DEP 3053 – DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, LIFESPAN, FALL 2012
Section # 4551

Instructor: E. Christina Ford
Office Hours: Monday 9-10am; also available by appointment
Office: Room 374, Psychology Building
Phone: 352-273-2191
Email: Please contact using the Mail function in Sakai.

Graduate Teaching Assistants:

Alison Bechard
Office Hours: Fridays 10:30-11:30am; also available by appointment
Office: Virtual Office Hours using the Chat function on e-Learning
Email: Please contact using the Mail function in Sakai.

Tana Bleser
Office Hours: Mondays 10-11am; also available by appointment
Office: Virtual Office Hours using the Chat function on e-Learning
Email: Please contact using the Mail function in Sakai.

Phoua Yang
Office Hours: Fridays 1-2pm; also available by appointment
Office: Virtual Office Hours using the Chat function on e-Learning
Email: Please contact using the Mail function in Sakai.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistants:
   - Will help answer questions on the discussion board
   - Samantha Haynes
   - Rachel Lutz
   - Julie O’Connor
   - Rebecca Odell

Course Description
This course is a fully on-line course with no specified meeting times. However, the course is not self-paced. Students must complete weekly readings, quizzes and assignments by the due dates specified in the syllabus and listed in E-Learning.

Every week you will be given an overview of the scheduled activities in the "Week at a Glance" page (in each module) so that you will know what you are expected to do that week. Each week you will find links to where you will submit all of your assignments, and take your quizzes. Our course website on e-Learning will also have links to your E-book, videos, weblinks and any other materials that you may need.
Students will gain an understanding of development across the lifespan. A particular emphasis will be placed on the interplay of biological, psychological and contextual factors in shaping development over time. As part of understanding and applying developmental concepts, students will engage in active participation with their peers as part of the course.

**Structure of Course in E-learning:**

This course uses E-Learning (https://lss.at.ufl.edu/) in Sakai for access to the entire course. Students must complete weekly readings, complete a weekly quiz, and turn in assignments by the due dates specified in the syllabus and Course Calendar. Instructions for using E-Learning are available on the “Course Materials” page of our course website. Note: Log in to E-learning using your Gatorlink username and password.

**Course Requirements**

**Required Textbook**

This textbook (the 5th edition) is required, and you are also expected to get the online access code that accompanies the textbook. The access code is also sold by Pearson (the publisher of the textbook). These are the purchase options: 1) Purchase the package which includes a hard copy of the textbook + the required online access code at the UF Bookstore or a local Gainesville bookstore, or 2) Purchase only the online access code through our E-Learning course website (no hard copy of the textbook). The access code includes an e-book which is identical to the hard copy. Because the access code is specific to this course, you CANNOT purchase the access code from online book vendors (e.g., half.com or amazon.com). Purchasing the access code through online book vendors will result in an incompatible code and will not work in our course. If you purchase an e-book (option #2 above), it must be bought from Pearson through our E-Learning course website. There may be other purchase options, and to learn more details about all of them, see the “Options for purchasing your textbook” link on our Course Materials page, for pros and cons of these choices.

**Course components**

- Weekly quizzes assess how well you are absorbing knowledge from the readings and the online lectures in the modules.
- The first writing assignment will be given within the first week of the course, and is design to assess each student’s understanding of Bronfenbrenner’s System Theory. This theory will be used as the framework for one of our assignments that follow. Hence, it’s essential that you demonstrate a thorough knowledge of Bronfenbrenner’s System Theory so you can also complete the later assignment.
- The remaining three assignments will assess your knowledge on other topics in detail. You will be given detailed instructions about these assignments well in advance; all are writing assignments that you will do on your own. These 3 remaining assignments will
involve: reviewing and summarizing an article on development; writing about a special topic and applying a developmental theory to it; and interviewing an older adult and applying developmental theories to their life.

**Grading**

**Grade Breakdown:**

1. **Getting Started Quizzes, Total Points = 15**
   a) By the end of the first week of class, all students must complete 2 quizzes:
      i) Handbook Quiz (10 points); this quiz assesses knowledge of the syllabus, course requirements and rules.
      ii) Contract Quiz (5 points); by completing this quiz, students agree to all rules of the course.

2. **Weekly Quizzes, Total Points = 420**
   a) 14 Quizzes in the semester
   b) Each Quiz will have 20 questions; each question is worth 1.5 points for a total of 30 points each (14*30 = 420)
      i) There are **NO** make-up quizzes during the semester for any reason.
      ii) An extra quiz on Chapter 19, Death and Dying, may be taken on the Monday of Final Exam week (see Course Calendar) to replace 1 missed quiz or a low score.
      iii) Thus, you can miss 1 quiz due to illness or emergency and still have completed the number of quizzes needed for your total quiz grade as long as you take the Extra Quiz.
      iv) Keep in mind: The optional Chapter 19 Quiz is **not** “extra credit” (there is no extra credit offered in this course). Instead, it just allows you to drop your lowest quiz grade.
   c) Instructions for Weekly Quizzes
      i) Most weeks, your quiz will be available beginning on **Wednesday at 7:00pm**.
      ii) Access to each quiz will end on **Thursday at 7:00pm**.
      iii) Once you begin a quiz, you will have 20 minutes to complete it. The quiz must be completed in a single session.
      iv) Once you complete a quiz, you have to wait until the quiz period is over to review your answers.

3. **Assignment #1 – Bronfenbrenner Theory, Total Points = 50**
   a) The assignment must be submitted by Monday, September 17 at 7pm, electronically in e-learning.
   b) For more information, see the specific instructions for this assignment in Module 1.
4 Assignment #2 – Research Article Review, Total Points = 80
   a) The assignment must be submitted by Monday, October 8 at 7pm, electronically in e-learning.
   b) Specific instructions for this assignment will be available in your modules several weeks before the due date.

5 Assignment #3 – Special Topics Paper, Total Points = 80
   a) The assignment must be submitted by Monday, November 5 at 7pm, electronically in e-learning.
   b) Specific instructions for this assignment will be available in your modules several weeks before the due date.

6 Assignment #4 – Adulthood interview paper, Total Points = 100
   a) The assignment must be submitted by Monday, December 3 at 7pm, electronically in e-learning.
   b) Specific instructions for this assignment will be available in your modules several weeks before the due date.

TOTAL POINTS FOR COURSE = 745

GRADING SCALE

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<th>Grade</th>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>A</td>
<td>90% -100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>656-670</td>
</tr>
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<td>86% &amp; up</td>
<td>641-655</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>80% &amp; up</td>
<td>596-640</td>
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IMPORTANT GRADING POLICY
   - Point values will be used to calculate final grades, NOT percentage values. That is, if you have 655 points, your grade will be a B+ even though 655 points is 87.9%. There will be no rounding up percentages to calculate the final grade; we’re using the point values above to determine final grades.
COURSE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

1. **If you have a question pertaining to the class, it MUST be posted on the Discussion Board (through the “Discussions” Link) in Sakai.** If it is something you would raise your hand to ask in class, it belongs on this board. Your instructor or TAs will then post a response to questions on that board; we will not respond to these questions unless they are submitted to the correct discussion board. In other words, do not send your question directly to Christina, Allison, Tana or Phoua.
   - If you have a question about **Course Administration** you should post in the **F.A.Q** section of the Discussion Board. This is for questions about accessing course content, due dates, when grades will be returned, specifics about the assignments etc.
   - If you have a question about **Course Concepts** you should post in one of the weekly discussion threads. This is for questions about the readings, lecture material, and videos. This is where you post if you need help understanding the material.
   - If you have a question about **your grade** or something **personal** that is not appropriate for the rest of the class to see, then you should email Allison, Tana or Phoua directly about this. Do not post questions or information about your grade on the FAQ board.

2. **After the Drop/Add period ends, you will be assigned a “section instructor” and Assignment Code.** Your **section instructor** will be one of your TAs, and will be the person who you get in touch with if you have any personal issues or questions (anything that’s not appropriate to post on the FAQ Board). Your **Assignment Code** will simply be the number that you will write on all 4 of the writing assignments you will turn in this semester. On your assignments, you will be identified by your Assignment Code, and you will have the same Assignment Code throughout the semester. Your section instructor and your assignment code will be posted in Module 1 during the 2nd week of class.

3. **All interactions with instructors and among class members are expected to be professional and appropriate.** Students are encouraged to answer each others’ questions on the FAQ Board.

4. **Instructions for sending email**
   - **STEP 1:** Before contacting anyone via email, please check to see if the answer to your question has been posted on Sakai or is contained in any course material, such as the syllabus.
   - **STEP 2:** Do NOT email Dr. Ford first. Email your TA using the e-mail account found within Sakai. Your TA will be able to answer most questions for you. If you need to email Dr. Ford, your TA will instruct you to do so.
NOTE: It is appropriate to email Dr. Ford (using the mailbox in Sakai) in the case of a serious medical condition, a family emergency, or other situation that will keep you out of class a week or more.

- **Step 3**: Please begin your letter with “Dear (Title) (Last Name)” (e.g., Dear Dr. Hill or Dear Ms. Smith) and end your message with your **FULL** name so that you can clearly be identified.

- **Step 4**: Proofread your email so that we can understand your question or concern and provide the assistance you need. Emails (or posts) using excessive abbreviation or numbers as text (e.g., 1337 or C U L8R) are not acceptable.

- **Step 5**: Please wait at least 24 hours during the week or 48 hours on the weekend for a response before emailing again. We are not magical, we cannot reply instantaneously.

5. **Instructions for posting on the Discussion Board**
   - **Step 1**: Before posting to the discussion board, please check to see if the answer to your question has been posted on Sakai or is contained in any course material, such as the syllabus.
   - **Step 2**: Pick a descriptive title for your subject line. You want the title to be descriptive enough that your classmates can tell whether or not they have a question on the same topic. At the very least, please state the phenomena (e.g. Object Permanence) you are asking about. Good titles will also include a page number if it comes from the book, or indicate the source of the question if your question did not arise from the textbook.
     i. Unacceptable Subject Line: Question
     ii. Passable Subject Line: Object Permanence
     iii. Excellent Subject Line: Why does drawbridge experiment show object permanence? p155

6. **Extensions.** Extension of deadlines may be requested for the assignments. Any requests for an extension must be based on University approved reasons and must include proper documentation as per University guidelines. Requests for extensions must be made before the deadline, if possible, or within 24 hours of the deadline for unexpected emergencies. Late assignments without approved extensions will not be accepted if they are more than 5 hours overdue; assignments turned in late (fewer than 5 hours late) will be penalized. **There are no make-ups or extensions for quizzes.**

7. **Computer/internet access to e-learning is required for this course.** Students are responsible for maintaining access to e-learning.
   - Extensions will not be given for student-based technical difficulties. Do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments and quizzes!
   - If UF e-learning experiences technical difficulties, deadlines will be adjusted to allow for completion of assignments.
8. **Announcements.** Announcements will be made periodically about class issues (such as reminders about upcoming assignments, or when assignments are returned). These will be visible on our course’s home page. Students are responsible for all announcements made there, or through the course listserv. The course listserv will periodically send emails directly to your Gatorlink email address, so you are responsible for checking and reading these emails.

9. Generally, it will take about 2 weeks for the writing assignments to be graded and returned (from the due date).

10. **This course adheres to all University Policies.** See [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/) for useful information at the Dean of Students Office webpage.

11. **Academic Honesty.** This course uses the definitions and guidelines for academic honesty as described by the Dean of Students Office. See [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php) for details.

12. **Students with disabilities** requesting accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. See [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) for details.

13. **Religious Observances** Please check your calendars against the course syllabus. Any student having a conflict due to religious observance should contact me as soon as possible so that we can make any necessary arrangements.

14. **Copyright Statement** Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. **They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further.** They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

15. **Syllabus Change Policy** Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

16. **Extra Help** Contact me as soon as possible for extra assistance if you discover you are having trouble. I want you to do well!