

# VALENCIA COLLEGE

## DEP 2004 –Developmental Psychology Course Syllabus – 3 Credit Hours Fall, 2099

**Prerequisite:** PSY 1012

**Location:** Building 11, Room 999 (11-999)

**Meeting Times:** DAY & DAY, 0:00am – 0:15am

**Professor:** Sean P. Jennings, Psy.D.

**Phone:** Valencia (407) 582-1072

**Email:** [sjennings6@mail.valenciacollege.edu](mailto:sjennings6@mail.valenciacollege.edu)

**Office:** Building 11 Room 103E

### Communication:

Students are strongly encouraged to check their Atlas email accounts regularly, as this system will be utilized to distribute abrupt changes, as well as for notification of pertinent information to individuals. Students are encouraged to routinely check the course's Blackboard site, as assignments, handouts, quizzes, and take home examinations will be posted on the site throughout the semester. Students are encouraged to use office hours or employ email as a means of communicating with the professor concerning any questions or comments they may have regarding this course. Face to face meetings with the professor on campus may occur during the posted office hours, though if a more lengthy discussion is anticipated an appointment is suggested. Alternative meetings with the professor outside office hours may be arranged via telephonic conferences and/or email with advance notice and approval.

Please be aware, college level students are expected to be able to communicate in a professional manner with professors. Emails that do not include the professor's name, student's name, course information (i.e. General Psych T&R 8-11:10), and use proper English (no texting abbreviations, slang, etc.) may be ignored. If a student does not ask a specific question, the email may not receive a response. Please do not ask general questions that may be better answered by peers, such as, "I was absent today, did I miss anything?" or "What did you talk about today? I wasn't there".

### Course Description:

The Developmental Psychology course is: "Designed to survey theory and research on development from conception through death. Emphasizes biological and social variables which influence human behavior" (Valencia College Online Catalog 2010-2011, Course Description).

### Text:

#### **Required**

Berk, L. E. (2010). *Development Through The Lifespan, Fifth Edition*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc. Allyn & Bacon.

### Course Objectives:

This course is designed to provide an overview of developmental psychology and explore the relevance and application of the principles to daily life, in an effort to better understand ourselves and the world around us. The material will cover research, theories, and applications of a wide range of psychological concepts. Lectures, reading assignments, and activities are designed to assist the introduction and reinforcement of the CLAST and Valencia skills and competencies.

**Specific developmental psychology objectives include:**

# VALENCIA COLLEGE

1. Understanding theoretical approaches and research methodologies relevant to the study of human development.
2. Physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development during infancy, toddlerhood, early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood.

## **The Valencia Student Core Competencies:**

Valencia has identified four core competencies believed to be crucial to individual success in a variety of contexts. These competencies are instrumental in course design and implementation.

1. **Think:** Think clearly, critically, and creatively. Analyze, synthesize, integrate, and evaluate in many domains of human inquiry.
2. **Value:** Make reasoned value judgments and responsible commitments.
3. **Communicate:** Communicate with different audiences using varied means.
4. **Act:** Act purposefully, reflectively, and responsibly.

## **Evaluation:**

### **Quizzes**

Four (4) on-line quizzes will be given throughout the semester based on the material covered in class. The 3 highest quizzes will be averaged together and account for 10% of the final grade. Quizzes are due at the beginning of class.

### **Examinations**

Each Examination will include an in-class portion (multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank), a multiple choice on-line portion, and two take-home essay questions. The in-class and on-line portions will be combined to calculate 80% of the examination grade, the remaining 20% will be based on the essays (10% each essay). The on-line portion of the examination will be in Blackboard and will no longer be available after class begins on examination day. Essay answers must be submitted to SafeAssign via Blackboard by the BEGINNING of class on the examination day. Late papers will not be accepted. Examination items will cover text readings and any class discussion material. Students are expected to take examinations at the specified time. Students are expected to be on time for examinations, but a 5 minute grace period will be employed. Students who arrive more than 5 minutes late will not be given an examination. The on-line and essay portions cannot be made up if missed. The in-class portion can be made up. All make-up examinations will be held during the final examination period. **For missed examinations, the examination grade will be a '0' until the examination is completed.**

### **Term Paper**

Throughout the semester, students will be learning about a variety of developmental theories and key milestones. Students are encouraged to consider how the knowledge they are learning pertains to their own development. Students are encouraged to track their own development through acquisition of milestones and the impact on emotional, social, and cognitive functioning, as each section of material is discussed. By the end of the course students will have written a comprehensive paper about an individual's developmental history. Creativity will be rewarded as long as all the core criteria of the paper have been met. **Papers must be submitted to SafeAssign by the start of class on the due date and a hardcopy must be brought to class. Late papers & emailed papers will not be accepted.**

# VALENCIA COLLEGE

## **Grading**

Examinations (4 exams averaged)	60%
Term Paper	20%
Attendance/participation	10%
4 Quizzes (3 highest will be averaged)	10%

## **Grading Scale:**

90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
Below 60 = F

## **Attendance/Participation**

More than 4 hours of absences in this course will significantly affect the student's grade. If a student arrives late, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in order to be counted as present. Please make an effort to be on time and prepared for class. Since tardiness is disruptive to the class, it is advisable to enter the classroom as quietly as possible. Preparation for class involves reading portions of the text prior to class discussion, as well as turning in required assignments on time. Arriving late or leaving early will not be counted in real time minutes, but rather rounded up to the nearest half-hour increment. **Texting, sleeping, reading non-course related material, or other behavior not related to learning the concepts of this course will be considered as not present behavior and the student will be marked as absent.**

## **Classroom Behavior:**

Appropriate classroom behavior is expected, and students are expected to adhere to the classroom behavior standards outlines in the Student Handbook. As the student body is mainly comprised of individuals in the early adulthood to middle adulthood developmental stages, behavior is expected to fall within developmental norms within a classroom context, for these age groups. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and include, but not limited to, excessive tardiness, leaving early, talking during class, or electronic disruptions (pagers, cell phones). Professor reserves the right to ask a student to leave for the remainder of the class period. If the behavior is considered significantly disruptive or is representative of a pattern of disruptive behavior, a meeting may be held to determine if the student is allowed to continue in the course.

## **Academic Dishonesty:**

Students are expected to abide by the college rules governing academic dishonesty. All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited by Valencia College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a test situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive. It is the students' responsibility to be knowledgeable of the policy (See the Student Handbook for complete policy). The Student Handbook states "Any student determined by the professor to have been responsible for engaging in an act of academic dishonesty shall be subject to a range of academic penalties (apart from any sanctions that may be imposed pursuant to the Code) as determined by the professor which may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following: loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project; a reduction in the course grade; or a grade of "F" in the course"

# VALENCIA COLLEGE

## Withdrawal Procedures:

The last day to withdraw from class and receive a "W" is November 4, 2011. If a student does not withdraw from the course and stops attending class meetings, the student will receive a letter grade (i.e. D, F) and it will be calculated at the end of the semester based on all expected gradable activities with 0's for all missed assignments, examinations, quizzes, and attendance & participation. Students can still be withdrawn, after the withdrawal deadline, by the college for violations of the college's code of conduct policies or for violation of a professor's attendance policy. Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of "F."

## ASSIGNMENTS CALENDAR - DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

*Disclaimer: Please be aware that the class schedule is tentative.*

Week	Date	Topic/Assignments
Week 1	Tues 08/30	Course Introduction/Syllabus Review, Chapter 1
	Thur 08/31	Chapter 1
Week 2	Tues 09/06	Chapter 1
	Thur 09/08	Chapter 1 & 2, Quiz 1 Due
Week 3	Tues 09/13	Chapter 2
	Thur 09/15	Chapter 3
Week 4	Tues 09/20	Chapter 3
	Thur 09/22	EXAMINATION 1, O.L. Exam 1 (4) & Essays Due
Week 5	Tues 09/27	Chapter 5
	Thur 09/29	Chapter 5
Week 6	Tues 10/04	Chapter 6, Quiz 2 Due
	Thur 10/06	NO CLASS - COLLEGE NIGHT
Week 7	Tues 10/11	Chapter 6
	Thur 10/13	Chapter 8
Week 8	Tues 10/18	Chapter 8
	Thur 10/20	EXAMINATION 2, O.L. Exam 2 (7 & 9) & Essays Due
Week 9	Tues 10/25	Chapter 10
	Thur 10/27	Chapter 10
Week 10	Tues 11/01	Chapter 12
	Thur 11/03	Chapter 12, Quiz 3 Due
Week 11	Tues 11/08	Chapter 14
	Thur 11/10	Chapter 14
Week 12	Tues 11/15	EXAMINATION 3, O.L. Exam 3 (11 & 13) & Essays Due
	Thur 11/17	Chapter 16
Week 13	Tues 11/22	Chapter 16
	Thur 11/24	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING
Week 14	Tues 11/29	Chapter 18
	Thur 12/01	Chapter 18, Term Paper Due
Week 15	Tues 12/06	Chapter 19, Quiz 4 Due
	Thur 12/08	EXAMINATION 4, O.L. Exam 4 (15 & 17) and Essays Due
Week 16	Tues 12/13	Make up Examination day - *7:00am*