

PSYCH 3B03, Special Populations, Term 1, Fall 2008

Instructor: Professor Louis Schmidt, Ph.D., Email: schmidtl@mcmaster.ca
Office: Room 405, Psychology Building
Hours: 9:30 am to 10:30 am, Mondays & Wednesdays & by appointment
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TAs: Matilda Nowakowski & Nicole Folland

Overview: The course is intended to provide an overview of theory and research in areas of atypical physical, behavioural, and emotional development in children, including topics related to developmental disability, perceptual or cognitive handicap, and behavioural and socio-emotional disorders. The course will include lecture materials drawn from the required text, videos, and various laboratory studies presented in class. A copy of the required text is on reserve in the Mills Library. This class will meet on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 8:30 to 9:20am and Friday mornings from 10:30-11:20am. Please note that the instructor cannot return long distance telephone calls. Accordingly, please use email or available office hours.

Prerequisite: PSYCH 3GG3 or 3N03 (and 6 additional units from other courses – see Calendar)

Required Text: Wicks-Nelson, R. & Israel, A.C. (2009). Abnormal child and adolescent psychology. (7th ed.) New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Evaluation: Evaluation will be based on two in-class examinations and a cumulative final examination. The format of the exams will be multiple choice and short answer. The in-class examinations will be administered during regular class times as noted on the reverse page. The final examination will be **CUMULATIVE**, and the date will be announced by the registrar.

Grading Scale:

Exam 1 = 25%

Exam 2 = 25%

Final Exam = 50%

100-90 = A+	79-77 = B+	69-67 = C+	59-57 = D+	49-0 = F
89-85 = A	76-73 = B	66-63 = C	56-53 = D	
84-80 = A-	72-70 = B-	62-60 = C-	52-50 = D-	

Policy Reminder on Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonest consists of misrepresentation by deception or by fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: 1) Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own for which other credit has been obtained; 2) improper collaboration in group work; and 3) copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Policy on Make-Up Exams: Make-up exams will be allowed only in the case of extreme circumstances.

Course Outline:

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	9/5	Course overview and expectations
2	9/8,10,12	Introduction (Chapter 1)
3	9/15,17,19	The Developmental Psychopathology Perspective (Chapter 2) Video: <i>The Study of Behavior: John B. Watson (1919)</i> .
4	9/22,24,26	Biological and Environmental Contexts of Psychopathology (Chapter 3) Video: <i>The Baby Human Series</i>
5	9/29, 10/1,3	Research: Its Role and Methods (Chapter 4) Empirical Examples from Laboratory
	*****	Monday, October 6, 2008, EXAM I (CHAPTERS 1-4) *****
6	10/6,8,10	Classification, Assessment, and Intervention (Chapter 5) Video: <i>Our Pill Epidemic</i>
7	10/13,15,17	Anxiety Disorders (Chapter 6); NO CLASS; Oct 13; Thanksgiving Holiday Empirical Studies from Laboratory Videos: <i>Oh Baby! "To Feel"</i> ; and <i>Lab Videos</i>
8	10/20,22,24	Mood Disorders (Chapter 7) Empirical Studies from Laboratory
9	10/27,29,31	Conduct Problems (Chapter 8) Empirical Studies from Laboratory
	*****	Monday, November 3, 2008, EXAM II (CHAPTERS 5-8) *****
10	11/3,5,7	Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (Chapter 9)
11	11/10,12,14	Language and Learning Disabilities (Chapter 10) Empirical Studies from Laboratory
12	11/17,19/21	Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disabilities (Chapter 11) Empirical Studies from Laboratory Video: <i>Genie: A Life of a Wild Child</i>
13	11/24,26,28	Pervasive Developmental Disorders and Schizophrenia (Chapter 12) Empirical Studies from Laboratory
14	12/1	LAST CLASS; Review Session for Final Examination

*****FINAL EXAM, CUMULATIVE (Chapters 1-12); DATE AND TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED*****