

**Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology**

Course: PSYC 2110 3.0, Section B - Developmental Psychology

Course Webpage: <http://moodle.yorku.ca/moodle/>

Term: Fall Term 2015

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C. Course credit exclusions: AK/HH/PSYC 3240 3.00, GL/PSYC 3300 3.00.

Course Instructor

Prof. Scott A. Adler

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Course consultation hours: Monday, 11-12 am and by appointment

Teaching Assistants

Kyle Comishen

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TEL Building, Room 5030B

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Course consultation hour: Wed 10-11 am

Patric Plesa

Behavioural Science Building, Room 150C

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Course consultation hours: Wed 5:30-6:30 pm

Time and Location

Lectures: Fri 11:30 - 2:30 Curtis Lecture Hall E

Expanded Course Description

In this course, we will discuss various theoretical and empirical aspects of change as the child grows, matures, and develops. Topics will include physical, neural and brain, perceptual, cognitive, language, and social and emotional. Three questions will generally guide us in these discussions: (a) What develops? (b) Why it develops (i.e. the function of development)? and (c) How it develops? Underlying these questions will be issues related to the role of biological versus experiential mechanisms in development and to the aspects of development that are continuous versus discontinuous. To a lesser degree, the issue of typical versus atypical development will be touched upon. Throughout, the relevant empirical research will be a constant feature of our discussions.

Course Text / Readings

Younger, A., Adler, S.A., & Vasta, R. (2013). *Child Psychology: A Canadian Perspective* (3rd Edition). John Wiley & Sons Canada, Ltd.

Evaluation*

There will be two in-class exams worth 30% each and a final exam worth 40%. The final exam will be partly cumulative and in addition to covering material reviewed since the second exam, will also cover a small designated portion of material reviewed before the first two exams. Which material that will make up the cumulative portion of the final exam will be made known to students during the last class meeting. Make-up exams will **not** be given, **except** in cases of illness that are accompanied by a doctor's note or prior notification of a severe personal hardship. Further, there will be **no extra credit** opportunities.

Note on the course schedule the last date for withdrawing from a course with no penalty. Further note that cheating and plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to the Senate Policy on Academic Dishonesty. Please make sure you familiarize yourself with this policy, which can be found at <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>.

*The final grade for the course** will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:*

In-Class Exams: 30% each
Final Exam: 40%

** The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for 'full year' courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade (see the policy for exceptions to this aspect of the policy - <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=86>*

*** If final grades will be subject to grades distribution adjustment, it should be specifically noted in this section by including the following statement: "Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles."*

**** An exam or term test worth more than 20% of the final grade may not be given during the final two weeks of classes.*

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.) (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2012-2013/academic/grades/index.htm>)

Makeup exams will be given only with proper medical documentation, provided to the course director in a timely manner.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are required to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the University Registrar's webpage (<http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2012-2013/policies/index.htm>) under the following headings:

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty
- Student Conduct and Responsibilities
- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
- Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Religious Accommodations

Senate defines cheating as any attempt to gain an improper advantage in academic evaluation. These include (but are not limited to): Copying another person's answer to an exam question; Consulting an unauthorized source during an exam; Obtaining assistance by means of documentary, electronic or any other aids not approved by the course director; Changing an answer, score, or record of exam result. Further note, that a breach of academic honesty includes Aiding and Abetting another person's breach of academic honesty by encouraging, enabling or causing others to breach academic honesty. Please make yourself aware of the Senate policies because any violation of these policies can result in severe penalties including failure on the assignment or exam, failure in the course, suspension, expulsion, etc.

COURSE OUTLINE

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Reading Assignment</u> |
|------------------------|--|--|
| September 11 | Introduction & History | Chapter 1 (until p. 14) |
| September 18 | Theories & Methods | Chapter 1 (p. 14 – end) & Chapter 2 |
| September 25 | Genetics & Prenatal Development | Chapters 3 and 4 |
| October 2 | Exam 1 (30%) | |
| October 9 | Physical Development | Chapter 5 |
| October 16 | Neural & Brain Development | Chapter 6 |
| October 23 | Perceptual Development | Chapter 7 |
| October 30 | No Class - Reading Week | |
| November 6 | No Class | |
| November 9 | Last Day to Drop Course Without Penalty | |
| November 13 | Exam 2 (30%) | |
| November 20 | Cognitive Development | Chapter 8 (until p. 294) Chapter 9 |
| November 27 | Social & Emotional Development | Chapter 12 |
| December 4 | Language Development | Chapter 11 |
| December 9 - 23 | FINAL EXAM (40%) | |