

**Course Syllabus** (Revised 1/11/15)

**Course:**

**Development in Infancy: The Basis of Human Knowledge**, Spring 2015

DEP 3115-U01 (ID #19956)

MWF 10:00 – 10:50am; Green Library, room 165 (GL 165)

**Description:** This course is a more in-depth look at the development of humans during the first 3 years of life. We will cover various topics of infant development (e.g., motor development, language development) and discuss the influential roles of genetics, experience, and time and how these interact to form the individual person. We will primarily be discussing typical development and how it can inform us about atypical development.

**Format:** Class time will be devoted to lectures and discussions. Lecture material will be made available to students. Details on accessing the lectures will be given in class.

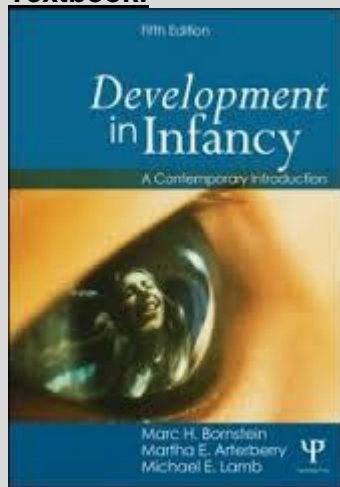
**Professor:**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Bethany Reeb-Sutherland, Ph.D.	<b>Phone:</b>	(305) 348-4895
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Mon, Wed, and Fri 11am-12:pm (or by appointment)	<b>Website:</b>	http://psychology.fiu.edu/faculty/bethany-reeb-sutherland/

**Teaching Assistant:**

<b>TA:</b>	Michelle Ramos	<b>Phone:</b>	(305) 348-4947
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Mon 1pm-3pm		

**Textbook:**



**Develop in Infancy: A Contemporary Introduction (5th edition)**

Marc H. Bornstein et al.

©2014, Psychology Press, ISBN: 978-0-8058-6363-5

This is the required textbook for the class. Because of the new material provided in this edition compared to older editions, you **MUST** use the 5<sup>th</sup> edition rather than older editions of the book.

You can purchase your textbooks at the FIU bookstore or online (<http://fiu.bncollege.com>). Some students choose to purchase their textbooks via other resources such as <http://www.amazon.com> or <http://half.com>.

Generally we will follow the topics in the text, however throughout the course you will discover that some of the material that we discuss in class will not be covered as thoroughly and maybe not at all in the text. The text has been selected to provide you with a useful reference/resource. There will be topics covered not found in the book so it is **essential (and required) that you attend all lectures.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Classes:** I will use a combination of *Powerpoint* presentations, discussion, and illustrative examples to help you master the main concepts. Slides/outlines/handouts will be posted online. Posted documents will not be comprehensive. Rather, they will provide you with some organization for your note-taking during class. By reducing the amount of notes you have to take, these materials should make it easier for you to listen, participate, and think critically about the course content.

**Make-up work:** *Make-up exams* **MAY SOMETIMES** be scheduled if **acceptable written justification** is provided and arrangements made in a timely manner. If you have a problem with one of the exam dates let me know ASAP and definitely **BEFORE** the exam. Exams *cannot be taken early unless permission is given by the instructor.* **You cannot make up the Final (3rd) exam, nor can it be rescheduled.**

If you do not complete a **writing assignment** by the deadline, you can still receive partial credit by turning it in late. If you have a problem with a due date let me know ASAP and definitely **BEFORE** the deadline. It would be better to turn a project in late than not at all. For each day that your project is late there will be a 10% deduction (I reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments or to not accept late work). If you are going to be out-of-town or otherwise miss class when a project is due **TURN IT IN EARLY.**

**Academic honesty and class conduct:** As members of the University community, you are expected to adhere to FIU rules and principles. Cheating on exams, plagiarism, or other dishonorable or disruptive conduct in this course is not tolerated. If such acts occur, consequences may include an automatic “F” in the course and referral to the Student Judicial Affairs Office. When you attend lectures, please arrange your schedule so you will be at class on time and will not have to leave early. Please silence phones in class. Talking during exams or phone use will result in a zero for that exam and possibly additional penalties. Many students who cheat do so because they feel they are unable to complete tasks otherwise, due to unforeseeable emergencies, health problems, etc. If you are unable to complete an assignment on time due to an issue like this, **do not cheat!** Come talk to me and I **will** help you.

**Students with disabilities:** Individual accommodations are available for students with disabilities that may affect their participation in course activities and completion of requirements. Please contact me and the Disability Resource Center ([drcupgl@fiu.edu](mailto:drcupgl@fiu.edu), 305-348-3532, <http://drc.fiu.edu/>) for additional information.

**GRADING**

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

**Exams (320 pts):** Exam questions will be based on assigned readings and lecture material. Make-ups will

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	WEIGHT	POINTS
Midterm exams (2 total: 100 pts each)	40%	200
Final exam (120 pts)	24%	120
Writing assignments (3 total: 40 pts each)	24%	120
Lecture Attendance	12%	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>500</b>

not be permitted unless I am notified of your emergency situation before the exam is administered. Midterm exams will consist of a combination of short answer essay, fill-in-the-blanks, matching, and multiple choice. The final exam will be similar to the midterms but will also contain 20 cumulative multiple choice questions covering material from the whole semester. ***If you know you will have a problem with any of these dates you must notify the instructor ASAP.***

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Midterm Exam 1: February 13 (Ch 1-4).....100 pts</li> <li>• Midterm Exam 2: March 27 (Ch 5-8).....100 pts</li> <li>• Final Exam 3: April 27 (Ch 9-12).....120 pts</li> </ul> |
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**Writing Assignments (120 pts):** Three writing assignments will give you the opportunity to think critically about psychological studies conducted with infants. These assignments will involve either reading a journal article or watching a film or both and answering some questions. No more than 1 page, single spaced will be necessary for these assignments. If you need additional support and instruction regarding writing skills contact the Center for Excellence in Writing (<http://writingcenter.fiu.edu>).

- **Assignment 1: February 6.....40 pts**
- **Assignment 2: March 6.....40 pts**
- **Assignment 3: April 17.....40 pts**

**Attendance (60 points):** Basically, JUST BE HERE.

- You should attend every class (no matter how painful that may be).
- I will take attendance randomly throughout the semester (**3 pt** per session).

**Extra Credit:** You can earn up to 30 extra credit points through the following options:

- Writing project, option 1 (10 pts each): Writing well and thinking critically is challenging, and only practice can make us better. You may earn extra credit by writing a critical evaluation of a recent newspaper (e.g., NYT) or magazine article (e.g., Time) that discusses developmental psychology in some fashion. Your critical summary should present a brief background (how did you find the article, why do you decide to write about it), the scientific issue/topic addressed, the main findings, and your thoughts on the veracity of the arguments presented. This is an open-ended assignment; write to me why it was a good or bad article. **Minimum length** is one page (single-spaced).
- Writing project, option 2 (5 pts each): Read a recent journal article (within last 3 years) discussing some aspect of infant development. Some suggested journals include *Infancy*, *Child Development*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Developmental Science*, and *Infant Behavior and Development*. Write a brief description on what the authors' main goals and hypotheses of the studies were, what was found, and what were the conclusions. Also discuss whether you agree with the conclusions or not and why you do or do not agree. **Maximum length** is one page (single-spaced).
- Research participation (5 pts/hour): You may earn extra credit by participating in research experiments. You can sign up to participate for experiments by going to <http://fiu.sona-systems.com>. You will earn 5 points for every sona credit. If you sign up for an experiment and do not show up, you will not be eligible for additional extra credit through research participation. Please respect others' time.

**All Extra Credit Assignments are due the last day of class: April 24**

**How do I determine my Grade?** Course Grades will be determined as follows:

**FINAL COURSE GRADE – TOTAL POINTS**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Range (PTS)</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Range</b>
A	458-500+	A-	448-457
B+	438-447	B	408-437
B-	398-407	C+	388-397
C	358-387	C-	348-357
D+	338-347	D	308-337
D-	298-307	F	≤ 297

**How Do I Compute My Own Score?**

Throughout the semester, you may want to know how you are doing in the class and may want to determine what your grade is based upon the assignments you already completed. Here is a quick guide showing you how you can compute your own grade anytime during the semester. You do this by adding up the number of points you received on each of the assignments that you completed and divide by the number of total available points then multiple this by 100. For example, if you received a 38 on Writing Assignment 1, 85 on Midterm Exam 1, and 93 on Midterm Exam 2 then you would add these up:  $38+85+93=216$ . Next, determine how many total points were available:  $40+100+100=240$ . Next, take your points and divide by the total available points and multiply by 100:  $(216/240) \times 100=90\%$  which is an A-. Now that you know how to do this on your own, please do not ask me to compute this for you.

**How Can I do Well in this Course?**

- 1) Attend class.
- 2) Turn work in on time.
- 3) Put in some hours outside of class.

## COURSE OUTLINE

\*This is an approximate schedule and may vary slightly over the semester (**changes will be announced in class**).

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Content</b>
<b>Week 1: Jan 12-16</b>	Chapter 1: Introduction
<b>Week 2: Jan 19-23</b>	Chapter 2: Direct and Indirect Effects Monday 1/19: <b>NO CLASS, MLK Jr. Day</b>
<b>Week 3: Jan 26-30</b>	Chapter 2 (cont'd): Direct and Indirect Effects Chapter 3: Research Methods in Infancy
<b>Week 4: Feb 2-6</b>	Chapter 3 (cont'd): Research Methods in Infancy Chapter 4: Prenatal Development <b>Friday 2/6: Writing Assignment #1 Due</b>
<b>Week 5: Feb 9-13</b>	Chapter 4 (cont'd): Prenatal Development <b>Friday 2/13: Exam #1 (Chapters 1-4)</b>
<b>Week 6: Feb 16-20</b>	Chapter 5: Physical and Motor Development
<b>Week 7: Feb 23-27</b>	Chapter 5 (cont'd): Physical and Motor Development Chapter 6: Perceptual Development
<b>Week 8: Mar 2-6</b>	Chapter 6 (cont'd): Perceptual Development Chapter 7: Cognitive Development <b>Friday 3/6: Writing Assignment #2 Due</b>
<b>Week 9: Mar 9-13</b>	<b>Spring Break: NO CLASSES</b>
<b>Week 10: Mar 16-20</b>	Chapter 7 (cont'd): Perceptual Development Chapter 8: Representations in Infancy
<b>Week 11: Mar 23-27</b>	Chapter 8 (cont'd): Representations in Infancy <b>Friday 3/27: Exam #2 (Chapters 5-8)</b>
<b>Week 12: Mar 30-Apr 3</b>	Chapter 9: Language Development
<b>Week 13: Apr 6-10</b>	Chapter 10: Emotions and Temperament in Infancy
<b>Week 14: Apr 13-17</b>	Chapter 11: Social Development <b>Friday 4/17: Writing Assignment #3 Due</b>
<b>Week 15: Apr 20-24</b>	Chapter 12: Social Cognition
<b>Week 16: Apr 27-May 1</b>	<b>Monday 4/27: Final Exam (Chapters 9-12)</b> <b>GL 165, 9:45-11:45am</b> (time may change)