Psychology 2314.001 – Lifespan Developmental Psychology
Summer II, 2014

Class meetings:
M-Th 2:00p-3:55pm, CI 109

Anthony Zoccolillo, Ph.D.
Office: BH 318
Office Hours: M-Th 12:30pm-1:30pm and by appointment
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Email: Anthony.zoccolillo@tamucc.edu

Contacting Me
The best way to contact me is through email. I generally will respond to email within 24 hours, except on the weekends. I am always ready and willing to make myself available to help you succeed in this course. I highly encourage you to come to me with your questions and concerns at any point that you need the assistance. I am very good at answering email and many of your questions could probably be answered in that way. For more complicated concerns, I encourage you to drop by my office or make an appointment so we can discuss whatever it is that is causing you to struggle. I advise you to identify and remedy any concerns as early as you can during the semester – the more time we have to address it – the more likely it is we will be able to resolve it in a way that allows you to be successful. If you wait until the end of the semester, there is little I can usually do to help at that point.

Description and Goals of the Course
This course will introduce you to major theories and topics in the field of developmental psychology. We will emphasize theories of attachment and successful development throughout the lifespan, in terms of normative physical, cognitive, social and emotional development. A combination of readings, lecture, class discussion, and written work will be used throughout the course. There is a lot of reading, and to be successful in this course, you will need to not only read the assigned materials, but read them carefully, critically, and actively. The goal of this course is to understand the material and how it may relate to you and people you know.

Student Learning Outcomes.
1) Accurately describe the main points of the developmental theories we cover in the textbook; and how they apply to development throughout the lifespan.
2) Use the information from your text as background knowledge and information to apply to real-world situations.
Requirements and Grades


Please read assigned chapters from the text before the class during which we will discuss them.

Blackboard: This course will use Blackboard. Please check it regularly, as announcements will be posted there, as well as any changes to the syllabus or assignments. If you do not know your login information for Blackboard, please contact the IT Help Desk, (361) 825-2692. If there are issues within your Blackboard course, please contact me first, as typically the instructor is the only one who can make changes/fix issues within a course. If you are having technical difficulties, please contact the IT Help Desk or your Internet Service Provider.

Evaluation:

Quizzes (20% of final grade). There will be 4 quizzes given during the class meetings indicated on the schedule. The quizzes will cover approximately 2 chapters each and will cover material both from class as well as the text book. These quizzes will be given at the beginning of class and they cannot be made up.

Exams (20% of final grade each). There will be 2 in-class exams. They will cover the textbook chapters and any additional information covered in class. The exams will be non-cumulative and together will make up 40% of your final grade.

Naturalistic Observation (20% of final grade). This will be an opportunity to practice the skills learned in the beginning of the semester while actually having the chance to see much of what we talk about in class, in person. Further instructions will be provided. The paper that you will write will be due on Friday, July 31st.

Attendance/In-class activities/assignments/participation (20% of final grade). Attendance is expected. If you miss a class, you will still be responsible for any notes, handouts, announcements, etc. that may have taken place during the missed class. Attendance will be taken throughout the semester. If you are late to class or leave early, you will not receive credit for that class. Time permitting; there may be some in-class assignments. These will not be announced ahead of time. This work will be tied to in-class discussions and so will constitute the “participation” part of your grade. Credit for in-class work will be based on completeness and accuracy. In class activities cannot be made up and late homework will be penalized 10% per day it is late.

% of total grade ASSIGNMENTS:

40% Exam average = _____ *.40
20% Homework/Activities = _____ *.20
20% Quizzes = _____*.20
20% Observation Paper = ______* .20
100% Total
90-100% - A indicates work of distinction, of consistent and exceptionally high quality
80-89% - B indicates good work, maybe not consistent or of distinction
70-79% - C indicates average work
60-69% - D indicates marginal work
Below 60% - F indicates unacceptable work

Expectations

Class will start on time every day, and you should expect it to run the full period. Please avoid disturbing other students (by arriving late, leaving early, talking with a neighbor, etc.). Make sure that your electronic devices are turned off.

I expect students to make every effort to attend each class. Should you find it necessary to miss class, please note that you will be held responsible for all material covered during the missed class. It will be your responsibility to speak with a classmate about the course content you missed.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a zero for the assignment or exam.

Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. July 25th is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Classroom/professional behavior

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and
courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Grade Appeals

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

Disabilities Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Statement of Academic Continuity

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.
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