

# CHILD DEVELOPMENT COURSE SYLLABUS

Psychology 301.02; Winter 2022

Tuesday & Thursday 11:30 to 12:45 pm – Location: Au Sable Hall 2132

**Instructor:** Tessa M. Jordan, Ph.D.

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:00pm or by appointment

**Office:** Au Sable Hall 2127

**Office Phone:** 331-9236

**Email:** [jordant@gvsu.edu](mailto:jordant@gvsu.edu)

Please put “Psych 301.02” in the subject line of your email. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours if they are received Monday-Friday. See me in person (e.g., during office hours) if you have any questions/concerns that may require a lengthy response.

This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at: <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>

This syllabus is subject to change. Changes (if any) will be announced in class.

**Prerequisite:** An introductory psychology course (Psych 101 or the equivalent), or HNR 234.

**Course Homepage:** BlackBoard; <http://mybb.gvsu.edu>

**\*Required eText:** Santrock, J. W. (2018). *Children, 15th Edition*. McGraw Hill Publishers

\*This course is participating in **GVSU Save program**. Your required course materials will be available prior to the first day of class through your BlackBoard account. You will be charged for the course materials via your GVSU student account and a “GVSU SAVE Charge” will appear on your student bill. However, if you decide you don’t want to participate, you will need to Opt-Out of the program and be sure you obtain the material on your own. To Opt-Out just click on the link in your BlackBoard course page and follow the instructions. **YOU MUST OPT-OUT BY MIDNIGHT ON FRIDAY, JAN 21st.** Your student account will be refunded if you Opt-Out by this date.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

This course provides an overview of the theories, methods and phenomena of child psychology. We begin with an introduction to the study of human development, followed by discussion of prenatal development and the neonate and then proceed to cover the domains of physical, emotional, social and cognitive development that take place over the course of infancy and childhood. The approach to the course topics is scientific, with an emphasis on research finding in developmental psychology. An appreciation for cultural diversity is an integral part of this course and will be addressed in the lectures and video segments. The class format is predominantly lecture-based, but questions/comments are encouraged. You are responsible for text material in addition to lecture material, but lecture material will be the primary focus in each of your exams.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts and theoretical paradigms that direct the field of Developmental Psychology.
2. Describe, and think critically about, changes within the developing person from conception to adolescence.
3. Discuss both traditional and current explanations for trends in children's physical, cognitive, and social/emotional growth.
4. Understand the scientific method and apply it to the understanding of child behavior and development.
5. Apply knowledge regarding child development to both observations of children and to interactions with children.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**1. Connect Reading Assignments (30 total points):** Our etextbook, Santrock, J. W. (2018). *Children, 15th Edition*. McGraw Hill Publishers is a digital version of the book on the McGraw-Hill Education Connect<sup>®</sup> online platform. *Connect* uses technology that adapts content to your skill level to make more-efficient use of your study time and create a more-effective reading experience.

Each week you will complete a Connect Reading Assignments that you can access through Blackboard. You will need to register with Connect first (more info below). You will have 7 days to complete each assignment. Assignments will open each Friday at 5:00pm ET and will close the following Friday at 5:00pm ET. **There are no make-up opportunities and late assignments are not accepted and will receive a zero.**

The purpose of these assignments is to provide you with a broad context and background knowledge to facilitate your understanding of the material presented in class. It is best to complete the reading *prior* to the lecture.

**To Register with Connect:** Log into BB, find our course, click on Course Materials, Week 1, Connect Reading Assignments, then click on an assignment. You will be prompted to register for Connect. During the registration process, you will be prompted to create a new account or login with an existing Connect account.

Use your GVSU username and GVSU email password when registering!

Once you have registered for Connect, you need to ***access all Connect assignments via Blackboard.***

After you register, you will have the option to purchase a low-cost print-version of the text through Connect. This is optional. If you choose to purchase a copy, a full-color, loose-leaf version will be shipped to you.

**Connect Technical Support:** If you are having trouble registering for or accessing Connect, please contact McGraw-Hill Education's Customer Support. Live chat, email, and phone support are available 7 days a week. **Website: [www.mhhe.com/support](http://www.mhhe.com/support) | Phone: (800) 331-5094**

**2. Exams (150 points total):** Three exams will be given covering material presented in the lectures and text. Be advised that you are responsible for material that will be presented **ONLY** in class and **ONLY** in the text. Lecture material will make up approximately 85% of each exam and textbook material make up approximately 15% of each exam. All of the exams are *noncumulative*. Exams will consist of objective questions in multiple choice format. Each exam is worth **50** points.

**Make up exams** Occasionally there are legitimate reasons for missing an exam. I will, however, allow you to take a make-up exam ONLY if you inform me 48 hours in advance that you will have to miss the exam. If you become extremely sick or encounter some other emergency on the day of the exam, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled exam time and you will need to show some verification (e.g., a note from your physician, an accident report, etc.). *Missed exams or failure to comply with these policies will result in a zero on the exam.*

**Observation Project:** The study of developmental psychology is greatly enhanced by the opportunity to observe actual children and conduct informal research. Therefore, you will have the opportunity to complete assessments with a child (5 to 15 years old) and write an observation paper. More information regarding this project will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard. The entire Observation Project is worth **80** points. Transcript, consent form, photos and testing material are due at the start of class on **March 15th** (turn in printed copies). The Final Paper is due at **5:00pm on Friday, April 15th** (upload on BlackBoard). Please note: Late papers will Not be accepted and will receive a 0.

**Grading:** Each exam is worth 50 points (3X50=150), the Observation Project is worth 80 points, and Connect Assignments are worth a total of 30. Thus, the total number of points for the class is **260**. **Grades will not be curved.** Your final grade, therefore, will consist of your three exam scores, your scores from the Observation Project, 5 in-class assignments, and 15 Connect Assignments.

**Grading Scale:**

<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
245-260	A	197-207	C+
234-244	A-	189-196	C
224-233	B+	182-188	C-
215-223	B	171-181	D+
208-214	B-	156-170	D
		< 156	F

**\*\*If your grade is at the .5 mark, I will round up (i.e., 196.5 will be rounded up to 197). I will not adjust your grade in any other way. Please do not ask at the end of the semester.**

## COURSE SCHEDULE

The following is a tentative schedule for the information that we will cover and exam dates.

Date	Lecture #	Lecture Topic	Connect Reading Assignment
Week 1		Review Syllabus / Discuss BB, Connect, Respondus	
	1a	Introduction to Developmental Science	2. Intro
Week 2	1a	Introduction to Developmental Science Continued	
	1b	Research Methods	3. Research Methods
Week 3		Discuss Observation Paper / How To Conduction Assessments	
	2	Prenatal Development	4. Prenatal Dev
Week 4	3	The role of Genes & Environment in Development	5. Gene Environment Interaction
	3	Role of Genes and Env continued - Behavior Genetics	
Week 5	4	Infant Brain Development	6. Brain & Motor Dev
	5	Infant Motor Development	
Week 6	6	Infant Perceptual Development	7. Perceptual Dev
		<b>Exam 1 Lectures 1-6 Thursday Feb 17th.</b>	
Week 7	7a	Infant Socioemotional Development	8. Socioemotional Dev Infancy
	7b	Attachment Theory	
Week 8	8	Early Childhood Socioemotional Development	9. Socioemotional Dev Early Ch
		Early Childhood Socioemotional Development Continued	
Week 9		<b>Spring Break</b>	no assignment this week
Week 10		<b>Observation Transcript, Consent Form, &amp; Photo Due on March 15th at the start of class</b>	
	9	Moral Reasoning Development	10. Morality & Self concept dev
	10	Self-Concept Development	
Week 11	11	Theory of Mind Development	no assignment this week
		<b>Exam 2 Lectures 7-11 Thursday March 24th</b>	
Week 12		Discuss Observation Paper	
	12a	Cognitive Development in Infancy - Piaget's Theory	11. Cog Dev Infancy - Piaget
Week 13	12b	Cognitive Development in Early Childhood -Piaget's Theory	12. Cog Dev in Childhood - Piaget
	12c	Cog Dev in Middle Chldhd & Adolescence Piaget's Theory	13. Cog Dev in Adolescents - Piaget
Week 14	13	Sociocultural Theory of Cognitive Dev - Vygotsky	14. Vygotsky & Information Processing
	14	Information Processing Theory of Cognitive Development	
		<b>Observation Paper due by 5:00pm ET Friday April 15th via BB</b>	
Week 15	15	Infant Language Development	14. Language
Finals Week		<b>Exam 3 Lectures 12-15 Tuesday April 26th 10:00am</b>	

\*\*\*\*\*HOW TO SUCCEED IN PSYCH 301\*\*\*\*\*

- **Read!** Complete the Connect Reading Assignment associated with each lecture *before* the lecture is given. This will provide you with a broader context for understanding the material presented in class. Failure to complete Connect Reading Assignments will substantially lower your grade in the course.
- **Attend Each Class!** To get the most out of each class period, come to class ready to learn and talk about the material. Missing class will substantially lower your grade in the course.
- **Take Good Notes!** While in-class, fill-out your Lecture Outline, take additional notes, and make note of examples given in class. The Lecture Outlines are intended as a guide only. Filled-in Lecture Outlines alone will not provide you with all the necessary material to succeed in this course. Additional lecture notes will be essential when you study for the exams.
- **Prepare for Exams Well in Advance!** You should re-read your lecture notes each day after class and review material often. Reread and review your completed Myth Busting Assignments prior to exams. If you wait until the last minute to begin preparing for an exam, you are unlikely to perform as well.
- **Come to Office Hours!** (or make an appointment to meet with me) if you need to discuss anything pertaining to this course. I enjoy meeting with students.

## COURSE POLICIES

**Accommodation of Learning Disabilities/Special Needs: Disability:** If you have a learning, physical or other disability that would impact your ability to master the material in this course and/or take the exams as described above, please contact GVSU's Disability Support Services (DSS) at 616-331-2490 or <http://www.gvsu.edu/dsr/> to arrange for special accommodations. Furthermore, if you have a physical disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please make me aware so we can develop a plan to assist you.

**Withdrawal:** In accordance with University regulations, students withdrawing by March 11th will be assigned a grade of W (withdrawal). Students withdrawing after the deadline to withdraw will be assigned a letter grade based on their performance in the class. *Note: It is your responsibility to drop yourself from this class.*

**Incomplete:** Under special circumstances, a grade of Incomplete (I) can be granted. See me as soon as possible to arrange this, and to provide me with written documentation of why the course could not be completed. Note that an Incomplete grade must be completed by the end of the next academic semester, or is automatically converted to an F. An Incomplete will not be given for falling behind in the course or wanting to repeat the course for a better grade.

**Integrity of Scholarship and Grades:** All academic work will be done by the student to whom it was assigned. Anyone caught cheating (e.g., procuring, providing or accepting any materials which contain questions or answers to any exam or assignment, submitting work that has been previously graded) or plagiarizing (taking ideas or material from another source for either written or oral presentation without acknowledging the original source) will be dropped from the course, given an F, and referred to the University for further action. Cheating is a serious violation of academic integrity. For more information on academic honesty please see the GVSU student code.

**In-Class Behavior:** It is very important to minimize disruptions and to show respect and consideration for other students as well as the academic process. For this reason, please get to class on time, and once the lecture starts, please refrain from talking, texting, reading, or sleeping. When you come to class, please be prepared to actively listen and take notes. If you need to leave class early, please sit near an exit and leave quietly.

**Fire:** In the event of a fire, immediately proceed to the nearest exit during a fire alarm. Do not use elevators.

\*\*\*\*\***ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**\*\*\*\*\*

**Meijer Writing Center:** To assist you with any writing project, at any stage of your writing process. The center's well-trained peer consultants can help you to brainstorm ideas, organize content, integrate research, polish a draft, and correctly document sources. Make an appointment or visit during drop-in hours. Visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/wc/> or Call 331-2922.

**SASC Tutoring Center:** Need help understanding your course content or writing a paper? Want to learn more efficient study strategies? SASC Tutoring Center can assist with most courses and academic writing assignments. Visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/tc/> for the most current information on services, hours, and locations.

**Employment Options for Psych Majors:** Learn more about careers in psychology at <https://www.gvsu.edu/psychology/employment-options-for-psychology-majors-228.htm>

**Guardian Mobile Safety App:** Creates a two-way connection between you and the campus police anywhere on campus. Find out more at [www.gvsu.edu/gvpd/guardain](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvpd/guardain).

**GVSU Counseling Center:** Short-term individual and long-term group therapy are provided at no cost to currently registered GVSU students. Seminars and events, online self-help tools, and consultation/referral are just a few of the additional services we provide to the GVSU community. <https://www.gvsu.edu/counsel/>

**CLAS Advising Center:** offers accessible, accurate, timely, and consistent academic advising to all students pursuing majors and/or minors offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. <https://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/>

**Study Abroad:** Contact the Padnos International Center <https://www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad/> There are programs in every region of the world!

**Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (OURS):**

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship provides support for undergraduates to pursue the research and creative practice in their discipline. Essentially, we support curious students, by connecting them with ways to discover, research, and explore. Students work with faculty on student initiated, or faculty initiated research. <https://www.gvsu.edu/ours/>

**Career Center:** Interested in exploring careers and majors? Interested in finding an Internship or job? Need help with your resume and cover letter? Contact GVSU's Career Center <https://www.gvsu.edu/careers/>