

**Prof. Judith A. Hudson**Email: [jhudson@psych.rutgers.edu](mailto:jhudson@psych.rutgers.edu)

Office Hours: Mondays, 12:00-1:00 pm and by appointment, Tillett 425

Teaching Assistant: TBA

Email: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

**What is this course about?**

This course is about how children develop—physically, cognitively, socially, and emotionally—from the moment of conception up to adolescence (approximately 12 years of age). It takes the perspective that all aspects of a child's development are inter-related and develop within varying family, social, and cultural contexts. Ultimately, the point is to answer the question: How can we maximize development for all children?

**Why is this course important?**

Did you know that telling a child she is “smart” is not a good idea? That responding to a baby's crying will result in **less** crying, not more? That listening to adults talk is not necessarily the best way for children to learn language? That babies may already know how to add and subtract? After completing this course, you will know why all of these facts are true and much more.

**What should you be able to know and do by the end of this course?**

- You will be able to recognize the major physical, cognitive and socio-emotional hallmarks of human development from conception through childhood.
- You will be able to recognize and distinguish among the major developmental theories.
- You will be able to critically evaluate developmental research, and conclusions.
- You will understand the role of culture in child development.
- You will apply knowledge of course content to real world problems and concerns such as parenting decisions, teaching, and public policy.

**What are the course requirements?**

- Read 1-2 chapters per week along with occasional articles (40-50 pages).
- Complete online chapter quizzes for each chapter by assigned due date (17%).
- Come to class: material not in textbook will be presented.
- Three in-semester exams: lowest exam score will be dropped (50%: 25% each).
- Final exam: partially cumulative and cannot be dropped (33%).

**Is there a required text?**

I have assigned the REVEL version of Kail (2015), *Children and Their Development*, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. This version includes an e-text and online features including quizzes and resources required for the course.

You can purchase an access code from the RU Bookstore for \$92.60 **OR you can purchase access from the publisher with a credit card for \$79.95.**

**TO PURCHASE THE TEXT FROM THE PUBLISHER:**

1. Go to: <https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/nideum>
2. Sign in to your Pearson Account or create one.
3. Redeem your access code or purchase instant access online.

A temporary access option is available if you are awaiting financial aid.

Whether you purchase your access code from the Pearson site or the RU Bookstore, **you must register your account on the Pearson site** <https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/nideum>.

During registration, you have the option (NOT a requirement) to purchase an additional hard copy of the text for \$19.95. If you opt out, you can still purchase it later if you want.

There are also 6 articles to read that can be accessed from the Resources page on the course Sakai site.

## How do the online quizzes work?

- You will complete an online quiz before the class lecture on each topic. This way, I know that you have some knowledge of the topic based on the text, and I do not need to cover the same material in lecture.
- Complete the REVEL chapter quizzes for 11 out of the 14 assigned chapters. Each quiz is worth 3 points. You may miss 3 quizzes without penalty.
- There are several short quizzes (3-4 questions, 3 points each) throughout each chapter and a final chapter quiz (15 questions, 5 points each). You can “retake” questions, but you will lose points for multiple attempts.
- No partial credit will be awarded. You must reach 85% of the total points for each chapter; anything less will result in a 0 for that chapter.
- No late submissions will be accepted EXCEPT for the first quiz, which is due Jan. 22, but will be accepted until Jan. 25. See below or REVEL course site for due dates.
- Do not wait until the last minute to complete quizzes. You cannot predict when power outages and computer crashes will occur.

### EXTRA CREDIT

You can earn up to 9 points (5% of grade) of extra credit by completing REVEL quizzes for more than 11 chapters (by their due dates).

Each additional quiz score (above 11) will earn 3 points added to your course point total. There are no other extra credit opportunities.

## How are final grades determined?

You can earn total of 200 points in the class:

Exams 1-3 (lowest score dropped)	100 points
Final Exam	67 points
REVEL Quizzes (11 @ 3 points)	33 points
Total	200 points

You can also earn up to 9 extra credit points by completing extra quizzes.

Final grades will be based on **the percentage of points you earn out of a total of 200 points:**

90-100%	A	180-200 points
85-89%	B+	170-179 points
80-84%	B	160-164 points
75-79%	C+	150-159 points
70-74%	C	140-149 points
60-69%	D	120-139 points

## What is the format of the exams?

The 3 semester exams consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.

The final exam includes 50 multiple-choice questions from the final portion of the course, and 17 questions drawn from the entire semester. This gives you the opportunity to review material from the entire semester and consolidate your learning.

Some questions may be factual, but many will ask you to apply concepts to new situations to show that you understand the material. Review questions will be provided before each exam.

## What if you are sick on an exam date?

- Your lowest score from the first 3 exams will be dropped before calculating your exam average.
- If you miss a semester exam for any reason, that exam score will be dropped. You can only be considered for a make-up exam if you have 2 or more documented, excused absence.
- Contact me as ASAP (no more than 1 week after a 2<sup>nd</sup> missed exam, unless you are physically unable to) for consideration for a makeup.
- You must take the final exam; your final exam score will NOT be dropped. If you have a documented conflict (defined by SAS rules) with the scheduled final exam, see me ASAP. If you miss the final due to illness or emergency, contact me ASAP to arrange a make-up exam.

## How can you get a good grade?

**Complete quizzes on time and do extra quizzes for extra credit.**

**Attend lectures.** In the lectures I elaborate on concepts from the readings and introduce new material. Videos are show to facilitate learning. Exams are based on all of this material. If you miss a class, review the Power Point slides poste on Sakai.

**Review material periodically.** Take a few minutes after each lecture to review the material. Before the next class, review material from the previous lecture. Research shows that repeated review is more effective than intensive cramming.

**Prepare for exams by answering Review Questions** (posted on Sakai). Come to my office hours if you have any questions.

**Do NOT “skip” an exam** because the lowest exam score will be dropped. No one can predict the circumstances that could prevent you from taking a later exam or doing well on it – illness, family problems, personal crises, over-sleeping, car trouble etc.

## Are there policies regarding use of laptops, pads, and cell phones?

You are STRONGLY urged to NOT BRING LAPTOPS OR PADS TO CLASS.

You learn better if you listen attentively and take hand-written notes (Mueller & Oppenheimer, 2014, <http://journals.sagepub.com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/doi/pdf/10.1177/0956797614524581>) and you can do neither while typing on a laptop (or playing games, surfing the net, checking email, etc.).

Laptop use is related to poor class performance, and course-related laptop use provides no benefit (Revizza et al., 2017, <https://doi-org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/10.1177/0956797616677314>)

Lecture Power Points are posted on Sakai after each class for you to use to review for exams.

If you choose to use a laptop or pad, please sit in the laptop-designated area of the room so that your laptop or pad does not distract other students.

Please do not use cell phones in class; they hinder you and others from learning. In cases of emergency, please take your phone outside.

## Anything else you need to know?

- Please do not talk during lectures and video presentations.
- I expect people to be punctual and to not leave early. If you must leave early, please do so quietly.
- **Be on time for exams.** If you arrive after the first student has turned in an exam, you will not be admitted to the exam.
- **Bring a #2 pencil to exams.** An eraser is also a good idea.
- **Absolutely no cellphones** are allowed to be out or on during exams.
- **If an exam is cancelled**, a department representative will be in class to announce the cancellation. Anything else (e.g., a note on the board or door) does not count.
- **I do not change grades** except in the case of computing error. If you believe your points have been calculated incorrectly, please contact me ASAP. If you need a certain average to stay in school, keep financial aid, or to get into graduate or professional school, then attend all classes, study actively, and review frequently starting at the BEGINNING of the semester.

## How do you contact the Professor or TA?

- You do not need an appointment to attend office hours; you can just show up.
- Please do not email us about questions regarding class schedule, policies, and other information that is available on the syllabus or on Sakai – it is a good idea to check before sending any email.
- Allow up to 2 days for an answer to email. If we don't get back to you in that time, email again. We do our best to keep up with email, but messages may get overlooked when many come in at once.
- Emails sent within 12 hours of the class may not get read before the class period.
- For quick questions, ask me **after** class. I am setting up before class so cannot give you my attention.
- Please **sign** your emails (first and last name) and include an appropriate subject.
- Indicate in EVERY email WHICH CLASS you are in; we have 200+ students in several classes.
- The TA has the physical exams, so you must visit the TA during office hours to review exams.

## DO YOU NEED A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION?

- Come to every class and sit near the front.
- Ask and answer questions during class.
- Be in the top 10% of the class.
- Visit me during office hours.

*If I don't know you, all I can say about you is what grade you earned.*

## What about special accommodations?

If you are entitled to accommodations, please provide me with documentation from the Office of Disability Services (848-445-6800, Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston) so I can work with them to make appropriate arrangements.

Identify yourself early in the term so that I can meet your needs as soon as possible. Visit <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students> for more information.

## What if it snows?

If there is enough snow that I cannot get out of my driveway, I will have to cancel class, even if classes are not cancelled campus-wide. Should this happen, I will send an email to the entire class and post an announcement on Sakai. If you suspect bad weather, check your email before coming to class

# SCHEDULE OF LECTURE TOPICS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND EXAMS

*Schedule subject to change. Check Sakai site for announcements and schedule changes*

Date	Lecture Topic	Chapter Readings & Quiz Due Dates*	Additional Article Readings (Posted on Sakai)
18-Jan	Introduction to Class		
22-Jan	Themes, Theories & Research Methods	1*	
25-Jan	Genetic Bases	2*	
29-Jan	Prenatal Development	3*	
1-Feb	Birth & the Newborn	3	
5-Feb	Growth & Nutrition	4*	
8-Feb	Brain Development	4	Effects of Maltreatment on Brain Development (2015)
<b>12-Feb</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>		
15-Feb	Perceptual Development	5*	Lee et al. (2017)
19-Feb	<b>NO CLASS – President's Day</b>		
22-Feb	Motor Development	5	
26-Feb	Attachment	10*	
1-Mar	Emotions and Temperament	10	
5-Mar	Understanding Self and Others	11*	Brummelman et al. (2015)
<b>8-Mar</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>		
19-Mar	Cognitive Development	6*	
22-Mar	Cognitive Development	6	Buttelman et al. (2009)
26-Mar	Academic Skills	7*	
29-Mar	Memory Development	7	
2-Apr	Language Development	9*	
5-Apr	Language Development	9	Hart & Risley (2003)
<b>9-Apr</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>		
12-Apr	Moral Development	12*	
16-Apr	Moral Development 2	12	Hamlin (2013)
19-Apr	Gender	13*	
23-Apr	Parents	14*	
26-Apr	Peers & Siblings	14, 15*	
30-Apr	Media	15	
<b>Monday May 7, 8:00-10:00 am: Final Exam (Tillett 242)</b>			

\* REVEL chapter quizzes must be completed by 10:00 am to receive credit. No late submissions will be accepted.

The course is about cute, adorable kids; how hard can it be?



Actually, this is a course in *developmental science*.

You will learn about advances in research technology for studying development in infants and children, and how theories are tested.

The course will cover all major areas in psychology as they relate to child development: perception, cognition, language, learning, neuropsychology, social psychology, and health psychology.

If you have not taken psychology courses in these areas, expect to find the course material challenging.



**Academic Integrity.** I will enforce the University's regulations on academic integrity, and I ask your assistance in reporting suspected violations to me or to the Office of Student Conduct. Be aware of the regulations and potential consequences: [Academic Integrity at Rutgers](#)

**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 to view their workshop schedule, make an appointment, and download some helpful guides: <https://rlc.rutgers.edu/>

**Having Personal Troubles? Not Sure Where to Turn?** See your Dean of Students. "Our office helps students with exceptional difficulties due to medical, emotional, social, psychological, financial, confidential or family-related issues. We may provide letters to faculty for extended (a week or more) absences or circumstances that are complex, confidential or sensitive in nature. In these instances, the Dean's role is to verify documentation of the student's situation. The final decision is always up to the faculty regarding make up exams, extensions, or other options."

**If things go horribly wrong in this course, other courses, or your life,** Rutgers has resources to help. The faculty and staff want you to thrive and to succeed academically and socially. Ask for help as soon as you realize there is a problem. Contact your Dean of Students and/or contact student-wellness services.

#### **Student-Wellness Services:**

- **Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)** (848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](https://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

- **Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)** (848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / <http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/>

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

- **Scarlet Listeners** (732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free, confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space