



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

# PSY 231 Child Development

Fall 2023

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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This course offers an introduction to students on the theory of child development. The major topics of this course cover the theory and research in child development, foundations of development, cognitive and language development, personality and social development, as well as the context for development. The specific topics that will be discussed in this course include neural, perceptual, social, and emotional child development.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental theories and research methodologies in child development;
2. Identify the contextual factors that influence child development, such as family, culture, and socioeconomic status;
3. Understand the social development of children, including the formation of peer relationships and socialization processes;
4. Explore the emotional development of children and the factors that contribute to emotional regulation and expression;
5. Apply the knowledge of child development to real-life situations and scenarios.

## **PREREQUISITES**

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PSY100 Introduction to Psychology

## **GRADING**

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Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Assignments	20 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$ .

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### Required Texts:

Laura E. Berk, *Child Development*, 9th Edition, Pearson, 2012.

### Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

## COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: Theory and Research in Child Development Topic 2: History, Theory, and Applied Direction Topic 3: Research Strategies Topic 4: Foundations of Development Assignment#1 <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#1



Module 2	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: Biological Foundations, Prenatal Development, and Birth Topic 6: Infancy: Early Learning, Motor Skills, and Perceptual Capacities Topic 7: Physical Growth Topic 8: Cognitive and Language Development Assignment#2</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#2</p>
Module 3	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: Cognitive Development: Piagetian, Core Knowledge, and Vygotskian Perspectives Topic 10: Cognitive Development: An Information-Processing Perspective Topic 11: Intelligence Topic 12: Language Development</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Midterm#1</p>
Module 4	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Personality Topic 14: Social Development Topic 15: Emotional Development Topic 16: Self and Social Understanding</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Midterm#2</p>
Module 5	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: Moral Development Topic 18: Development of Sex Difference and Gender Roles Topic 19: Contexts for Development Topic 20: The Family Peers, Media, and Schooling</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam</p>

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning



and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

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- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

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The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

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Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.