

**PSY BC 1127 and 1129
Developmental Psychology
Spring 2006**

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Office hours: Monday 4:15-5:30, or by appointment.
Class Lecture: MW 2:40-3:55, Milbank 323
Labs: M or T 9:00-12:00, Milbank 410

Readings:

How Children Develop, 2nd Edition by Siegler, DeLoache, & Eisenberg. Worth Publishers, 2006.
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 physiological, cognitive, and social development, and their interaction. We will discuss what research has revealed about the development of human behavior and thought, and will consider the theories available that help us 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.

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

Date Lecture Topic Assigned			Chapter
Jan	18 Wed	Syllabus distribution, assignment to labs	
	23 Mon	Thinking developmentally	1
	25 Wed	Developmental research methods	1
	30 Mon	From zygote to newborn	2
Feb	01 Wed	External effects on prenatal development	2
	06 Mon	External effects on early postnatal development	articles
	08 Wed	Early reflexes and motor development	5: 184-194
	13 Mon	Motor development	video
	15 Wed	Exam 1	
	20 Mon	Theories of cognitive development	4
	22 Wed	More theories of cognitive development	4
	27 Mon	Infant learning and cognition	5: 194-209
Mar	01 Wed	Early language: babbling and first words	6
	06 Mon	The development of grammar	6
	08 Wed	Atypical language development	articles

	13 Mon	Spring break	
	15 Wed	Spring break	
Mar	20 Mon	Emergence of concepts and categories	7
	22 Wed	Theory of mind	7
	27 Mon	Exam 2	
	29 Wed	Reading and mathematics	8: 316-329 + article
Apr	03 Mon	Theories of social development	9
	05 Wed	Achievement motivation	articles
	10 Mon	Accommodating atypical development	video
	12 Wed	Temperament	10: 391-398 + article
	17 Mon	Attachment	11: 412-426
	19 Wed	Sex differences in development	15 + articles
	24 Mon	The development of gender roles and identity	15
	26 Wed	Sleep cycles and maturation	articles
May	01 Mon	Reconsidering theories of development	16
May	10 Wed	Final Exam 1:10-4:00 pm	

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. 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:

Lecture grade (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.