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☰ Course Description

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This course is designed to be an introduction to the scientific study of human development, with an emphasis on social, cognitive, and neurological processes underlying perceptual, cognitive, and emotional development from infancy to adolescence.

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University Operating Dates

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Learning Outcomes

After completing PSYC 251, students should be able to:

1. Describe the general course of typical development from conception to late adolescence in the cognitive, linguistic, emotional and social domains to recognize their effect on one another.
2. Compare and contrast the major developmental theories and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each theory.
3. Discuss the different methods used in developmental psychology research and evaluate how these research methods are dependent upon the theoretical approach of researcher, developmental age of the participants and research question being asked.
4. Recommend ways to promote children's well-being and successful development, based on developmental research and theory.
5. Critically discuss a variety of materials related to child development and effectively communicate ideas to different audiences.
6. Collaborate with peers through problem-based learning activities to explore concepts and research related to child development.

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Course Materials

The following material is available from the [Queen's Campus Bookstore](#):

- Robert Siegler, Nancy Eisenberg, Judy DeLoache, Jenny Saffran & Susan Graham “How Children Develop: Fifth Canadian Edition” (*or looseleaf version or e-text*)

Those of you who have purchased the ebook have access to additional online materials developed by Macmillan Publishing in the LaunchPad package. Launchpad access is NOT REQUIRED and NOT SUPPORTED by the staff in this course.

Follow [these steps](#) to get started with LaunchPad. If you need additional guidance, consult the [support site](#), especially the system requirements which list recommended browsers. If you have problems registering, purchasing (if you choose to purchase), or logging in, please [contact Customer Support](#). You can reach a representative 7 days a week:

1. through the online form
2. by chat
3. by phone at (800) 936-6899

Third Party Policy

Be aware that by logging into Macmillan LaunchPad, you will be leaving onQ, and accessing the LaunchPad site, beyond what is required for the course (for example, purchasing the company's products), is subject to [Macmillan Learning's terms of use and privacy policy](#). You are encouraged to review these documents before using the site.

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Suggested Time Commitment

Students can expect to spend approximately 10-12 hours a week in study/practice and online activity for this course.

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Weighting of Assessments

Weekly Quizzes (best 8 out of 9)

8%

Aligned to Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4

Discussion Activities (4)

16%

Aligned to Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Written Assignment (10%) and Peer Review (5%)

15%

Aligned to Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Term Tests (2)

16%

Aligned to Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4

Proctored Final Exam*

45%

Aligned to Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

BONUS: You can earn up to 2% toward your grade for research participation. Research credit cannot be used to improve a failing course mark to a passing mark. For more information, please see Bonus in the menu on the left.

***You must write and pass the final proctored exam (i.e., obtain a grade of 50% or greater) in order to pass the course.**

Final Proctored Exam

Once the exam schedule has been finalized the exam date will be posted on your SOLUS account. Students living in the Kingston area will write their final exam on Queen's campus. Students writing off campus will receive an email to their Queen's email account with full details of date/time/location of their exam. Please note: off campus exams will be held on the same day as Kingston exams, but the start time may vary slightly due to the requirements of the off-campus exam centre.

When you registered for the course, you indicated the exam centre location. If you do not remember the exam location you chose, or if you wish to change your exam location, please email: asc.online@queensu.ca or call 613-533-3322. The [deadline for changing your exam centre](#) can be found on the Queen's Arts & Science Online website. You must request the change prior to this deadline or you will be subject to a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100.00 per exam.

Location and Timing of Final Examinations

As noted in Academic Regulation 8.2.1, "the final examination in any class offered in a term or session (including Summer Term) must be written on the campus on which it was taken, at the end of the appropriate term or session at the time scheduled by the Examinations Office." The exam period is listed in the key dates prior to the start of the academic year in the Faculty of Arts and Science Academic Calendar and on the Office of the University Registrar's webpage. A detailed exam schedule for the Fall Term is posted before the Thanksgiving holiday; for the Winter Term it is posted the Friday before Reading Week, and for the Summer Term the window of dates is noted on the Arts and Science Online syllabus prior to the start of the course. Students should delay finalizing any travel plans until after the examination schedule has been posted. Exams will not be moved or deferred to accommodate employment, travel /holiday plans or flight reservations.

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Assessments and Activities Description

Assessments and Activities Overview

Online Weekly Quizzes (best 8 of 9)

There are 9 quizzes. Of the 9 quizzes, your best 8 will count towards your final grade. The quizzes will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions based on the weekly material from weekly videos and textbook readings. Typically quizzes will open on a Thursday morning and close on a Saturday evening. Please see the timeline for specific due dates. You may complete the quiz any time during the designated time period. However, you must complete your quiz by the time the quiz availability period ends (e.g., the weekly quizzes close at 11:55 PM so you must allow yourself enough time to complete the quizzes before 11:55 PM).

Disclaimer: If you have not completed one of the quizzes, you will not be able to review that quiz at the end of term to review for the final exam.

Discussion Activities

There are 4 discussions activities. You will work in assigned small groups for the duration of the course in these activities applying and extending your understanding of key course concepts.

Written Assignment and Peer Review:

You will write one essay for this course, which is discussed in more detail on the assessment page. You will receive feedback from their peers on an early draft of their assignment. Then have the opportunity to review and revise your essay before final submission.

Term Tests:

The midterms will each be 75 minutes in length and will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The term tests are designed to assess your knowledge and progress through the course, give you feedback on your level of understanding and mastery of the material, and provide experience with the testing style used in this course so as to prepare you for the final examination. They are **open-book exams**, so you can use your textbook and notes while taking these tests. However, for them to accomplish what we hope, we encourage you to really test yourselves with them and try not to rely on your notes. Given the 75-minute time limit, indeed you will not have much time to look up answers to questions while writing these tests. Study accordingly. Note that working together with another student on the exams constitutes a violation of academic integrity.

Final Proctored Exam:

The Final Exam is three hours in length and is a closed-book test. The final exam will include multiple-choice and short-answer questions testing material from the entire term. The specific date for the final exam will be announced later in the term. (Off-campus students, please check your Queen's email for your exam location details).

Please Note: You must write and pass the final exam in order to pass the course. (**i.e., obtain a grade of 50% or greater**)

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Grading

Regrade Requests

Exams and Discussions

If you believe a question was graded incorrectly, please contact your grader. Mistakes happen and we are always happy to review a grade. **You need to contact your grader, however, within a week of receiving your grade.** If you are not satisfied with the grader's response, you may contact Dr. Fitneva including a written explanation of why you think your grade should be different. This needs to happen within a week of receiving the TA's response. As a general policy, Dr. Fitneva will mark your entire test. Your grade may go up, stay the same, or go down. Regrade requests received after the deadlines noted above will not be considered.

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Contacting the Teaching Team

The teaching team contact information is located on the Homepage of the course (see "[Teaching Team](#)").

For general questions about the course, please post to the [Course Questions Forum](#).

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Academic Considerations for Students in Extenuating Circumstances

Please use the information provided on the [Teaching Team](#) page.

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Academic Integrity

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Bonus

In this course you can earn bonus points by participating in the Psychology Research Participant Pool. For every half hour of research completed, you can increase your final mark in this course by 0.5% up to a maximum of 2%. If you are enrolled in more than one eligible course, you will select the course toward which your research participation will be credited when you sign up for a study. You can complete studies toward each course. You cannot apply the same study credit to more than one course, and research credit cannot be used to improve a failing mark to a passing mark. The last day to participate in research for bonus credit is the last day of classes. For more details, please see the information posted at the [Psychology Participant Pool](#) webpage.

All students will be activated in the participant pool by the 3rd week of the term. If you have previously used the participant pool, you will use the same userid and password that you used previously. If you are new to the participant pool, you will receive an email with your login information by the 3rd week of class.

During the first week of the semester, you will be emailed a link to an online prescreening questionnaire that will be due by the end of the Add/Drop period (second Friday of the term). If you complete the larger prescreening questionnaire online, you may become eligible for additional studies, and those researchers will contact you directly to find a time to participate.

Participation in research is entirely voluntary. If you want to earn credit but don't want to participate in a particular study, you can complete an alternative assignment instead. For the alternative assignment, researchers either will offer a walk-through of their experiment, or they will have you to read an article or blog post, listen to a short podcast, or watch a short video and then answer questions about it. To complete an alternative assignment, you must contact **the principal investigator** of a particular study (see the study's contact information on SONA for their email) before the last week of classes for the semester to complete the alternative assignment option. Although the length of studies will vary, all alternative assignments will last approximately 30 minutes, so you will earn 0.5% for each alternative assignment that you complete.

Off-campus students: please note that you can participate in online studies and researchers who offer these studies also offer online alternative assignments.

Please note: we understand that life happens and you may be unable to attend the session you sign up for as a result of extenuating circumstances. If you are unable to attend your scheduled session due to an extenuating circumstance, please contact the researcher directly to reschedule the session and/or receive an "excused no-show" notation. An "excused no-show" is guaranteed if you contact researchers 3 or more hours in advance of your appointment.

Research is an important activity that directly impacts science and society, and that also impacts a larger system (e.g., time in lab space is very limited and can be costly—for example, booking a 1 hour session in the fMRI facility costs \$400). We thank you in advance for ensuring that you attend your scheduled sessions, and that you follow up with the researcher as soon as possible if you miss a session due to extenuating circumstances. However, if you reach 2 *unexcused* no-shows in a given semester, you will not be able to sign up for additional studies/alternative assignments that semester. You will be automatically granted the ability to sign up for studies to earn research credit the following academic semester.

Note that your course instructor is not involved in the administration of studies and alternative assignments. If you have questions about studies, please contact the researchers listed on SONA. Questions about the pool (e.g., credits, prescreening) should be directed to the participant pool coordinator at participant.pool@queensu.ca.

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Late Policy

Extensions on Quizzes, Discussions, Exams

The assessments for Psyc251 are designed with flexibility in mind. You can drop a quiz, quizzes and exams are available for more than or close to 48 hours for you to choose a time to take them, and you can start working on the discussions and assignment right now. Thus, **late submissions and extension requests will not be approved** other than through an official request for academic consideration due to extenuating circumstances <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/accommodations>.

Initial posts to discussion forums should be submitted on time so that everyone can plan their responses with sufficient lead time. Students who post their **initial post** late will be deducted .5 points per 24 hrs after the deadline. So if you submit your initial post at 11am on Thursday (rather than by 10am) and it is assessed at 2.5 out of 3 points, in your final grade the post will count as 2 points. Note that you need to make an initial post in order to be able to respond to peers. You can make a dummy/empty initial post to respond.

Written Assignment

As the written assignment involves peer review, we cannot accommodate late submissions of the first draft. Please note that not submitting a first draft will exclude you from the peer review process and thus lead to losing 5% of your grade.

If your final version is late, 2% (on 100 scale) will be deducted for every 24 hours your paper is late. So if the paper is due at noon but submitted at 5:00 PM, 83% will become 81%.

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