 4th of July!!	11:59PM: LearnSmart Chapter 15 due Discussion: Older Adults in the Media Post by 11:55PM	Discussion: Respond to classmates by 11:55PM	CLASS 6-9:40PM	11:59pm: LearnSmart Chapters 16 & 17 due