

Grand Valley State University

PSY 326-01: Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

Winter 2017

Instructor:	Kristen (Girard) Schrauben, Ph.D. Psychology Department	Course Time:	Tu/Th – 2:30–3:45 PM
Office:	2135 Au Sable Hall	Course Location:	114 LMH
Phone:	(616) 331-2336 (But E-mail is the preferred way to reach me)		
E-mail:	schrakri@gvsu.edu		
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 10:00am – 1:00pm or by appointment		
Prerequisites:	PSY 101; PSY 301		

Course Summary

Psychology 326 is survey course about intellectual and developmental disabilities. This course will introduce both a psychological and educational perspective to studying these types of disabilities. Over the course of the semester, you will learn about historical perspectives, current practices, and lifespan issues for these individuals. In addition, you will learn about diagnostic and assessment practices, etiology, prevention, and evidence-based intervention strategies.

Readings

Required Text:

Beirne-Smith, M., Patton, J. R., & Kim, S. H. (2006). *Mental retardation: An introduction to intellectual disabilities*, 7th Edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson

Additional Required Readings:

Selected additional readings will be placed on Blackboard.

Course Website

Many course materials (e.g., syllabus, presentation slides, readings, assignment rubrics, and additional supplemental materials) will be made available through Blackboard, an online course management system. You can access the materials by going to the following website: <https://mybb.gvsu.edu/>, and providing your GVSU username and password. If you have problems accessing materials through this system, you can call the IT Help Desk at 855-435-7488 or E-mail bbadmin@gvsu.edu for assistance.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you need academic accommodations because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact Disability Support Resources (DSR) at 331-2490. Although students with disabilities are held to the same academic standards as all other students, accommodations will be provided for you, as appropriate. Furthermore, if you have a physical disability and think you will need assistance evacuating the classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please contact me so I can develop a plan to assist you.

Canceled Classes

If classes are canceled at the university, any exam or activity missed due to cancellation will take place at the next class meeting.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

It is your responsibility as a student to maintain academic integrity and not give *any* appearance of a violation. You will do original work and will not take or receive the efforts of another person on any test or assignment, use unauthorized resources on quizzes or tests, plagiarize, or give/sell other students papers or assignments not authorized by me. You are responsible for making yourself aware of and for understanding the policies and procedures that pertain to academic integrity. To that end, be sure to familiarize yourself with the GVSU Student Code [Section 223.01] related to academic integrity. Furthermore, be sure to reference sources in all assignments. If you are uncertain about such an issue prior to submission of an assignment, project, or test, please see me as soon as possible so we can eliminate any uncertainty. There *is no harm* in asking if you are not sure if you are plagiarizing. There *is harm* in plagiarizing and then telling me afterwards that you did not know you did anything wrong.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance at lectures is *highly* recommended, but not required. Since not all material covered during lectures is in your text, your exam performance is very likely to improve if you attend, pay attention, take notes, and actively participate during class sessions. Please come to class prepared to fully attend and participate. As course attendance is not mandatory, please do NOT e-mail me to explain absences or ask what was missed. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to download the class presentation slides, obtain notes from a classmate, and then meet with me during office hours if you have any questions about content you missed. Even if you have a valid excuse for why you missed class, you will not be allowed to make up any in-class activities points. When course grades are within one percentage point of the next higher grade, at my discretion, the higher grade will be awarded to students who showed active participation in class (i.e., participation in discussions, attentiveness during lectures, and engagement in group activities).

Exceptions: Student absences due to participation in university athletics will be accommodated. Please let me know within the first two weeks of the semester so arrangements can be made. Student absences due to religious holidays will be accommodated per the GVSU policies on inclusion. If a conflict exists between the course and a religious observance, you must request a religious accommodation from the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester or as soon as possible so alternative arrangements can be made.

Technology Use

You are welcome to use computers/tablets during class to take notes and to follow along with me. However, the use of technology for personal reasons (e.g., checking E-mail or using Facebook) during class is highly inappropriate and disrespectful to other students and myself. Please silence and put away all cell-phones during class. I will use my discretion in reducing grades for those students who are using computers or other technology in a disrespectful manner when class is in session.

Grading/Coursework

<u>Coursework:</u>	<u>Points:</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>	
Midterm Exam	100	94 above	A
Final Exam	100	90-93	A-
Choice Paper	30	87-89	B+
Controversial Issue Paper	50	83-86	B
Group Presentation	50	80-82	B-
In-Class Activities*	<u>35</u>	77-79	C+
Total Points:	365	73-76	C
		70-72	C-
		67-69	D+
		60-66	D
		59 & below	F

To calculate your final grade, add up the points you have earned (and those you expect to earn), divide by total points, multiply by 100, and compare to the grading scale.

*You can keep track of the In-Class Activity points you have earned by looking on Blackboard. The grade on Blackboard is a running total of the points you have earned thus far. I will add points to your Blackboard grade as activities are completed throughout the semester.

Exams (2 exams, 100 points each = 200 points)

- Exam format - There will be two exams for this course. The midterm will include questions on content covered in the first half of the course. The final exam will cover content from the second half of the course including questions about group presentations. Exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and short-answer questions drawn from the textbook, other readings, and from information provided during lectures. Lecture material is meant to supplement your understanding of concepts presented in the textbook; therefore some questions on the exams will be drawn specifically from lectures, even if those concepts are not covered in your text. As well, exams may include material from the textbook that has not been discussed during lectures. A study guide will be provided prior to each exam to provide students with more information and help them prepare.
- Make-up exams – All students are expected to take exams at the scheduled times. If you miss an exam due to illness, you must provide a doctor's excuse within 24 hours following the scheduled exam time. If you must miss an exam for any reason other than illness, you MUST email me with a valid excuse at least 24 hours in advance to schedule a make-up exam. Failure to notify me in advance will result in a zero on the exam. Please note that make-up exams must be completed outside of regular class time. Because make-up exams are difficult to schedule, and administer, at my discretion, the student's score for the make-up exam may be reduced by up to 10%.

Choice Paper (30 points)

- Description – You will get to choose whether to interview an individual (an adult with an intellectual disability, a parent of someone with an intellectual disability, or a special education teacher) OR watch a movie or TV show episodes that feature a character with a developmental disability. Both assignments require an approximately 2-page paper. Due date is listed in the schedule. Further details about these assignments will be made available to you in class and via Blackboard.

- Plagiarism – Please refer to the “Academic Integrity and Plagiarism” section summarized previously in the syllabus. I have the right to fail you on an assignment or fail you for the course for plagiarism.
- Submitting Assignments – Papers MUST be double-spaced and typed in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins on all sides. For all papers, references should follow APA style, 6th edition. Assignments are due at the start of class on the due date. Assignments should be turned in as hard copies in class AND electronically via Blackboard. Assignments turned in after the start of class will be considered late. Late assignments will be accepted up to 3 days beyond the due date with a 25% deduction in points (i.e., if the deadline is Tuesday, work will be accepted through Friday). Late assignments should also be submitted via hard copy AND Blackboard.

Controversial Issue Paper (50 points)

- Description – You will select a controversial issue in the field to research and describe your opinion on the issue. This assignment will require you to think about the pros/cons of a controversial issue, reflect on your own biases and how they affect your opinion, evaluate the quality of information available on this topic. Due date is listed in the schedule. Further details about these assignments will be made available to you in class and via Blackboard.
- Plagiarism – Please refer to the “Academic Integrity and Plagiarism” section summarized previously in the syllabus. I have the right to fail you on an assignment or fail you for the course for plagiarism.
- Submitting Assignments – Papers MUST be double-spaced and typed in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins on all sides. For all papers, references (in-text and reference list) should follow APA style, 6th edition. Assignments are due at the start of class on the due date. Assignments should be turned in as hard copies in class AND electronically via Blackboard. Assignments turned in after the start of class will be considered late. Late assignments will be accepted up to 3 days beyond the due date with a 25% deduction in points (i.e., if the deadline is Tuesday, work will be accepted through Friday). Late assignments should also be submitted via hard copy AND Blackboard.

Group Presentation (50 points)

- Description – This assignment requires that groups of students work together to choose an intervention or strategy (from a selection that I provide or an alternative one that is approved) and provide a 15-20-minute presentation and handout to the class. The handout should be appropriate for a parent or teacher who wants to use this strategy in the future. As a group, you will be required to identify and integrate research articles on the topic you choose and present the intervention/strategy, how it works, and the research to back it up. To assess everyone’s participation, the group will complete peer ratings. Due dates for the presentation vary. More information about this assignment will be made available to you in class and via Blackboard.
- Plagiarism – Please refer to the “Academic Integrity” section summarized previously in the syllabus.
- Submitting Assignments – A copy of the presentation or handout is due at the start of class on the day of the presentation. One group member should be responsible for turning in the group’s materials via Blackboard. You must also bring enough handouts for the class (50) the day you present.

In-Class Activities (35 points)

- *Description* – Throughout the semester I will offer a number of in-class activities to reward class attendance, stimulate class discussion, and to clarify information related to course topics. These may include brief written responses to introduce an issue or encourage critical thinking, video follow-up questions, or small group activities that will be completed during the class period. There will be NO makeup points for these activities. Sometimes the dates of these activities are announced in advance, and other times they are not. If you are not in class on the day of an activity, you will NOT receive credit. These points are meant to reward students who attend and participate in class activities. Even if you have a valid excuse for why you missed class, you will not be allowed to make up these points. There will be more than 35 in-class activity points available during the semester to allow you to earn extra credit during the semester or earn the full 35 points even if you miss a couple classes.

Course Schedule

Readings are due the day the lecture topic. Additional readings may be announced and posted on Blackboard. It is possible that this schedule will change, however, deadlines will remain the same unless otherwise indicated.

(Week) Date	Seminar Topics/ Reading Assignments	Exam/Assignment Due
(1) 1/10	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus; Intro Survey; Course Introduction Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus (I will bring hard copies to class) 	
(1) 1/12	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Developmental Disabilities Review of APA Style for assignments Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus and Assignment Descriptions 	
(2) 1/17	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitions and Terminology Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 2 	
(2) 1/19	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitions and Terminology 	
(3) 1/24	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History & Legal Issues Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 1 & 4 	
(3) 1/26	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History & Legal Issues 	Group Presentation: List of (4-6) members and topic due on Blackboard
(4) 1/31	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 3 Article on Blackboard 	
(4) 2/2	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment 	
(5) 2/7	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychosocial Causes Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 5 	Choice Paper due
(5) 2/9	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychosocial Causes 	

(6) 2/14	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Causes Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 6 	
(6) 2/16	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Causes 	
(7) 2/21	NO FACE-TO-FACE CLASS (PROFESSOR AT CONFERENCE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on Group Presentation 	Choice Paper Blackboard Discussion Board
(7) 2/23	NO FACE-TO-FACE CLASS (PROFESSOR AT CONFERENCE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on Group Presentation 	Choice Paper Blackboard Discussion Board Group Presentation: APA List of References due on Blackboard
(8) 2/28	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Causes Mid-term Review 	
(8) 3/2	Mid-term Exam	Mid-term Exam
(9) 3/7 & 3/9	NO CLASSES SPRING BREAK	
(10) 3/14	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild Intellectual Disabilities Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 8 	
(10) 3/16	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild Intellectual Disabilities 	
(11) 3/21	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe Intellectual Disabilities Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 9 	Controversial Issue Paper due
(11) 3/23	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe Intellectual Disabilities 	
(12) 3/28	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autism Spectrum Disorder Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 articles on Blackboard 	
(12) 3/30	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autism Spectrum Disorder 	Group Presentations (Topics to be determined)

(13) 4/4	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 10 	
(13) 4/6	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood 	Group Presentations (Topics to be determined)
(14) 4/11	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Years Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 11 	
(14) 4/13	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Years 	Group Presentations (Topics to be determined)
(15) 4/18	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adulthood Readings due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 12 • Article on Blackboard 	
(15) 4/20	<u>Topic:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adulthood 	Group Presentations (Topics to be determined)
(Exam Week) 4/25	Final Exam	Final Exam TUESDAY 4/25 4:00-5:50 PM