# PSY BC 1127 and 1129
# Developmental Psychology
# Spring 2003

Professor Ann Senghas
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Office hours: Wednesday 4:15-5:30, or by appointment.
Class Lecture: MW 2:40-3:55, Milbank 405
Labs: T 1:00-4:00 or W 9:00-12:00, Milbank 410

**Readings:**
*Developmental Psychology, 6th Edition* by David R. Shaffer. Wadsworth (2002).
This text is available at Labyrinth bookstore, 526 West 112th Street.

Additional readings, generally journal articles, will be posted on the CourseWorks website.

**Course Objectives:**
Developmental Psychology examines the changes we undergo as we age. In this course, we will consider development from conception, through childhood, into adolescence. At each stage, we will examine biosocial, cognitive, and psychosocial development, and their interaction. We will discuss what research has revealed about the development of human behavior and thought, and we will consider the theories available that help us to understand the changes that have been observed.

Students enrolled in the laboratory course will have the additional opportunity to learn directly how research in child development is conducted. You will be making observations of young children in the Barnard Toddler center in Milbank Hall, and you will experimentally examine specific aspects of their development. In addition, you will develop your skills at writing a scientific research paper. The laboratory instructor is Professor Nim Tottenham.

Be sure to read the assigned chapters before coming to class on each day listed in the schedule below.

| Date | | Lecture Topic | Chapter Assigned |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 22 Wed | Syllabus distribution, assignment to labs | |
| | 27 Mon | Thinking developmentally | 1 |
| | 29 Wed | Developmental research methods | 1 |
| Feb | 03 Mon | Theories of development | 2 |
| | 05 Wed | From zygote to newborn | 4 |
| | 10 Mon | External effects on early development | 4 + articles |
| | 12 Wed | Cognitive development: Piaget and Vygotsky | 7 |
| | 17 Mon | Cognitive development: current approaches | 7 |
| | 19 Wed | **Exam 1** | |
| | 24 Mon | Emotional development | 11 |
| | 26 Wed | Attachment | 11 |
| Mar | 03 Mon | Self-concept and Theory of Mind | 12 |
| | 05 Wed | Self-esteem | 12 |
| | 10 Mon | Accommodating atypical development | 8: 269-273 |
| | 12 Wed | Attention-deficit disorder | video |

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|---|---|---|---|
| | 17 Mon | Spring break | |
| | 19 Wed | Spring break | |
| | 24 Mon | The family environment | 15 |
| | 26 Wed | Parenting styles and their outcomes | 6: 202-215 |
| | 31 Mon | **Exam 2** | |
| Apr | 02 Wed | Early language: babbling and first words | 10 |
| | 07 Mon | Language development video | video |
| | 09 Wed | The development of grammar | 10 + articles |
| | 14 Mon | Sex differences in early development | 13 |
| | 16 Wed | Sex differences in maturity | 13 |
| | 21 Mon | The development of gender roles | 13 |
| | 23 Wed | Schools, peers, and socialization | 16: 585-617 |
| | 28 Mon | Sleep cycles and maturation | articles |
| | 30 Wed | Reconsidering theories of development | 17 |
| May | 05 Mon | Review and wrap-up | |

week of May 12 **Final Exam**

**Grading and Expectations:**
There will be three exams. The first two exams will not be cumulative; they will cover the material of the most recent topic sections. The final will include a cumulative section in addition to questions about the most recent topic sections. The exams will include a combination of short answer and multiple choice questions. These will be drawn from the readings and from the class lectures, videos, and discussions. For the lecture portion of the course, the first two exams will each be worth 30% of your grade, and the final will be worth 40%. For students in the lecture course only (1129), these exams will constitute your final grade.

For students enrolled in the laboratory course (1127), the above will constitute 2/3 of your grade; the additional one third will be determined by your grade in the laboratory component of the course. Lab students must be able to make 3 observations at the Toddler Center outside of lab time (Monday & Thursday or Tuesday & Friday mornings) in addition to attending all labs. It is not an option to take the lab only, or to drop the lab and remain in the lecture portion of the course.

To compute your final grade:

<u>Lecture grade</u> (for 1127, 2/3 of grade)

| | |
|---|---|
| Exam 1 | 30% |
| Exam 2 | 30% |
| Exam 3 | 40% |

If I have scheduled a class or exam on a day on which you will be unable to attend because of any religious observance, please speak to me early in the semester, so we can make alternative arrangements. Also, if you require accommodation for a specific disability, please inform the Office for Disability Services, and speak with me by the close of the second class meeting.