Course catalog description: An examination of parents’ roles and effects on the growth and life span development of their children. Emphasizes specific development styles and practices and their effects on the cognitive and social/emotional development and functioning of children at each stage of life. Note: May be used as a general elective but does not count as a core or elective psychology course.

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessments: 1) Students will learn about specific parenting roles/styles which affect the growth and development and functioning of children and adolescents. 2) Students will gain a better awareness of specific parenting behaviors, practices, and strategies and how they affect the social/emotional development and functioning of children and adolescents. 3) Students will examine the different types of contemporary families including single, divorced, and blended families requiring additional strategies and practices that help children develop. 4) Students will have the opportunity to discuss current social and cultural issues that impact families and parenting today. 5) Students will be exposed to practical applications for the home, classroom, and clinical setting.

Evaluation and Grading: 3 multiple choice/true-false tests with the 3rd test given during the finals period.


Course Policies (attendance, make-up exams, etc.) – Class attendance is required. If you must miss class, it will be your responsibility to obtain all handouts and class notes. Class attendance and participation will be used to determine borderline grades. If you know that you will be missing class ahead of time, please write me a note or email me. If there is an emergency, you may call me on my cell phone and leave a message. Communication is the key. I am a reasonable person. No make-ups will be allowed
unless timely arrangements are made. Please come by and talk to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Topical Outline (Tentative)

Aug. 28, 30, 1
Introduction to class
Read Ch 1
Historical and Theoretical Influences of Childrearing
Autocratic Parenting
Theories That Emphasized Parental Understanding of Children
Respecting and Attending to Children’s Enthusiasm for Learning
The Role of Context in Child Socialization
The Importance of the Parental Role
The Interface Between Parents and the Community
Parents, Children, and Technology in the 21st Century

Sept. 6, 8
Finish ch. 1
Read Ch 2
Parenting Patterns and the Impact of Culture and Context
Child Socialization Patterns of American Parents
Cultural Variations in Parenting Patterns
Other Contextual Influences on Parenting Patterns

Sept. 11, 13, 15
Read Ch 3
Parents and Children in Varied Family Structures
Families and Adoption; Guest speaker
Parents and Children Affected by Divorce
Adolescent Single Parents
Guest speaker – Foster Children and Foster Parents

Sept. 18, 20, 22
Homosexuality and Parent-Child Relations
Guest speakers
Surrogate Parents
Parents and Children in Immigrant Families
Parents and Children in Military Families
Read Ch 4
Child Socialization Strategies and Techniques
Guidance as Prevention of Problems
Effective Parent-Child Communication as a Parenting Strategy
Guidance as Reinforcement and Modeling
Guidance as Limits, Consequences, and Conflict Resolution
Resolving Parent-Child Conflict
Sept. 25, 27, 29
Test #1
Read Ch. 5
Becoming Parents and Parenting Infants and Toddlers
Optimizing the Chances of Having Healthy Babies
Birth and Newborns
The Transition to Parenthood: A Major Developmental Milestone
Caring for Infants and Toddlers in a Coparenting Relationship
Social Support for Parents of Infants and Toddlers

Oct. 2, 4, 6
The Role of Parents in Infant/Toddler Physical, Social-Emotional, and Cognitive Development
Parent-Infant Play
Parental Influences on Toddlers’ Autonomy and Exploratory Behavior
The Promotion of Infant-Toddler Physical Development
Promoting the Cognitive Development of Infants and Toddlers
Parents’ Understanding of Infant Perception
Parent-Infant/Toddler Verbal Interactions
The Care of Infants and Toddlers When Parents Work

Oct. 9, 11, 13
Read Ch. 6
Parent-Preschooler Interactions
The Parental Role in Promoting Preschoolers’ Social-Emotional Development
Promoting Preschoolers’ Physical Development
The Development of Personal and Family Life Skills
Promoting Young Children’s Cognitive Development
Challenges and Concerns of Parents of Young Children

Oct. 16, 18, 20
Read Ch. 7
Parents and Their School-Age Children
Promoting School-Age Children’s Social Emotional Development
Promoting the Physical Development of School-Age Children
Promoting School-Age Children’s Cognitive Development
The Benefits and Challenges of Media

Oct. 23, 25, 27
Bully-Documentary

Oct. 30, 1, 3
Read Ch. 8
Parent-Adolescent Interactions
Parenting Styles and Adolescent Development
Quality Time and Parent-Adolescent Engagement
Developmental Changes and Parent-Adolescent Relationships
Parent-Adolescent Conflict
Changes in the Family System When Children Reach Adolescence
Problems That Adolescents Sometimes Face
Nov. 6,8,10  Test #2  
Read Ch. 9  
The Relationship of Young Adults, Their Parents, and Their Children  
The Enduring Bond Between Young Adults and Their Parents  
Variations in the Living Arrangements of Young Adults and Their Parents  
Parenthood and Socio-Emotional Development of Young Adults  
The Influence of Parent-Child Relationships on Young Adults’ Cognitive Development  
The Influence of Parents on Their Children’s Assumption of Adult Social Roles  
Young Adulthood and Parent-Child Relationships: A Family Systems Perspective  

Nov. 13,15,17 Read Ch. 10  
Middle Age and Older Parenthood and Grandparenthood  
The Influence of Role Transitions on the Parent-Child Relations of Middle-Aged Adults  
The Relationships of Older Parents and Their Middle-Aged Children  
Grandparenthood, Personhood, and the Life Course  
Grandparent Caregivers in the United States  
The Elderly in the Family Context  
Alterations in the Roles of Adult Children and Their Aging Parents  
Guest speaker – Transition for Elderly Parents and Their Adult Children  
The Death of an Older Parent  

Nov. 20,22,24 Thanksgiving Holidays  

Nov 27,29,1 Read Ch 11  
Parenting Children with Special Needs  
Parenting Children Who Have Exceptionalities  
Caring for Children with Exceptionalities  
Caring for Children with Specific Exceptionalities  
Parenting Children with Chronic Illness  
Read Ch 12  

Dec.4,6,8  Families at Risk and Families Coping with the Death of a Family Member  
Child Maltreatment  
Children’s Exposure to Interparental Violence  
The Effects of Parental Alcoholism  
Addiction Panel  
Families in Recovery  
Coping with the Untimely Death of a Family Member
Test #3 is scheduled during finals week.

Selected University Policies:

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness**
If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to do so will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three course repeats; graduates, for two course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler.

**Disability Services**
If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request disability support services/accommodation(s), please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support Services office so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting disability support services/accommodation(s) must provide appropriate documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. In order to assure approved services the first week of class, diagnostic, prognostic, and prescriptive information should be received 30 days prior to the beginning of the semester services are requested. For more information, call or visit the Student Services Center located in the University Center, Room 282. The telephone number is 566-7079 (TDD 565-5579). Additional information may also be obtained at the following UT Tyler Web address: http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices.

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance**
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**Social Security and FERPA Statement:**
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Student Standards of Academic Conduct**
Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

(i) “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student’s test paper;
- using during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of U. T. Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and,
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

(ii) “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

(iii) “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.