PSYC 5320.569: ADVANCED STUDY IN HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

SUMMER 2025
Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Amy Hayes

Class Format: Online-asynchronous on Canvas
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Best contact method: email or send a canvas message

Required Text: Broderick, P. C., & Blewitt, P. (2019). The life span: Human development for helping professionals (5th edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education Inc. ISBN-13: 978-0135227763

Readings: Additional assigned readings, including relevant peer-reviewed journal articles and new articles relevant to that week's topic, will be posted weekly on Canvas to supplement the material in the textbook.

Course Description:

An advanced study of the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development of humans across the lifespan, as well as the effects of important contexts (e.g., the family, schools, cultures, and peer groups) on developmental outcomes. Students will gain a deeper understanding of transitions between major life phases, and a broad knowledge of development within each life stage. Major theoretical perspectives in developmental psychology will be included as well. Additionally, both readings and in-class course content will incorporate applications of this knowledge in the helping professions.

Evaluation and Grading:

At-home Exams: There will be three take-home essay exams given out over the semester (dates are listed on the schedule at the end of the syllabus). The exams will be open book, open-notes essay exams. You may use any resource available to you on the exams except for your fellow classmates (that is, the exams are not collaborative). Because these exams are open source and you have a week to complete them, you can think of them as short papers, which means they should include appropriate in-text citations and references. Exams will be posted on Canvas, and once they are open you will have a week to complete them. Your answers should be typed and uploaded as a word document attachment. Because you have a week to complete the exams, late exams will not be accepted. Please plan your writing and submission accordingly.

Weekly Case Studies: Each week you will be assigned one of the relevant case studies from your textbook to analyze and discuss. The page number for each week's case study is posted in each unit on Canvas, as well as 2-3 questions that I want you to analyze for the case. I expect

your answers to be a thoughtful and thorough analysis of the case (in other words, 1-2 sentences will not earn you very many points). This is an opportunity for you to practice applying developmental theory and research cases you might encounter in a clinical or counseling setting. Late submissions for your case study analyses will be accepted up to 3 days late, with a 10% penalty for each day it is late.

Class Grade Breakdown:

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	25%
Case Studies	25%
Total points	100%

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK OF	TOPIC	READINGS and Due Dates
1 May 12	Introduction and Themes in Development	Chapter 1
2 May 19	Brain, Environment, and Behavior	Chapter 2
3 May 26	Early Cognitive Development	Chapter 3
4 June 2	Early Emotional Development	Chapter 4 **Exam 1 Posted**
5 June 9	Early Self-Concept and Socialization	Chapter 5 **Exam 1 Due**
6 June 16	Self and Moral Development in Middle Childhood	Chapter 7
7 June 23	Gender and Peer Development	Chapter 8
8 June 30	**No readings, videos, or assignments for the week of July 4th holiday.**	
9 July 7	Adolescent Physical, Cognitive, and Identity Development	Ch. 9 **Exam 2 Posted**
10 July 14	Adolescent Social Relationships	Ch. 10 **Exam 2 Due**
11 July 21	Young adulthood: Social and Cognitive	**Ch. 11 and 12**
12 July 28	Development in Middle Adulthood	Ch. 13 **Exam 3 Posted**
13 August 4	Development in Late Adulthood	Ch. 14 & 15
August 6	**Exam 3 Due Wednesday, August 6th by 5 PM**	