

Rutgers University Graduate School of Education

Fall 2021

295:512 Introduction to Child Psychology Sec. 90

Professor Lorraine McCune

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Textbooks:

Boyd & Bee (2013) *The Developing Child* 13th Edition ID=2723109

NY: Pearson Education, Inc. Listed by Chapter and/or page numbers in the schedule.

Piaget, L. & Inhelder (1969) *The Psychology of the Child* Listed as P&I in assignments

Course Description: This course will introduce students to developmental psychology. While emphasis is on childhood, we also address adolescent and family issues.

Course Requirements

1. Weekly questions and comments regarding the readings. 30%

3. Critical abstract of a research article. 15 % Type the reference to the article in APA style at the top of your paper. Approximate length 1000 words. Post on the class website. Due date on the calendar that follows. **Due 10/3**

4. Observations of infant, toddler or child. 25% Approximately 6 observations should be made. Post notes regarding your observation within 24 hours of completing it. Observation Reflection. Due date on the calendar that follows. **Observation Report Due 11/28**

Term paper. Term paper (30%). About 2,500 to 3,000 words in length reviewing a topic of your choice

Topic Due October 28; Paper Due November 25.

295:512 Fall 2021 Weekly Topics and Assignments Draft July 28, 2021

Week 1 September 1-8 : Introduction

Text Chapters 1 and 3

Theories and Processes of Development

What is the newborn and young infant like?

Week 2 Sept.17 Introduction to Piagetian Theory

Piaget & Inhelder (1969) 1-27

Boyd & Bee Ch 6 Cognitive Development I **pp 135-142**

Blackburn (undated) Infant sleep and awake states

Week 3 Sept 24:

Sensorimotor and Early Symbolic DevelopmentPiaget Chapter 3 **only pp 51-68****McCune (1986)**

Boyd & Bee Ch 4 pp 81-88 (Brain), Ch 5 Perceptual Development;

Fraiberg (1977);

Week 4 Oct 1:

Language Acquisition

In Boyd & Bee: Ch 8 pp 191-221

Dore et al. (1976)

McCune & Zlatev (2015)

Optional- more detail on the research behind McCune & Zlatev (2015)

McCune (1995)

Oct 7: Critical Abstract Due**Week 5 Oct 8**

Bilingualism

In Boyd & Bee: pp 211-213; But beware of the box! Cautions against bilingualism is misplaced

the so-called "negatives" are not real problems!

Fiero-Cobas & Chan (2001 --What is bilingualism?*

Bialystok (2015)*

And Choose one:

Kwon (2015) -- A term paper from this class on bi-literacy (choose this or)

Crawford (2000) -- Politics of bilingual education

Week 6 Oct 15: Concrete Operations

Ch 6 Cognitive Development II Concrete Operations pp 143-152; P&I 92-114;

Kamii (2004) block building and logical thought

Week 7 Oct 22:

Formal Operations

Ch 6 Cognitive Development 152-156; P&I pp 130-140; 149-159

Dimant & Bearison (1991) Peer Interaction and formal Operations

<http://www.simplypsychology.org/formal-operational.html>

Week 8 Oct 29 Attachment and Development: Back to Infancy!

Text 266-277

Karen (1990)

Mahler (1972)

Term Paper Topic due October 28; Paper due Posted online November 25

Week 9 Nov 5 Development across the Lifespan + Physical Development

Boyd & Bee Ch 9 Personality; Ch 4 Physical Development; Gender Identity

Read:

Erikson & Erikson: (1981) On identity and Generativity

Skim through:

Erikson (1950) Eight Ages of Man: From Infancy across the Lifespan (Classic, but dated)

Gender Identity Readings in Doc sharing:

Introduction to the topic to paste in your browser:

<https://login.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=ers&AN=93871991&site=eds-live>

Gender- Rethinking in 2017

Gender identity and Development (Time Magazine)

Gender identity New Zealand

Week 10 Nov 12: **Children with Disabilities:**I do not recommend reading Chapter 15 on Atypical Development. It is completely out of date!

Articles from docsharing

Phillips & Malloy (2012)

Blane et al. 2008 importance of early intervention in autism

McCune & Ruff (1985) on facilitating play

Article from the webliography

Autism: Kids who beat it- from the New York Times

Websites

*Early Intervention in New Jersey

*Special Education Law in New Jersey: Check out information within the site on "preschool disabled" policies.

*Autism-related diagnoses from the DSM V

Week 11 November 19

Chapter 13 Systems in Development

Progress Reports on Observations and Term Papers

Week 12 -November 25

The Broader Culture: Beyond the Family

Ch 14 and Read two articles of your choice about child care (**Folder in doc sharing**)

Week-December 3

Transitions from Childhood to Adolescence and Adulthood

Read Chapters 10 in Boyd and Bee and the Epilogue pp 400-419.

Gladwell (2015) and Suicide Prevention Hotline in doc sharing

Week 14 Dec 10: **Topics from Your Papers**

Week15 Dec 17: **Topics from Your papers**

Guidelines for Writing the Critical Abstract and Observation Reflection Paper

Article Critique Due October 10

- 1) Choose an article from a professional journal that publishes research pertaining to developmental psychology. Examples of acceptable journals are: *Developmental Psychology*, *Cognition*, *Journal of Child Language*, *Child Development*, *Infant Behavior and Development*, *Psychological Review*, *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology* and *Infant Mental Health Journal*. The article must be from a peer reviewed journal; it must be empirical (i.e. it should not be a literature review/summary – check that participants are cited), it should not include more than 2 experiments and should not involve undecipherable (on your part) statistics.
- 2) The critique should be headed with a proper citation of your article. The following is an example of a proper citation.

Zheng, M. and Goldin-Meadow, S. (2002). Thought before language: how deaf and hearing children express motion events across cultures. *Cognition*. 85, 145-175.
- 3) The paper should include a summary of each of the four parts of a research article, namely the Introduction/Literature Review section, the Methodology section, the Results section, and the Conclusion/Discussion section.
- 4) The paper should also include a thoughtful critique of each relevant section. For example, are the researcher's questions important and hypotheses reasonable? Does the researcher use sound methodology or do you see problems? Are the results that are cited clear and accurate? Are the researcher's conclusions valid given the presented evidence? What are the shortcomings/limitations of the research reported in the article? Can you think of other possible investigations that would further our understanding of the topic addressed in the article?
- 5) The paper should be approximately 1,000 words.

Observation Reflection Paper

The objective of this reflection paper is to identify and state a theme that emerges from your observations. You should see the same child at each observation. A theme relevant to developmental psychology will emerge as you observe the child. This will be something about the child that is relatively consistent, of importance to his/her development and of interest to you. In the reflection paper you will identify the theme and then discuss how your observations of the child support the theme. For example, suppose your theme concerns the social interaction of the child. You could provide examples of his/her interactions with peers and teachers and reflect on whether the child's social behavior is typical or atypical of his/her age group. This paper should be approximately 1,000 words in length.