PSY 230, Human Growth and Development

Instructor
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Prerequisites: None

PSY 230 Online
This section of PSY 230 is an online class. We will not meet in a classroom at any time. All work will be completed through Blackboard, UNC’s online learning environment. Blackboard can be accessed at http://bb.unco.edu.

Using Blackboard
To succeed in this class, you must be proficient in the use of Blackboard. To receive help with Blackboard, go to http://www.unco.edu/blackboard/student.html or call the help desk at 351-4357 or 1-800-545-2331. Your Blackboard username is the first 8 characters of your BearMail address. If you are a new user, your password is the same as the password for your BearMail account.

Course Objectives
This course provides an introduction to human development from birth through late adulthood. We will cover scientific research in developmental psychology, focusing on physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development in infancy, early and middle childhood, adolescence, early and middle adulthood, and late adulthood. This class was designed to meet the following learning objectives that have been established by the School of Psychological Sciences:

Knowledge goals
- Develop a critical understanding of the major theoretical perspectives in psychology
- Understand the effects of the interaction between the person and the situation in influencing human behavior and subjective experience
- Understand the physiological basis of behavior and become aware of multicultural perspectives on human behavior
- Understand the different scientific methodologies employed by psychologists and become aware of practical applications of psychology

Skill goals
- Demonstrate the ability to use the terminology of the discipline and understand, critically evaluate, and apply psychological theories

Disability Support Services
If you believe you may need accommodations in this course, please contact UNC Disability Support Services, voice/TTY (970) 351-2289 or fax (970) 351-4166, or visit www.unco.edu/dss as soon as possible to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.
**Library Resources and Services**

Students in online classes who live outside a 50-mile radius of Greeley are extended many of the same library services available to their on-campus counterparts. These services include remote access to electronic resources, instruction in the use of libraries and library resources, reference assistance, and access to/delivery of library materials not available in local area libraries. See [http://library.unco.edu/services/distance.htm](http://library.unco.edu/services/distance.htm) for details.

**Academic Dishonesty**

The University of Northern Colorado’s Student Code of Conduct ([http://www.unco.edu/dos/student_code_conduct/student_conduct.html](http://www.unco.edu/dos/student_code_conduct/student_conduct.html)) and Honor Code ([http://www.unco.edu/dos/honor_code/index.html](http://www.unco.edu/dos/honor_code/index.html)) strictly prohibit any form of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and knowingly or recklessly encouraging or making possible any act of plagiarism, cheating, or fabrication. Academic misconduct is an unacceptable activity in scholarship and is in conflict with academic and professional ethics and morals. All incidents of alleged plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will be investigated and violations of academic integrity will result in a consequence that may be as severe as an F in the class and a recommendation for expulsion. For more information on plagiarism and appropriate paraphrasing, please see: [http://www.unco.edu/dos/honor_code/defining_plagiarism.html](http://www.unco.edu/dos/honor_code/defining_plagiarism.html).

**Communication between Students and Instructor**

Students are encouraged to stay in contact with the instructor to ensure that all questions are answered and all assignments are clearly understood. The following procedures are recommended for communicating with the instructor:

- Send e-mail to the instructor to ask questions about course requirements, course material, grades, etc. Also send e-mail to report technical problems with quizzes. When sending e-mail, always include “PSY 230” in the subject line of the message. On weekdays, the instructor will respond to e-mails within 24 hours (response time may be longer on weekends).
- The instructor will post important information, such as deadlines and reminders of tasks that need to be done, on the Blackboard announcements page. Check the announcements regularly.
- The instructor will occasionally send e-mail to students at their BearMail accounts. Make sure to check your UNC/BearMail account regularly.
- The instructor will not be available by phone during the interim session.

**Textbook**

The textbook for this class is *Development through the lifespan (6th edition)*, by Laura E. Berk. The textbook comes in a paper version and an online “e-book” version. You may use either version, or both versions.

**E-book.** The online e-book is a multi-media version of the textbook. The text of the e-book is the same as that of the paper version of the book; but the e-book also contains video clips, interactive exercises, and practice tests.
Buying the textbook. There are two options for buying the textbook.

Option 1. Buy a used or new paper copy of the textbook (without access to the e-book). This option is OK. Tests in PSY 230 will not cover any material that is not in the paper textbook. The disadvantage of this option is that you will not have access to the optional (but recommended) e-book practice tests.

Option 2. You can buy the e-book (and not get a paper copy of the book). Instructions for purchasing access to the e-book are available in the Course Materials folder on Blackboard. The disadvantage of option 2 is that you will not have a paper copy of the book.

Grading
This course is letter graded. Your grade will be based on the number of points you earn during the term. There are 290 points available. Grade cutoffs are:

A = 261 (90%), A- = 255 (88%), B+ = 246 (85%), B = 232 (80%), B- = 226 (78%), C+ = 217 (75%), C = 203 (70%), C- = 197 (68%), D+ = 188 (65%), D = 174 (60%), D- = 168 (58%), F < 168

The 290 available points will be distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus quiz</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Chapter quizzes</td>
<td>15 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion board</td>
<td>40 points (10 points per week)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can view your grades anytime by clicking on “My Grades” in the Course Menu on Blackboard.

Syllabus Quiz
The first quiz covers the syllabus. You can find the Syllabus Quiz by clicking on “Quizzes” in the Course Menu on Blackboard.

A score of 10 points (100% correct) is required on the Syllabus Quiz. Scores of less than 10 points will be converted to zero in the grade book. The Syllabus Quiz has no time limit, and you may take it as often as necessary, up to its deadline, to achieve a score of 10 points. The syllabus quiz will not be available after the deadline listed in the class schedule (see below).

Chapter Quizzes
The chapter quizzes can be found by clicking on “Quizzes” in the Course Menu on Blackboard (these quizzes are available only on UNC’s Blackboard site; the quizzes and exams in the e-book are for practice only and do not count toward your grade). There are 16 chapter quizzes, worth 15 points each.
Each chapter quiz covers the material from one chapter. There will be quizzes covering chapters 3-18. Each quiz is numbered according to the chapter it covers. For example, the quiz covering Chapter 3 is called Quiz 3, even though it is the first chapter quiz that you will take. There are no Quizzes 1 and 2; you will not be tested on those chapters.

There is a folder for each chapter quiz in the Quizzes area. Each folder contains the quiz and a brief study guide that outlines the most important concepts in that chapter. Each chapter quiz consists of 15 multiple-choice questions, has a time limit of 20 minutes, and can be taken only once. Once you start a quiz, you must finish it within 20 minutes in one sitting. You cannot start a quiz, stop, and then go back later to re-take or finish it. Do not open a quiz until you have thoroughly studied the material and are ready to complete the quiz in one sitting. If you spend more than 20 minutes on a quiz, 1 point will be deducted from your score if you take between 20:01 and 21:00 to complete the quiz, an additional point will be deducted if you take between 21:01 and 22:00, and so on.

A deadline for each quiz is given in the detailed schedule on the next page. Chapter Quizzes 3-9 can be taken after their deadline, but 2 points will be deducted from your score on any quiz completed after its deadline. Quizzes 10-18 cannot be taken after their deadline (their deadline is the last day of the term).

**Quizzes are “open book”**

You may use your book and notes during quizzes. However, don’t expect to have time to look up answers during a quiz. Before starting a quiz, you should study the material as thoroughly as you would for a closed-book test in a classroom.

**Discussion board**

The purpose of the discussion board is to encourage active and critical thinking about the empirical research, theories, and overall themes in developmental psychology. Each week, the instructor will post several discussion questions for each chapter that we are covering. These questions will be designed to elicit discussion around main themes in developmental psychology. They will also ask students to apply what they are learning from the textbook to real-world situations.

Each student is required to make at least 4 discussion-board posts per week. You will receive 10 points for each week in which you make the 4 required posts (you may make more than 4 posts; 4 is just the minimum). You will receive zero points for weeks in which this requirement is not met. Posts may be responses to the instructor’s discussion questions or replies to other student’s posts.

In all communications related to this class, including discussion board posts, students are expected to be professional in the tone and content of their communications, tolerant of diverse ideas, and respectful toward the instructor and other students. We can disagree about ideas. But arguments should always be directed against ideas, not against the individuals who present the ideas. Finally, posts containing vulgar or disrespectful language will be deleted immediately (and students whose posts contain such language may be blocked from making future posts).
**PSY 230 Schedule: Interim, 2014-15**

A key to success in an online class is to keep up and not get behind. The deadlines listed below are designed to help you succeed in this class by encouraging you to keep up with your work throughout the term. In this schedule, weeks start on Mondays and end on Fridays. All work is due at 11:59 PM Mountain Standard Time on Fridays.

**Weeks 1 & 2: December 15-26**
- Read the syllabus carefully and complete the syllabus quiz with a score of 10 points (100% correct) by 11:59 PM on Friday, December 19th. Retake the quiz as often as necessary to achieve a score of 10 points. The syllabus quiz will not be available after its deadline.
- Buy the textbook (and/or obtain access to the online e-book).
- Read Chapters 1-9.
- Make at least 4 discussion board posts in the discussion forums for Chapters 3-5 by 11:59 PM on Friday, December 19th.
- Make at least 4 discussion board posts in the discussion forums for Chapters 6-9 by 11:59 PM on Friday, December 26th.
- Optional: Do the e-book practice tests for Chapters 3-9 (the e-book tests are for practice only—they do not count toward your grade).
- Complete Quizzes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 by 11:59 PM on Friday, December 26th.
- There are no Quizzes 1 and 2; you will not be tested on those chapters.

**Weeks 3 & 4: December 29 – January 9**
- Read Chapters 10-18.
- Make at least 4 discussion board posts in the discussion forums for Chapters 10-13 by 11:59 PM on Friday, January 2nd.
- Make at least 4 discussion board posts in the discussion forums for Chapters 14-18 by 11:59 PM on Friday, January 9th.
- Optional: Do the e-book practice tests.
- Complete Quizzes 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 by 11:59 PM on January 9th.
**Blackboard Test-Taking Tips**

Close down all other programs you may have running on your computer. Having multiple programs open may cause problems with your test, including loss of data.

Use one of the following Web browsers when taking Tests in Blackboard:

- PCs -- Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox
- Macs -- Safari or Mozilla Firefox

Do not open the exam until you are prepared to take it. Blackboard will not allow you to exit an exam and reenter it again later. Once you have started a quiz DO NOT click on any of the menu buttons or the navigation buttons on your web browser (including the Back button). DO NOT print pages, send email, surf the web, or instant message while taking a test. Doing so may bump you out of the exam, in which case your test will be frozen. Do not click anywhere outside the test and do not click the back button or the refresh button on your browser tool bar.

If you lose your connection while taking a quiz, or if a quiz freezes, contact the instructor by email immediately and explain the circumstances. If the instructor determines that you should be allowed to retake a test, you will have to retake the entire quiz (Blackboard will not let you start from where you left off) and questions answered incorrectly on your first attempt will be counted as incorrect when your final score is computed, even if you answer them correctly on your re-take. So, your score may be adjusted later, after you receive your initial score.

Your quiz answers are not submitted until you click the “Save and Submit” button at the end of the quiz. **You must hit the Save and Submit button when you have completed the quiz!**