

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (Psy 2310)

FALL 2014

Professor: Dr. Andrea Lynn Powers

Text: *The Developing Person Through the Lifespan*, 8th Edition, by Berger (ISBN: 978-1-4292-3205-0).

Course description and objectives: All that you will learn in this course will be based upon human and animal research that focuses on how organisms develop. By the end of the term, you will be familiar with the physiological, psychological, social, and cognitive factors that contribute to growth and development, and understand the biological/environmental interaction.

Readings and exams: You will be reading and learning information from about 1 chapter each week. Exams will be given on alternate Wednesdays. How you perform on exams will be totally dependent on how much time you devote to memorizing the information in the text.

Exam dates will be as follows: 9/3, 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12 and 12/3. You may take your exam between 7:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M.. Each exam will consist of randomly selected questions provided by the publisher of the textbook, so no 2 students will receive the same exam. You will have 50 minutes to complete each exam. For every minute you go over the allotted time, you will lose 2 points.

Research summaries: For this assignment, you should summarize a research article from a professional journal about anything concerning human or animal development. Each summary should be 2 pages, double-spaced, size 12 font, and must be written in YOUR words, not the author's. If I find that you have used the exact words of the author(s), you will receive a zero. Summaries should also include related information from your textbook. Your personal information and experiences are not to be included in this assignment.

Wednesday due dates for these summaries will be as follows: 10/8, 11/15, and 11/19. You may submit them between 7:00 A.M. on the day before they are due and 11:00 P.M. on the due date. Go to Assignments on the due date to find where to submit these summaries.

Be certain that you have reviewed the information under Library Resources ahead of time so you know exactly how to submit your summary through Blackboard and provide a direct link to your article when due. Follow the exact instructions and you will have no problems. Assignments submitted incorrectly or sent to my e-mail address will not be graded. See section on Teaching Assistants so you know who to contact if you need help.

Grades: For every exam and summary, you will receive points, and will not have a letter grade until the end of the semester. The total points available are as follows:

Exams (7) 700

Summaries (3) 60

Total 760

To receive an A, you must have at least 646 points (85% of the total points available). For a B, you must have at least 570 points (75% of the total points available). For a C, you must have at least 494 points (65%), and for a D, you must have at least 418 points (55% of the total points available).

DOING WELL IN THIS COURSE: If you are not very motivated and disciplined and planning to work hard to do well, this course is not for you. You must spend many hours reading and memorizing the information in your text to do well on exams, and must plan ahead to be sure you are submitting the research summaries correctly and on time.

ASSISTANTS FOR THIS COURSE: Librarian Jacob Galindo is available to help you if you have problems learning to submit your summaries through Blackboard. His office is in the library (109) and his phone number is 837- 8414. If you need help with any Blackboard problems, contact Joe Renieri at 837- 8489.