

**PSY / CLDP 3310 501**  
**Child Development**

**Day/Time:** Tuesday, 7:00-9:45 pm

**Location:** CB3 1.302 and online at <http://elearning.utdallas.edu>

**Credit Hours:** 3 hours

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Dr. Rhonda D. Blackburn**

Associate Provost, Educational Enhancement

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost

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**OFFICE HOURS**

By Appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Child development is a core course in the Psychology program. This course serves as a basic introduction to the study of child psychology from conception to adolescence. The emphases are on normal physical, cognitive, and social development. In addition, this course will provide students with an understanding of the prominent theories of child psychology and the research methods used to study children.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

After completing the course, students should have a better understanding and comprehension of the multiple factors that affect and determine typical development of infants, children and adolescents.

The students should be able to:

1. Describe and explain the nature of child development as a scientific discipline.
2. Describe and analyze major theoretical perspectives and overarching themes of child development and their historical background.
3. Describe, apply, and analyze selected content areas within child development.
4. Use critical thinking to evaluate popular media and scholarly literature.
5. Use creative thinking to address psychology-related issues.
6. Demonstrate effective oral communication skills in various context (e.g., group discussions, debate, lecture) and for various purposes (e.g., informing, teaching, explaining, defending, persuading, arguing).
7. Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings to issues in everyday life.

8. Identify appropriate applications of psychology to mental health and organizational problems.
9. Demonstrate how psychological principles can explain social issues and inform public policy.

### **PREREQUISITE**

This course should not be taken if the student is/was enrolled in LIFESPAN 4334 or an equivalent child development course.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

Levine, L.E., & Munsch, J. (2011). *Child Development: An Active Learning Approach*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN 9781412968508

or

Levine, L.E., & Munsch, J. (2011). *Child Development: An Active Learning Approach* (loose leaf version). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN 9781412989183

CourseSmart electronic PDF of the text is available at [www.CourseSmart.com](http://www.CourseSmart.com) using 9781412968508 as the search

eInstruction CPS Response Pad (clicker): buy at **Technology Store** (\$21.99) and register within eLearning (\$13.00)

### **EVALUATION**

#### *Individual Projects (50%)*

You will design and develop individual projects during the semester. These projects will be based upon different areas of child development, which include a timeline, an article review and comparison, and two child observations and reports.

#### *Team Project. (20%)*

You will sign up for a team toward the beginning of the semester to develop a child development project. Each person will contribute to the development and design of the project. More information regarding the project will be provided to you during class.

There will be a discussion and chat area available to your team to facilitate communication.

#### *Participation and Journaling (20%)*

Class participation is extremely important to the development of your knowledge within this course. There will be activities you will participate in during class and at times you will need to prepare something to bring to class. You will also have the opportunity to reflect on your experience within your journal. We will be using eInstruction CPS Response Pads (clickers) during class. You can purchase the clicker at the technology store. Make sure you have one by the second class. it is important to have extra batteries, just in case.

#### *Module Quizzes (10%)*

You will have a quiz before class to make sure you are understanding the content. You have the opportunity to take each quiz twice. If you do take the quiz twice, the two scores will be averaged. The first quiz is due before the second class.

#### *Research Exposure Requirement (0%, must complete to receive credit for the course)*

Students enrolled in this course are required to come into direct contact with the process of behavioral research. This requirement may be filled in one of two ways:

1. by reading research journal articles and writing a summary, or

2. by taking part in actual experiments as a participant.  
Detailed information is on the Research Exposure Credits sheet.

#### *Grade Distribution*

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Timeline Project	10
Article Review and Comparison	10
Child Observation and Report I	15
Child Observation and Report II	15
Team Project	10
Team Presentation	10
Class Participation	10
Journaling	10
Quizzes	10
Total =	100

#### **CALENDAR**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Chapters to Read</b>	<b>Due</b>
<b>1</b>	01/11	Introduction to Child Development: Getting Started and Issues	Chapter 1	
<b>2</b>	01/18	Theories of Development	Chapter 2	Quiz 2 due before class Timeline Set-up Journal Entry
<b>3</b>	01/25	How We Study Children and Adolescents	Chapter 3	Quiz 3 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
<b>4</b>	02/01	How Children Develop: Nature Through Nurture	Chapter 4	Quiz 4 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
<b>5</b>	02/08	Prenatal Development, Birth, and the Newborn	Chapter 5	Quiz 5 due before class Article Review and Comparison Timeline Development Journal Entry

6	02/15	Physical Development: The Body and the Brain	Chapter 6	Quiz 6 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
7	02/22	Cognitive Development	Chapter 7	Quiz 7 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
8	03/01	Intelligence and Academic Achievement	Chapter 8	Quiz 8 due before class Child Observation and Report I Timeline Development Journal Entry
9	03/08	Language Development	Chapter 9	Quiz 9 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
	03/15	Spring Break		
10	03/22	Emotional Development and Attachment	Chapter 10	Quiz 10 due before class Child Observation Team Projects
11	03/29	Identity: The Self, Gender, and Moral Development	Chapter 11	Quiz 11 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
12	04/05	Social Development: Parents, Peers, and Beyond	Chapter 12	Quiz 12 due before class Child Observation and Report II Timeline Development Journal Entry

<b>13</b>	04/12	Play, Extracurricular Activities, and Media Use	Chapters 13	Quiz 13 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
<b>14</b>	04/19	Families & Health, Well-Being, and Resilience	Chapters 14 and 15	Quiz 14-15 due before class Timeline Development Journal Entry
<b>15</b>	04/26	Team Presentations (5)		Team Project Timeline Journal Entries Team Presentation
<b>16</b>	05/10	Team Presentations (5)		Team Presentation

#### *Grade Range*

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	0-59

#### **COURSE AND INSTRUCTOR POLICIES**

There will be no make-up work and no extra credit. Late work will not be tolerated. If work is turned in late 10 points will be deducted from the grade each day. It is in the student's best interest to come to class to receive all the information needed to complete the class successfully. All correspondence between the students and the instructor must go through the eLearning mail tool. If you have any problems with eLearning you can call the [eLearning Helpdesk](#) at 866-588-3192. Communication is key! Please, contact me if you have any concerns or problems, but make sure you have done an honest attempt to find the answer.

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#### **Technical Support**

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911. If you need

help with eLearning you can call the eLearning Help Desk at 866-588-3192.

### **Policies and Procedures for Students**

The University of Texas at Dallas provides a number of policies and procedures designed to provide students with a safe and supportive learning environment. Brief summaries of the policies and procedures are provided for you at

<http://provost.utdallas.edu/home/index.php/syllabus-policies-and-procedures-text>

and include information about technical support, field trip policies, off-campus activities, student conduct and discipline, academic integrity, copyright infringement, email use, withdrawal from class, student grievance procedures, incomplete grades, access to Disability Services, and religious holy days. You may also seek further information at these websites:

- [http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel\\_Risk\\_Activities.htm](http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm)
- <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>
- <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>
- <http://www.utdallas.edu/disability/documentation/index.html>