



Department of Psychology

Psychology 429 (L02) –Adolescence

Winter Session 2008

Instructor:	Dr. Kimberley Vaughan	Lecture Location:	Scurfield Hall 284
Phone:	220-2242 (U of C office) or 637-3939 (my home office)	Lecture Days/Time:	T/R 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.
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Office:	Administration 257D		
Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

This course is intended to provide an in-depth examination of the physical, cognitive, emotional and social changes occurring during adolescence, drawing upon history, theory and relevant research. There is a required laboratory component in which students will carry out research on a topic regarding adolescent development.

Course objectives

- To introduce students to the theories, methodologies, issues, and current experimental findings in the field of adolescent development
- To encourage students to think critically about conceptual and empirical issues
- To provide students with direct experience reading empirical articles and conducting adolescent study techniques (designed and conducted in small groups in the lab)
- To provide students with experience in giving oral presentations and in writing research reports

Lectures are intended to highlight and extend, rather than summarize, assigned readings. Students will benefit most from lectures if they read the assigned material prior to the corresponding lecture. Discussion is highly encouraged and questions are invited during lectures. If you have questions or concerns please raise them – either in class or out (emailing me or calling my home office number are the best ways to contact me).

Required Text

Steinberg, L. (2007). *Adolescence*, Eighth Edition. NY: McGraw-Hill. This text provides important background reading for the topics covered in this course. It is available at the University Bookstore. Used copies are available at the used bookstore.

In order to best fulfill the needs of the course the remainder of the course readings will be drawn from several sources, including original journal articles. A list of the additional required readings is provided later in this outline. All readings are available on line, using the University of Calgary online library.

Evaluation:

Mid term exam	35% of final grade (March 6 th)
Laboratory Work	30% of final grade
Final Exam	35% of final grade; to be scheduled by the Registrar

- Exams will not be cumulative. The exams will be based on material from the lectures, textbook and videos. The format will consist of a combination of multiple choice and short essay questions.

Please note:

- The following percentages indicate the standard required for each letter grade. These may be lowered but will not be raised.

Final letter grades for the course will be assigned as follows:

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	Less than 50%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%, etc.).

Topic Schedule:

This schedule is a guideline only. Specific lecture topics may vary from time to time.

Date	Topic	Required Reading
Jan. 15 th	Intro to course/ review course outline	none
Jan. 17 th	Biological Transitions	Chapter 1
Jan 22 nd	Biological Trnasitions	Chapter 1
Jan 24 th	Cognitive Transitions	Chapter 2
Jan 29 th	Cognitive Transitions	Chapter 2
Jan. 31 st	Social Transitions	Chapter 3
Feb. 5 th	Social Transitions	Chapter 3
Feb. 7 th	Family	Chapter 4
Feb. 12 th	Family	Chapter 4
Feb. 14 th	Peer Groups	Chapter 5
Feb. 19 th , 21 st	NO CLASS – READING WEEK	
Feb. 26 th	Peer Groups	Chapter 5
Feb. 28 th	Schools	Chapter 6
March 4 th	Schools	Chapter 6
March 6 th	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-6)	
March 11 th	Work and Leisure	Chapter 7
March 13 th	Work and Leisure	Chapter 7

March 18 th	Identity	Chapter 8
March 20 th	Identity	Chapter 8
March 25 th	Autonomy	Chapter 9
March 27 th	Autonomy	Chapter 9
April 1 st	Intimacy	Chapter 10
April 3 rd	Intimacy	Chapter 10
April 8 th	Sexuality	Chapter 11
April 10 th	Sexuality	Chapter 11
April 15 th	Psychosocial Problems	Chapter 13
April 17 th	Psychosocial Problems	Chapter 13
FINAL EXAM (Chapters 7-11, 13; TO BE SCHEDULED BY THE REGISTRAR)		

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

- 1) This course addresses the following **core competencies**:
 - Critical and creative thinking
 - Analysis of problems
 - Effective oral and written communication
 - Gathering and organizing information
 - Logical calculation, mathematical ability
 - Abstract reasoning and its applications
 - Insight and intuition in generating knowledge
 - Interpretive and assessment skills

With the following **course characteristics**:

- Class discussion is encouraged in both lectures and laboratories; students are prompted to think critically about course material.
- Students are required to design research projects which will involve integrating previous research, critically evaluating and analyzing existing issues and questions, and reasoning about research implications
- Students will be required to carry out research including data collection, statistical analyses and interpretation.
- Students will present the results of their research both orally and in written form.
- Examinations will be multiple choice and short essay in format and require that students both understand the content material presented in lectures and in their textbook as well as are able to think critically about the important issues

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and **have not** registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not

eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Course Credits for Research Participation

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. **The last day to participate in research is April 17, 2008.**

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is January 25, 2008. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 18, 2008.