Course Overview

Instructor: Sara Stacy, MA (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Email: stacysar@msu.edu, preferred form of communication
Virtual Office Hours: Zoom meetings, by appointment (see below)
   For all course matters, please remember that Michigan State University is in the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone.

Course Description
PSY 244 covers prenatal development through middle childhood, focusing on changes in the brain and body, cognition, emotions, personality, contexts of development, and interpersonal relationships.

Course Goals
In this course, you will analyze key issues of child development including major theories and concepts of development, as well as major researchers and theorists. This course will help you understand the methods used in developmental psychology and to think critically when analyzing developmental research. The materials will help you gain awareness and demonstrate how individuals stay the same over time (continuities) and how individuals change (discontinuities). By the end of this course, you will learn how to interact sensitively with children and to apply the ideas learned to your own life experiences.

Virtual Office Hours
If you would like to have a more in-depth discussion with me, please email me to schedule an appointment. Once we have decided on a time, please send me a zoom link via email with “PSY 244” in the subject line. If you haven’t used Zoom before, it is free and easy to use. As an MSU student, you can create a free account.

Email Etiquette
If you need help with course-related matter, I invite you to please review the syllabus first. If you still have questions after reading the syllabus, please feel free to contact me via email with “PSY 244” in the subject line. For example, “PSY 244: Technical Issues.” I will respond to your message within 24 hours of receiving it Monday-Friday. Any messages received over the weekend will receive a response by the following Monday afternoon.

Required Textbook & Course Materials
  (*Note: Please make sure that you have the correct edition, as all course materials and the overall structure of the course are selected from this book.)
- Access to Desire2Learn (D2L)
- High speed (broadband) internet connection
- Adobe Flash Player must be installed and allowed to run (to see/hear lectures and other class materials).
Course Information & Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through the Desire2Learn (D2L) course management system (https://d2l.msu.edu/) and the Macmillian Learning LaunchPad (https://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/bergerca11e/13432082)

In D2L, you will access all course lectures, materials, quizzes, exams, and grades. On the Macmillian Learning LaunchPad, you will access the textbook and LaunchPad assignments. Please note that the lectures for the course are pre-recorded and are not narrated by the current instructor.

The course is structured using a weekly framework. Course materials for the following week will be released at 5pm on Friday. Once course materials are available, you may access them throughout the rest of the semester.

Each week, you will be asked to do the following activities:
- Review recorded lectures;
- Read and review relevant book chapters;
- Engage in virtual discussion;
- Complete interactive LaunchPad activities; and
- Complete a quiz or test.

Workload

Online summer courses are very time intensive. Please plan to spend around 4 hours per day, 5 days a week working on PSY 244. This includes time spent: reading the textbook, viewing lectures, working on assignments, taking quizzes, engaging in discussion, and studying the material. The best way to be successful in this course is to stay on top of the material.

Remember, we will be covering the same material that is normally covered over the course of an entire semester in 7 weeks, so you should commit yourself to working hard during this time. I would not advise planning a vacation in the middle of this class. If these considerations do not fit with your plans or personality, then please consider dropping this course as soon as possible. Additionally, you must have access to the required online textbook to succeed in this course.

Getting Started

To register for MacMillan Learning LaunchPad:
1. Go to https://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/bergerca11e/13432082
   Note: Bookmarking the page will make the URL look different due to security measures.
2. Enroll in this course using one of the following options:
   a. If you have an access code, select "I have a student access code", enter the code exactly as it appears on the card, and click Submit.
   b. If you don't have an access code, either purchase a text package that includes one OR click "I want to purchase access" and follow the instructions.
   c. If you need to start working but can't purchase right away, select "I want temporary access" and follow the instructions. Please note: Your grades are linked to your Launchpad account username (email address). If you use temporary access, make sure you purchase or register your code using the same email address for your paid access.

If you have any problems registering, purchasing, or logging in, please contact MacMillan Customer Support at (800) 936-6899.
Course Assignments

Orientation Quiz
In week one, you will complete a brief quiz based on syllabus content. You will have 30 minutes to complete this quiz starting from the time you begin the quiz. Once you complete the orientation quiz with a score of 85% (or higher) the content for Week One will be available in D2L.

Due: Saturday, May 16th 5pm (EDT)

LaunchPad Activities
Each of the assigned chapters on LaunchPad contain a collection of interactive activities: LearningCurve assignments and Video Activities, and chapter quizzes. Each week, you must complete a minimum of 2 activities in LaunchPad for the assigned chapters that week. Each activity is worth 5 points and I will take the highest 2 scores of any activities you complete. I would suggest completing all LearningCurve assignments and Video Activities for each assigned chapter as this will help you to prepare for course quizzes and exams. However, only your 2 highest activity scores for the assigned chapters will count toward your grade.

Due: Saturdays by 11:59 PM (EDT)
Total Points: 10 points per week, 60 total points available

Discussion Posts
Discussion posts offer a way for us to engage in conversation together to support each other’s learning. In the first week of class, you will be assigned to a discussion group. Each week, you will be asked to complete discussion posts within your assigned group: 1 starter and 2 responses. Each discussion starter is worth up to 5 points, and discussion responses will be worth up to 2.5 each (a total of 10 possible points each week). To receive full credit, you must post both a discussion starter and two discussion responses.

- Discussion Starter: One starter, due Thursday 11:59 PM (EDT) of each week
- Discussion Responses: Two responses, due Sunday 11:59 PM (EDT) of each week

You may choose to drop or skip up to 5 points for discussion posts, meaning you may choose to not post one starter or two responses throughout the duration of the class.

For all posts, please use the following guidelines for respectful online engagement:
All discussion posts (starters and responses) will be graded for content, not just completion. To receive full credit, discussion starters and responses must:
- Include critical reflection and a question for classmates to respond to.
- Demonstrate engagement with material and encourage deeper learning.
- Be thoughtful and respectful, as if you were talking face-to-face with a classmate.
- Continue existing conversation. Before responding to a post, make sure to read any responses or questions from other classmates. Please don’t simply reuse other classmates’ ideas as your own (this is plagiarism).

Discussion posts that include any of the following will not receive full credit:
- Questions that have a clear answer in the text or lectures (For example, “What are the levels of the Bronfenbrenner model?”)
- Questions that express disagreement without support (For example, “I think the Psychosocial theory is too simple and not relevant anymore.”)
- Explicit or implicit disrespect of a student or their ideas (For example, “I think (student name)’s post is not worthy of further discussion because they misspelled Freud and put incorrect page numbers for their quotes.”)
I will remove any discussion posts that violate these standards of respectful online engagement. Anyone who makes a post that violates these standards will receive an email from the instructor explaining how the standards were violated. The student will have one opportunity to submit a post that adheres to these standards. If a comment/response from that student violates these community standards a second time, the student will be moved to a private discussion board shared only with the instructor.

**Point Values for Discussion Posts**

**Discussion starters** will be worth up to five points each. Points will be assigned in the following ways:

- **0 points:** No post was made or the post does not express any critical engagement with the material; Posts are off topic or not related to course material. Any posts that violate the standards of respectful online engagement will receive 0 points.
- **2.5 points:** Post was on topic or relevant to course material but the post does not engage critically with course material; Post is only one or two brief sentences.
- **5 points:** The post includes thoughtful response, expresses critical engagement with the material, and demonstrates students’ mastery of course content. Post is longer than one or two sentences.

**Discussion responses** will be worth up to 2.5 points each. Points will be assigned in the following ways:

- **0 points:** No responses were made or the response does not express any critical engagement with the material; Posts are off topic or not related to course material. Any posts that violate the standards of respectful online engagement will receive 0 points.
- **1.25 point:** Response was on topic or relevant to course material but the response does not engage critically with course material; Post is only one or two brief sentences.
- **2.5 points:** The post includes a thoughtful response, expresses critical engagement with the material, and demonstrates students’ mastery of course content. Post is longer than one or two brief sentences.

**Quizzes**

In weeks 2 through 6, you will complete an open book quiz each week. Each quiz contains 40 questions. You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz starting from the time you begin the quiz. Quizzes will be open on D2L for a 24-hour period starting at 5 PM EDT on Friday until 5 PM EDT on Saturday each week. There is no back-tracking during quizzes; after you answer a question, you cannot return and change your answer later. Each week, you may review incorrect responses from 6 PM EDT on Saturday until Monday at 8 AM of the following week. You may take notes about individual topics that you want to study but you cannot recopy the entire question. You may not download or copy the questions themselves. Quiz questions will not available later in the semester.

Due: Must be completed by 5pm (EDT) on Saturday each week

Points: 40 points available per Quiz, 200 total points available throughout the course

**Final Exam**

In week 7, you will complete a comprehensive open book, open notes final exam, containing 50 questions. You will have 80 minutes to complete the final exam, starting from the time you begin the exam. It will open on D2L for a 32-hour period from 9 AM EDT on Wednesday June 24th, until 5 PM EDT Thursday June 25th. There is no back-tracking during the final exam; after you
answer a question, you will not be able to return and change your answer later. You will be able to review incorrect responses from 6 PM EDT on Thursday June 25th, until 2 PM EDT on Saturday, June 27th.  

**Due:** 5 PM (EDT) on Thursday, June 25th  
**Total Points:** 50 points

### Grading Criteria

#### Final Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Total Possible Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LaunchPad Assignments</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Posts (starters &amp; responses)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Quizzes</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>370</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There will be no extra credit.*

#### Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>333 – 370</td>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>314.50 – 332.99</td>
<td>85 - 89.99</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>296 – 314.49</td>
<td>80 - 84.99</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>277.50 – 295.99</td>
<td>75 - 79.99</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>259 – 277.49</td>
<td>70 - 74.99</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240.5 – 258.99</td>
<td>65 - 69.99</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>222 – 240.49</td>
<td>60 - 64.99</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 222</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is good practice to regularly check your grades throughout the semester. If you think an error has been made in calculating your grade, please send the instructor an email detailing the error in grade calculation. It is preferable that you send me any errors so as soon as possible (for each assignment). All emails regarding grades and assignments must be sent by 3 PM EDT on Saturday, June 27th. At the end of the semester, I will check your grade and change it if I find an error has been made. This is the only circumstance in which I will change a grade. I will adhere to the cutoffs described above.

*All grades will be submitted after 3 PM EDT on Saturday, June 27th.*

#### Troubleshooting Challenges

*If you cannot see or hear any lecture or class materials on D2L:* ensure that you have Adobe Flash Player installed and enabled (on your computer and internet browser).

*If you experience other technical problems on D2L:* contact Service Desk right away. Help is available 24 hours/7 days a week. I have found this resource to be very supportive when I have any issues or questions, so don’t hesitate to call them. They will log your problem and report the details to me. Even if it is a problem with your computer, they can help you troubleshoot. Please email me once you have reported your issue with the Service Desk.
If you experience any problems with the LaunchPad website, contact their Customer Support right away. Representatives are available 24 hours/7 days a week. Again, please email me once you have reported your issue with LaunchPad’s Customer Support.

LaunchPad Customer Support
Website: https://macmillan.force.com/macmillanlearning/s/?View=contact
Phone: (800) 936-6899

Not much can be done if you wait 1 or 2 days after an issue has occurred to contact the Help Lines or the instructor. These customer support services are available for you 24/7 throughout the course to support any challenges you experience.

Due to the online nature of this class, it is your responsibility to ensure you have access to a computer and highspeed internet when all assignments are due. If your connection is down when it is time to turn in an assignment, it is your responsibility to get internet access ASAP.

Course Policies

Timeliness & Late Work Policy
It is your responsibility to ensure you adhere to Eastern Daylight Time Zone for all assignments, no matter where you are physically located when they are due. Extensions on missed assignments, quizzes, or the final exam deadlines will not be given except for unexpected and documented medical emergencies. If you need an extension for any other reason, it must be University sanctioned. Late work will not be accepted.

Course Participation
Students are expected to complete all activities listed in the course schedule. If you miss more than three consecutive weeks of the class (e.g., you do not participate in discussions, activities, or assignments) and have not communicated to be excused from the class, you will receive a failing grade of 0.0 for the course.

Academic Dishonesty
All forms of cheating are unacceptable. Students are expected to complete quizzes and tests individually, without outside help. Further information about cheating can be found on a website provided by the MSU Ombudsman website: (https://www.msu.edu/~ombud/academic-integrity/student-faq.html). Make sure you are familiar with MSU definitions regarding academic dishonesty. Ignorance is not an excuse.

Any student that violates MSU rules (i.e. is caught cheating on any assignment) will receive a ZERO for the course, the incident will appear permanently on the students’ record, and the case will be brought to the attention of the Psychology Department advisors who may take further action.

Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." The Department of Psychology adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in
General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; see https://www.msu.edu/~ombud/academicintegrity/index.html.

Limits to Confidentiality
Essays, journals, or other materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies. However, students should be aware that University employees—including instructors—may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others. As the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the Department of Police and Public Safety):

- Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child
- Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff
- Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting you are encouraged to make an appointment with:

**MSU Counseling & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)**
Olin Health Center, 3rd Floor
463 East Circle Dr. East Lansing, MI 48824
(517) 355-8270
https://caps.msu.edu/

Accommodations for Disabilities
Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD). It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to RCPD and meet with an RCPD specialist to request special accommodation before classes start.

Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation (“VISA”) form. Please present this form to the instructor at the **start of the term or 48 hours before the accommodation date** (e.g., test, assignment, etc.). Requests received after this deadline will be honored when possible.

**Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)**
120 Bessey Hall East Lansing, MI 48824
517-884-7273 (517-884-RCPD)

Dropping the course
It is your responsibility to understand when/how you are able to un-enroll from a course. Please refer to the Michigan State University Office of the Registrar for important deadlines.

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to adjust the course according to the pace of the course and the needs of the students. This also includes making any changes that I deem necessary to the details and/or policies listed in this syllabus. **Please check D2L regularly to keep up with any course changes.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Course Lectures &amp; Videos (D2L)</th>
<th>LaunchPad Assignments</th>
<th>Discussion Posts</th>
<th>Quiz or Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Video: Academic Integrity</td>
<td>Chapter 1:</td>
<td>Starter: Due Thursday, May 14 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Orientation Quiz: Due Saturday, May 16 (5 PM EDT)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lectures: Intro &amp; Research (Part 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>Due Saturday, May 16 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Responses: Due Sunday, May 17 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Theories</td>
<td>Lectures: Theory, Parts 1-4</td>
<td>Chapter 2:</td>
<td>Starter: Due Thursday, May 21 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Quiz 1: Due Saturday, May 23 (5 PM EDT)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due Saturday, May 23 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Responses: Due Sunday, May 24 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
<td>Heredity &amp; Environment, Prenatal Development &amp; Birth</td>
<td>Lectures: Ch 3, Parts 1-4 Ch 4, Parts 1-4</td>
<td>Chapters 3 &amp; 4:</td>
<td>Starter: Due Thursday, May 28 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Quiz 2: Due Saturday, May 30 (5 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>Due Saturday, May 30 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Responses: Due Sunday, May 31 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>5, 6, 7</td>
<td>Infant &amp; Toddler Years</td>
<td>Lectures: Ch 5, Parts 1-4 Ch 6, Parts 1-5 Ch 7, Parts 1-5</td>
<td>Chapters 5, 6, &amp; 7:</td>
<td>Starter: Due Thursday, June 4 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Quiz 3: Due Saturday, June 6 (5 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>Due Saturday, June 6 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Responses: Due Sunday, June 7 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>8, 9, 10</td>
<td>Early Childhood</td>
<td>Lectures: Ch 8, Parts 1-4 Ch 9, Parts 1-3 Ch 10, Parts 1-4</td>
<td>Chapters 8, 9, &amp; 10:</td>
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<td>Quiz 4: Due Saturday, June 13 (5 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>Due Saturday, June 13 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Responses: Due Sunday, June 14 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>11, 12, 13</td>
<td>Middle Childhood</td>
<td>Lectures: Ch 11, Parts 1-3 Ch 12, Parts 1-4 Ch 13, Parts 1-5</td>
<td>Chapters 11, 12, &amp; 13</td>
<td>Starter: Due Thursday, June 18 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Quiz 5: Due Saturday, June 20 (5 PM EDT)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Due Saturday, June 20 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Responses: Due Sunday, June 21 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>Conception - Puberty</td>
<td>No new material, review all previous chapters</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Starter: Due Thursday, June 25 (11:59 PM EDT)</td>
<td>Final Exam: Due Thursday, June 25 (5 PM EDT)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: On D2L, there are additional (optional) videos to watch about special course topics. These are included to help connect course concepts to your everyday life and may be good topics for conversation in our discussion boards.