Outline of Instruction

Division: Science/Mathematics  Area: Psychology
Course Number: PSYCH 251  Course Name: Child Psychology
Prerequisite: PSYCH 151  Corequisite: NONE
Hours Required: Class: 45  Lab: 0  Credits: 3 (three)

Course Description/Purpose

This course involves the investigation of the child’s emotional, intellectual, social and physical development from birth to age 12. The purpose of this course is to provide students with scientific facts of children’s behavior for study, presented along with practical application for parents, teachers, etc.

Major Units

• Your Inner Child of the Past
• Who One’s Feelings may be Disturbing
• How Child of the Past Influences Present
• How Attitudes about Childhood Mislead Us
• When the Child of the Past Takes Over
• Are You Divided Against Yourself
• It Takes Four to Make a Marriage
• Areas of Conflict—Money, Sex, Fun
• What Type of Child Were You
• Becoming a New Parent to Yourself
• Perfectionism
• Overcoercion
• Oversubmissiveness
• Overindulgence
• Hypochondriasis
• Punitiveness

• Neglect
• Rejection
• Sexuality
• Child Psychology—Theories, Issues, and Methods
• Heredity & Environment
• Prenatal Development
• Birth and the Newborn
• Physical Development in Infancy & Toddlerhood
• Cognitive Development in Infancy & Toddlerhood
• Personality/Social Development in Infancy & Toddlerhood
• Physical Development in Early Childhood
• Cognitive Development in Early Childhood
• Personality/Social Development in Early Childhood
• Physical Development in Middle Childhood
• Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood
• Personality/Social Development in Middle Childhood

Educational/Course Outcomes

Student learning will be assessed by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, quizzes and tests, journals, essays, papers, projects, laboratory/clinical exercises and examinations, presentations, simulations, portfolios, homework assignments, and instructor observations.
Cognitive  Each student will be expected to Identify/Recognize . . .

• and communicate understanding of the various facts and scientific principles in child psychology;

• information that can be utilized to provide helpful “guidance counseling” to the child in practical settings: home, school, society;

• skills to conduct a psychological project related to children’s behavior; requires a review of literature of the selected topic, methodology (designing the study), collecting data, analyzing and discussing results, and including a summary and reference section to the written report;

• and summarize the major points of verbalizations, reactionary, and/or pen pal letters; relate their own/others behavior to the course content.

Performance Each student will be expected to Demonstrate/Practice . . .

• and verbally describe, discuss, or explain the various concepts, terms, and findings in the child psychology textbook;

• experience with group verbalization settings where each becomes psychologically and verbally self-confident, and develop understanding and appreciation for the field of child psychology;

• experience with exponential periods where student relates course content to own/others childhood years for self-understanding, and application to the world of children.