

DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
Fall 2007

Instructor: Victor R. Wilburn, Ph.D.
Section: **7400:665-801**
Class Meeting: Wednesday
5:20-7:50 (South Schrank Rm 220)
Office: Schrank Hall South Room 215Q
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:00pm - 1:45pm; One hour before class or by appointment
Office Phone: 330-972-2678 Department: 330-972-7721

Textbooks: Shaffer, D. R. (2002). Developmental Psychology: Childhood and Adolescence. 6th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Thomson Learning.

Course Description:

Analysis of research and theoretical frameworks regarding infant and child development from conception through age five. Implications for guidance and education.

Objectives: This course will explore the development of infancy thru early childhood. Special emphasis will be placed on important theories of human development and current research outcomes as they pertain to the related periods of development. After completion of this course, the student should be able to execute the following tasks:

1. Develop an understanding of the major theories of human development and effectively apply those theories to current issues regarding infancy and early childhood development.
2. Explore theoretical principles and research findings on infancy and early childhood to better understand the nature of human development. Demonstrate the ability to objectively analyze and critique the findings of current researchers and practitioners.
3. Effectively discuss the periods of infancy and early childhood respective to the domains of development and identify important developmental changes.

Evaluation

1. Exams (100 points). Two exams (midterm and final) will be given over the course of the semester. These exams will be averaged and will account for 50 % of your total grade in this class. Exam dates are indicated on the class calendar. **No** makeup exam will be given except for medical emergency (Makeups occur during finals week only). **Exam formats may consist of multiple choice, short answer, true/false, and essay questions.**

2. Research Paper/Presentation (50 points). Students are expected to identify some aspect of infancy/early childhood. The topic must be approved by the instructor and thoroughly researched using library sources. The paper must be at least 15 pages (excluding references), typed, double-spaced/12pt. Font and adhere to the APA style. A minimum of 20 references (i.e., books or articles from refereed journals) must be cited in this paper. In addition, students are to come to class prepared to present their findings to their peers. Each presenter will be graded on the quality and clarity of the presentation; their ability to stimulate interest and discussion; and their ability to integrate theory and research findings (professional presentation must be a minimum of 45 minutes).

3. In Class Activities and Assignments (50 points). Several in-class activities will be given during the semester. You must be in class at the time the activity is given to get credit since these activities cannot be made up. Occasionally, it may be required of you to provide written explanations or summary of significant topics that are relevant to human development. In addition, you will be expected to do article reviews. You must provide an entire copy of a research article, read and critique the article, and write a two page reaction to the article (further

discussion of format will be discussed at the time of assignment).

Note. Any information turned in to me must be typed, proofread (for grammar, spelling), and stapled (if there is more than one page). Failure to follow these instructions will result in a loss of valuable points (See instructor expectations for academic competence).

Grading

Exams	100 points	A =185-200pts.
Group paper	50 points	B+ =175-184pts.
Assignments	<u>50</u> points	B =165-174pts.
Total	200 points	C+ =155-164pts.
		C =145-154pts.
		D+=135-144pts
		D =125-134pts.
		F =below 124 pts

UNIVERSITY POLICY: Students whose names do not appear on the University's official class list will not be permitted to participate in this class. All University policies are followed as outlined in the University of Akron Bulletin.

Style of teaching: This class will mainly consist of a lecture format. However, it will also consist of interactive learning through group process and exploratory learning through written critique of observations. In addition, you are encouraged to contribute ideas you have gained through reading, other course work, and personal experiences.

Academic Dishonesty: Any intentional misrepresentation or attempt to gain undeserved, intellectual advantages; such as cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession of exams and the like. The University Policy as outlined in the student handbook will be followed in cases of suspected academic dishonesty.

Announcements: Occasional announcements will be made in class. Examples of these are schedule changes and assignment details. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure s/he receives such information. Therefore, it is imperative that students attend class regularly as the instructor will accept **NO** responsibility for information not received due to your absence from class. It is a good rule to network with peers in your class; this way if you have to miss class, you have someone you can call and retrieve missed information. The instructor is available to assist you with any questions you have with regard class lecture or the text but not to "catch-you-up" for missed class.

Class Attendance and Participation: Students are expected to attend scheduled classes, complete all reading and out-of-class assignments and participate in class discussion. A class roll may be passed out daily; it is important that you sign the roll to indicate your presence. I usually accept one unexcused absence. Any additional absences will result in a 2 point deduction from your final grade for every unexcused absence.

The following examples are justifiable absences:

1. Death in the family
2. Your own death
3. School related activities where you are representing the university (must give prior notice to the instructor)
4. Illness/medical appointment (need to bring a doctor's excuse upon your return to class)

Tentative Calendar for Infancy and Early Childhood
Fall 2007

Date	Topic for Discussion	Assignments
Aug 29	Introduction/historical Perspective of Child Development & Child Development Theories <i>Chapter 1</i>	
Sept 5	Theories of Development continued/ Research Methods for Studying Children/Ethical Issues <i>Chapter 1, 2</i>	Assignment 1 due
Sept 12	Prenatal Development, Birth, and Newborns' Readiness for Life Chapter 4	Assignment 2 due
Sept 19	Physical Growth and Maturation of Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers/ Perceptual Development <i>Chapter 5,6</i>	
Sept 26	Cognitive Development in Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers <i>Chapter 7</i>	
Oct 3	Cognitive Development: Information-Processing Perspectives <i>Chapter 8</i>	
Oct 10	Developmental Assessment of Measuring Intelligence <i>Chapter 9, 10</i>	
Oct 17	Emotional Development for Infants, Toddlers, & Preschoolers Infant Attachment <i>Chapter 11</i>	
Oct 24	Mid-Term Celebration of Knowledge Development of the Self & Social Cognition <i>Chapter 12</i>	
Oct 31	The Family and its Affect of Children <i>Chapter 15</i>	
Nov 7	Extrafamilial Influences–Television, Schools, and Peers <i>Chapter 16</i>	Guest Speaker from Toy Resource Library
Nov 14	Presentation of Research Papers	
Nov 21	Happy Thanksgiving	
Nov 28	Presentation of Research Papers	Research papers due Nov 28th
Dec 5	Final Celebration of Knowledge	

DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
ARTICLE CRITIQUE ONE–Assignment Sheet

You have received a series of research based articles which are related to prenatal care and later developmental outcomes in young children. Focus your attention to the methodology (i.e., study design, operational definitions, instruments, and outcomes) sections of these articles. Choose one article for the purpose of writing an article critique. In this article critique, you are charged to discuss the general purpose of this study and the specific methodological techniques employed. Also, come to class prepared to present your findings (5 minute minimum).

Each assignment must be typed and submitted in a 1/2 or 1 inch black binder or it will not be accepted.

Assignments must be typed using 12 point font. Student's name and assignment number should be typed on the document. The assignment should be a minimum of 3 ***complete*** pages. It is imperative to turn in your assignment sheet with your article critique response.

This will be a five point assignment. The following areas will be assessed and can result in 2 pt maximum deductions if not properly addressed:

- _____ Neatness, correct punctuation, grammar/spelling
- _____ Ability to integrate content observed with content explored in class lecture or readings
- _____ Ability to follow instructions

Outline of Article Critique

- Title
- Purpose of the Study
 - Objectives
 - Variables in the study
- Methodology
 - Study Design
 - Operational Definitions
 - Instruments
- Outcomes

DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
ARTICLE CRITIQUE TWO–Assignment Sheet

You have received a series of research based articles which are related to Infant development and child care outcomes. Focus your attention to the methodology (i.e., study design, operational definitions, instruments, and outcomes) sections of these articles. Choose one article for the purpose of writing an article critique. In this article critique, you are charged to discuss the general purpose of this study and the specific methodological techniques employed. Also, come to class prepared to present your findings (5 minute minimum).

Each assignment must be typed and submitted in a 1/2 or 1 inch black binder or it will not be accepted.

Assignments must be typed using 12 point font. Student's name and assignment number should be typed on the document. The assignment should be a minimum of 2 ***complete*** pages. It is imperative to turn in your assignment sheet with your article critique response.

This will be a five point assignment. The following areas will be assessed and can result in 2 pt maximum deductions if not properly addressed:

- _____ Neatness, correct punctuation, grammar/spelling
- _____ Ability to integrate content observed with content explored in class lecture or readings
- _____ Ability to follow instructions

Outline of Article Critique

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- Purpose of the Study
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 - Instruments
- Outcomes

DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
ARTICLE CRITIQUE THREE--Assignment Sheet

An enormous volume of research can be obtained from the discipline regarding children's development during the period of infancy and early childhood. You are now charged to review the entire chapter (6), as it pertains to the noted periods, and identify/review scholarly research articles (minimum of two) that relate to information discussed in your sourcebook.

Because you now have methodological insight and critical understanding, focus your attention to the results and discussion sections of your articles and discuss how these articles link to important content found in your sourcebook. In addition, discuss the relevance of this information to parents, educators, and professionals who might affect policy change. Also, come to class prepared to present your findings (10 minute minimum).

Each assignment must be typed and submitted in a ½ or 1 inch black binder or it will not be accepted.

Assignments must be typed using 12 point font. Student's name and assignment number should be typed on the document. The assignment should be a minimum of 3 **complete** pages. It is imperative to turn in your assignment sheet with your article critique response and provide hard copies of your chosen articles (Articles must be scholarly and published in refereed journals).

This will be a five point assignment. The following areas will be assessed and can result in 2 pt maximum deductions if not properly addressed:

- _____ Neatness, correct punctuation, grammar/spelling
- _____ Ability to integrate content observed with content explored in class lecture or readings
- _____ Ability to follow instructions

Outline of Article Critique

- Title
- Purpose of the Studies
- Links to Sourcebook
- Results/Findings/Discussion
- Utility to the Profession
 - Parents
 - Teachers
 - Professionals Implementing Policy

DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
ARTICLE CRITIQUE FOUR–Assignment Sheet

An enormous volume of research can be obtained from the discipline regarding children's cognitive development during the period of infancy and early childhood. You are now charged to review the entire chapter (7), as it pertains to the noted periods, and identify/review scholarly research articles (minimum of two) that relate to information discussed in your sourcebook.

Focus your paper and articles to support to an interesting finding noted from your chapter. In addition, discuss the relevance of this information to parents, educators, and professionals who might affect policy change. Also, come to class prepared to present your findings (10 minute minimum).

Each assignment must be typed and submitted in a ½ or 1 inch black binder or it will not be accepted.

Assignments must be typed using 12 point font. Student's name and assignment number should be typed on the document. The assignment should be a minimum of 3 ***complete*** pages. It is imperative to turn in your assignment sheet with your article critique response and provide hard copies of your chosen articles (Articles must be scholarly and published in refereed journals).

This will be a five point assignment. The following areas will be assessed and can result in 2 pt maximum deductions if not properly addressed:

- _____ Neatness, correct punctuation, grammar/spelling
- _____ Ability to integrate content observed with content explored in class lecture or readings
- _____ Ability to follow instructions

Outline of Article Critique

- Title
- Purpose of the Studies
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DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
ARTICLE CRITIQUE FIVE–Assignment Sheet

Come to class prepared to present on the project topic that you are doing in the community. You should come prepared to present at least 15 minutes and provide discussion of any activities you will be doing to reinforce the learning to your audience.

Students who will be presenting in class should repeat the instructions of assignment six but apply it to chapter 10 (Development of Language and Communication Skills).

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ARTICLE CRITIQUE SIX--Assignment Sheet

Review chapter 9 as it pertains to intelligence development and the periods of infant and early childhood. Choose one aspect of the chapter reading that interests you and identify/review two scholarly research articles that relate to information discussed on that particular issue.

Focus your paper and articles to support to an interesting finding noted from your chapter. In addition, discuss the relevance of this information to parents, educators, and professionals who might affect policy change. Also, come to class prepared to present your findings (10 minute minimum).

Each assignment must be typed and submitted in a ½ or 1 inch black binder or it will not be accepted.

Assignments must be typed using 12 point font. Student's name and assignment number should be typed on the document. The assignment should be a minimum of 3 **complete** pages. It is imperative to turn in your assignment sheet with your article critique response and provide hard copies of your chosen articles (Articles must be scholarly and published in refereed journals).

This will be a five point assignment. The following areas will be assessed and can result in 2 pt maximum deductions if not properly addressed:

- _____ Neatness, correct punctuation, grammar/spelling
- _____ Ability to integrate content observed with content explored in class lecture or readings
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DEVELOPMENT IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
ARTICLE CRITIQUE SEVEN--Assignment Sheet
(LAST ONE, MAKE IT A GOOD ONE--SIMILE)

Review chapter 11 as it pertains to emotional development infant and early childhood. Choose one aspect of the chapter reading that interests you and identify/review two scholarly research articles that relate to information discussed on that particular issue.

Focus your paper and articles to support to an interesting finding noted from your chapter. In addition, discuss the relevance of this information to parents, educators, and professionals who might affect policy change. Also, come to class prepared to present your findings (10 minute minimum).

Each assignment must be typed and submitted in a ½ or 1 inch black binder or it will not be accepted.

Assignments must be typed using 12 point font. Student's name and assignment number should be typed on the document. The assignment should be a minimum of 3 ***complete*** pages. It is imperative to turn in your assignment sheet with your article critique response and provide hard copies of your chosen articles (Articles must be scholarly and published in refereed journals).

This will be a five point assignment. The following areas will be assessed and can result in 2 pt maximum deductions if not properly addressed:

- _____ Neatness, correct punctuation, grammar/spelling
- _____ Ability to integrate content observed with content explored in class lecture or readings
- _____ Ability to follow instructions

Outline of Article Critique

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