

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: PSY 235

Credits: 3

Course Title: Child Psychology

Course Description: Studies the development of the child from conception to adolescence. Investigates physical, cognitive, social and emotional factors involved in the child's growth. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and EDE 11. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: This course is designed for students transferring to a four-year institution, students desiring to major in psychology, students enrolled in Early Childhood Education, Human Services, or Social Work, students in the Allied Health fields, and students interested in understanding the history, developmental concepts, and characteristics found in the study of child psychology.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and EDE 11.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Understand the influences on child growth and development;
- b. Demonstrate knowledge of theoretical perspective that provides knowledge of the developmental stages inherent in child growth;
- c. Demonstrate a knowledge of the role genetics, evolution, and the birth process play in child development;
- d. Demonstrate knowledge of physical and motor development, cognition, language, and social emotional development in infancy, childhood, and adolescence;
- e. Draw appropriate conclusions and inferences about these age ranges and stages of development;
- f. Demonstrate understanding of development within the context of social institutions; and
- g. Demonstrate the use of critical thinking, social and cultural understanding, and reason by deduction, induction, and analogy.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. The nature of child development
- b. Biological beginnings
- c. Physical, cognitive, language, and socioemotional development in infancy
- d. Physical, cognitive, language, and socioemotional development in early childhood
- e. Physical, cognitive, language, and socioemotional development in middle and late childhood
- f. Physical, cognitive, and socioemotional development in adolescence
- g. Theoretical perspectives in child development
- h. Research in child development
- i. The impact of social institutions on child development
- j. The impact of families on child development

Updated/Created (Month, Day, and Year): December 18, 2019