Course Outline (Day class): Fall of 2012-2013

Times: Mon, Wed., Thurs. 10:30-11:20 am
Instructor: Dr. R. B. Day

September - December, 2012
Office: Psych Bldg, Room 404
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T.A.:

Recommended text: Day, R.B. Psych 3AB3 Handbook. McMaster Custom Courseware

Course Objectives: The goals of the the course are to familiarize you with the main patterns of physical, intellectual, and social development during adolescence, and to acquaint you with the main issues - both psychological, emotional and social - that are common to the adolescent years.

Course Topics: The table below shows the topics we will cover in this course, and the order in which we will discuss them. The specific weeks in which we will cover these topics may vary from the dates given below, depending on how deep and active our discussion of each topic becomes (and/or how long-winded I become), so take the dates below as approximate and subject to revision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Text Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>Introduction to Adolescent Psychology</td>
<td>Chaps. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Physical and Sexual Development</td>
<td>Chapt. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 17 Sept. 24</td>
<td>Cognitive Development</td>
<td>Chapt. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 24 Oct. 1</td>
<td>Social Development</td>
<td>Chapters 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<td>* Oct. 8</td>
<td>Self Development</td>
<td>Chapt. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 15 Oct. 22</td>
<td>Moral Development</td>
<td>Chapt. 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29 * Nov. 5</td>
<td>Sexual Behavior</td>
<td>Chapt. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 12 Nov. 19</td>
<td>Adolescent Problems and Pathology</td>
<td>Chapt. 12 &amp; 13</td>
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<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Classes end Monday, December 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam Period</td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
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** Chapters in Bold Blue will not be covered in their entirety (if at all) in lectures, but will be covered on the tests and exam.

Note: When pages in parentheses follow a Chapter number, that means that only those pages in the preceding chapter are assigned reading.

Course Evaluation: There will be two non-cumulative in-class tests, each worth 30% of your total course mark, and a cumulative final exam worth 40% of your course mark. In-class tests will contain 40 multiple-choice questions, and you will have approximately 45 minutes to complete each test. The final exam will take place during the December examination period. It will consist of 80 questions, which you will have two hours to complete. The tentative dates for the two in-class tests are listed below. Final dates will be posted here, and on the 3AB3 forum, no later than 10 days before each test dates:

Test #1: Thursday October 11th

http://intropsych.mcmaster.ca/psych3ab3/general/outlineday12.html
**Test #2: Thursday November 8th**

**IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU GET THIS INFORMATION.**

**Missed Work:** If you miss one of the in-class tests for documented medical or compassionate reasons, you should complete a Missed Work form in the office of the Associate Dean (Studies) of your Faculty. Once your Associate Dean has accepted your reasons for absence, the remaining in-class test and the final exam will be reweighted (40% and 60%, respectively) to cover the missed in-class test. *Discretionary notes will generally not be accommodated.* Note also that the online student absence form (MSAF) can only be used once per term, only for medical absences, and only for assignments worth less than 30%. That means that an MSAF will not excuse you from either of the midterm tests in this course.

**Final Grade Calculation and Adjustment:** The final mark in Psych 3AB3 will be computed by applying the following formula to the percentage scores on Test1, Test2 and the Final Exam:

\[
(\text{Test1 } \times \ 0.30) + (\text{Test2 } \times \ 0.30) + (\text{Exam } \times \ 0.40) = \text{Final Course mark}
\]

Apart from excused absences from an in-class test, every student will be assessed using the weighting formula shown above. **with one exception:** In assigning final letter grades for the course I look at the pattern of performance over the two in-class tests and the final exam. If the overall average, as calculated by the formula above, is on the borderline of the next higher letter grade (e.g. 49%, 66%, or 84%) and if the marks on both the final exam and one in-class test are at the next higher level (e.g., D, C+, A), then I will assign the next higher letter grade. Apart from this one final adjustment, final course grades in Psych 3AB3 are not raised unless they have been calculated incorrectly.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

**Academic Integrity and Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other 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 a academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at [http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm](http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm)

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Copying or using unauthorized aids on tests and examinations.
2. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
3. Improper collaboration in group work.