

Child Development

Fall 2009

Instructor: Patricia Fields

Department Chair: Diana Stuart

Arts and Science Dean: K. Crecelius

COURSE TITLE: CHILD DEVELOPMENT
COURSE NUMBER: EDU1300
INSTRUCTOR: PATRICIA FIELDS

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Questions or concerns should be posted Monday through Friday before 12:00 p.m. in order for the instructor to respond the same day. The instructor will make every attempt to respond to the student within a twenty-four hour period.

Office location: Arts and Science Building- Office #26

Phone: (573) 518-2128

Email: pfields@mineralarea.edu

Technical Support: Help Desk- Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm., and Saturday 9am to 5pm.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to provide the correct technology in accessing the web course information.

Text: Childhood Voyages in Development, Third Edition. Rathus.

Materials: The student will need the following:

- 1. Internet access to complete weekly assignments, quizzes, and discussions.**
- 2. Flexibility of time to complete required observations for the semester project final.**

To access the web course:

1. The course is managed through Web-Ct: www.gatewayccc.org
2. The student should be able to log into the web-ct course the Saturday before classes begin on campus. If the student enrolls AFTER the first Monday of classes, please email the instructor at [www.pfields@mineralarea.edu](mailto:pfields@mineralarea.edu) so the process can be started.
3. After logging into the web-ct course at the above web address, the student will enter the user name as follows: first initial of the first name and last name (all in lower case). I.e. pfields
4. The password is the same as the user name.
5. Once you are in the course you will have the option to change the password.
 - If for some reason this does not work, please call the web-ct Help Desk at (866) 522-1472. You may need to be assigned a different user name and password.
6. You will “click” on the course name.
7. This will bring you to the Home Page.
8. The student is responsible to read ALL ICONS on the Home Page to gain a better understanding of how the course works.
9. There are five icons the student will use each week to complete assigned work: Starting the Course; Calendar; Weekly Assignments; Discussion Board; and Course Information.

Course Description:

The course explores the history and theories concerning the development of children from conception through adolescence. Developmental ages and stages are discussed in conjunction with current theories. Application and knowledge of the child's development is done through limited observation.

Course Requirements:

Mineral Area College is committed to excellence in the teacher education and child development programs, and it has implemented criminal background checks for all students enrolled in education or child development classes that require any field work or practicum observation experiences with children. Child Development **REQUIRES** a background check **BEFORE** any field work/observations can be completed.

Students must complete the application process of the background check within the first two weeks of the semester. The process is required prior to conducting field work or practicum/observations. Failure to have the criminal background check completed can result in the student's ability to participate in the Mineral Area College's EDU or ECE classes.

Note: see the "Criminal Background" icon on the Home Page for specific details.

Learning Objectives:

- 1. To identify child development history, theories, and current trends.**
- 2. To explore methods of observations of the developing child.**
- 3. To explore both normal and abnormal prenatal development during pregnancy and its affects on all future development.**
- 4. To identify defining characteristics of ages and stages of development through observation methods of the child in his or her natural environmental setting.**
- 5. To explore the theory of heredity versus environment and its effects on development of the child.**
- 6. To apply theories of development during infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence.**

Learning Experiences

- 1. Weekly discussion topic**
- 2. Research/Reflection**
- 3. Application of Theory**

4. Observations
5. Quizzes

Student Evaluation

1. Quizzes: 15@ 20 points.....300 pts.
2. Featured Weekly Assignments: 15 @ 25 points....375 pts.
3. Discussion Topic/Response: 14 @ 10 points.....140 pts.
4. Semester (Observation) Project100 pts.
5. On-campus final.....100 pts.

Total Points Possible: 1015 points

Final Grading Scale

- 92- 100 % = A
82- 91% = B
72- 81% = C
62- 71% = D

Special Policies

A. Attendance/guidelines for completion of on-line work: Weekly assignments are due each Saturday at midnight. NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE ASSIGNED Due DATE.

The on-line course has been designed to allow the student to arrange the completion of work according to the student's schedule as long as weekly deadlines are met. It is recommended that the student set aside a minimum of five hours per week for each three-hour web course. The five hours include reading, study, quiz, discussion topic and response, and the featured weekly assignment. The only time constraint is the discussion topic and response. All other assigned work, the student can complete within a 24/7 time line.

The course assignments follow the same schedule as on-campus courses. The student may access the web course the weekend prior to the first week of scheduled classes. During the spring

semester, the campus schedule allows one week for spring break. The break is also observed for all on-line courses. Note: Please refer to the calendar icon for all scheduled assignments and holidays.

B. Drop Policy: The following will constitute an instructor dropping a student from the web course:

- **No oral or written contact has been made by the student within two weeks of scheduled dates of the web course.**
- **No oral or written contact from the student for two consecutive weeks during the semester.**
- **Academic dishonesty.**

C. Academic Honesty: Students who engage in dishonest acts such as plagiarism or any other forms of misrepresenting another's work for their own work will be notified by the instructor that they are receiving a "0" for the assignment. All work must be cited and referenced unless it is the student's own creation and thought. Students who wish to appeal the decision of the instructor on a matter of dishonesty may do so under the Procedural Policy for Disciplinary Action. (Under this policy, the student is subject to suspension from the college for acts of dishonesty).

- a. **Special Needs: Please notify the instructor of any modifications or adaptations to on-line materials, instructional needs, or personal health needs that may restrict the learning process. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate these needs.**

D. Honors Option: Students who wish to contract for honors in this class may do so by contacting the instructor the first two weeks of the course. The honors assignment is a research paper on an assigned child development theorist

Welcome: To Child development, a course for students wanting to learn about how children ages birth through adolescence develop as a result of their environment.

Methods

Each weekly assignment will include a discussion topic that the instructor has assigned to create a mind set for the chapter's study. The discussion board is used as a "virtual" classroom. As the students and instructor engage in discussion concerning the assigned topic each week, it provides an opportunity to discuss and explore both the chapter's reading and the student's understanding of the material. The student will have the opportunity to discuss and apply the learning with others in the class. This also provides an opportunity for the instructor to enhance the students' understanding of the materials.

The student will respond to another student's posted discussion by Friday at midnight. See the home page icon, "Starting the Course" for more information on the posted discussion and the response.

In addition to the discussion topic and response, the student will write a reflection on an assigned topic from the chapter. The reflection provides the student the opportunity to apply the learned knowledge to future work with children. Note: the assignment is found in "Featured Weekly Assignment" (FWA).

The student then takes a weekly quiz to evaluate the learning process. It is strongly recommended that the student read the chapter and engage in discussion before attempting the quiz.

A semester project is used to evaluate the student's understanding and application of the child's development in all ages and stages (birth through adolescence). The student must have completed the Criminal Background check and gained the instructor's permission of the site before ANY observation can be completed.

Weekly Assignments:

- 1. There is an assigned reflection based on the chapter's reading each week (1 through 15).**
- 2. There is an assigned discussion and response to another student based on the chapter's reading each week (1 through 14).**
- 3. There is an assigned quiz based on the chapter's reading each week (1 through 15).**

Additional Assignments

- 4. Semester Project:** The student will be required to complete four (preapproved) observations of the four ages and stages of children birth through adolescence. Appropriate developmental terminology will be applied in the final case studies.
- 5. On-campus Final:** The final is posted on the Home Page icon, “Calendar” the first two weeks of class. The student must attend the final or receive an “F”.

Performance and Participation

The student must remember this is a web class. The student is required to maintain weekly contact with the instructor through the Private Mail system within the web-ct course. If for some reason the student cannot access the web address, the student is to email the instructor at www.pfields@mineralarea.edu or (573) 518-2128. Failure to do so may result in the student being dropped from the course. This also includes communication from the student concerning technical or personal reasons for the assignment to be late. The communication must be received by the instructor the same week the assignment is due.

Keys for Success

The instructor values the importance of gaining knowledge in the developing child, and application of the development in the child’s environment. Adults working with children can use this knowledge in planning a developmentally appropriate environment. The following provides an outline for the students’ evaluation by the instructor and learning of the course materials.

- 1. Read chapter materials before attempting to post the weekly discussion and response, assignment, and quiz.**
- 2. Read the weekly assignments in their entirety. If you have any questions or concerns about the assignment, email the instructor no later than Thursday to assure you receive help before the assignment is due on Saturday.**

- 3. Refer to calendar on Home Page for due dates of assignments. The instructor will not accept late work. The student will receive a “0” for the assignment regardless of why the assignment was late.**
- 4. Email the instructor if you are having difficulties in completing the scheduled work as soon as possible (the same week the assignment is due).**

NOTE: On-line courses require the student to be an independent learner who is well-disciplined in completing work within a seven day period. The comprehension of both materials and assignments are an important part of taking on-line courses. Please let the instructor know within the first two weeks if you are having difficulty. The instructor can meet with the student during scheduled office hours or arrangements can be made to meet at other times that are agreeable to both parties.