



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Department of Psychology
Psychology 429 (L01) –Adolescence
Fall Session 2008

Instructor:	Dr. Kimberley Vaughan	Lecture Location:	SH 288
Phone:	220-2242 (U of C office) or 637-3939 (my home office)	Lecture Days/Time:	M/W/F 10:00 – 10:50 a.m.
Email:	kjvaughan@xplornet.com	Lab TA	TBA
Office:	Administration 257D	Lab TA email	TBA
Office Hours:	By appointment	Lab Day/Time/Room	Tues. 5 p.m. & Thurs. 9 a.m., A248

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.

Evaluation

Note that you must achieve a passing grade on both the class and lab components to pass this course.

1. Class components (75% of final grade)

Exam 1	25% of final grade (Oct. 8th)
Exam 2	25% of final grade (Nov. 7th)
Final Exam	25% of final grade; to be scheduled by the Registrar

Exams will not be cumulative. Each of the 3 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.

2. Lab components (25% of final grade)

Movie Assignment (3%)

Project 1—Topic of Choice (10%)

1) Oral Presentation	5% (individual)
2) Paper	5% (individual)

Project 2—Aggression and Bullying (12%)

1) Bring relevant article to lab	2% (individual)
2) Data collection, scoring and entry	3% (group)
3) Paper	7% (group)

Assignments should be handed in to the lab instructor at the beginning of the lab the day they are due. Alternatively they may be left at the psychology office drop box prior to class. Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 5% a day, including weekends.

Questions regarding the lab should be addressed to the TA.

Grading Scale

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

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.).

Lecture Schedule

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

Date	Topic	Required Reading
Sept. 8 th	Intro to course/ review course outline	none
Sept. 10 th , 12 th , 15 th	Biological Transitions	Chapter 1
Sept. 17 th	Cognitive Transitions	Chapter 2
Sept. 19th	No class; I am away at a conference	
Sept. 22 nd , 24 th	Cognitive Transitions continued	Chapter 2
Sept. 26 th , Sept. 29 th	Social Transitions	Chapter 3
Oct. 1 st , 3 rd , 6 th	Families	Chapter 4
Oct. 8th	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4)	
Oct. 10 th	Peer groups	
Oct. 13th	No class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
Oct. 15 th , 17 th	Peer Groups	Chapter 5
Oct. 20 th , 22 nd , 24 th	Schools	Chapter 6
Oct. 27 th , 29 th , 31 st	Work and Leisure	Chapter 7
Nov. 3 rd , 5 th	Identity	Chapter 8
Nov. 7th	Exam 2 (Chapters 5-8)	
Nov. 10th	No Class – Reading Days	
Nov. 12 th , 14 th	Autonomy	Chapter 9
Nov. 17 th , 19 th , 21 st	Intimacy	Chapter 10
Nov. 24 th , 26 th , 28 th	Sexuality	Chapter 11
Dec. 1 st , 3 rd , 5 th	Psychosocial Problems	Chapter 13
FINAL EXAM (Chapters 9, 10, 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 December 4th, 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 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 **September 19th, 2008**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 5th, 2008**.