Mount Saint Mary College
Newburgh, New York
Division of Social Sciences

<u>**PSY 3050-01 – Developmental Psychology**</u>
Spring 2021

Prof. Adar Eisenbruch   Virtual office hours: Fridays, 2:00 – 3:30 PM
adar.eisenbruch@msmc.edu   (Zoom link on eClass)

Course information (from the course catalog)
The biological, affective, cognitive and social domains of human development are studied individually and integrally as the stages of growth are traced from conception to death. Pre-requisite: PSY 1010. 3 credits

What's this course going to be like?

Course Format
This course will be delivered in a virtual format, attempting to incorporate many of the benefits of synchronous and asynchronous online learning. Each week consists of readings, lectures, and activities that you will complete asynchronously online, and on Fridays we will have a synchronous (Zoom) discussion session in which we will engage in conversation and group work related to the week's material. The readings, lectures, and activities must be completed **before** our discussion sessions, so that you will be prepared to discuss and apply the material. These assignments can be found on the course eClass page. **We will only have synchronous sessions on Fridays from 11:15am – 12:10pm. The Monday and Wednesday meetings listed in the course catalog will be replaced by asynchronous work.**

Required Course Materials
You are required to have a copy of the textbook for this course, which is *Child Development: Perspectives in Developmental Psychology* by M.D. Rutherford (ISBN: 9780195432985). It is available through the MSMC bookstore, as well as for sale and rent from various online retailers. Other readings and materials will be made available via eClass.

Instructor and Student Communication
I will communicate to the entire class using the "Course Announcements" forum on eClass. By default, students are subscribed to this forum, so you should also get these announcements as emails. Students are responsible for knowing the information communicated in these announcements. For private communications with individual students, I will use the MSMC email system. You are always welcome to email me with your questions, concerns about the class, etc. Please only email me from your MSMC address, and you can expect a reply from me in approximately 1 business day (e.g. if you email me on Monday at 5pm, you can expect a reply by Tuesday at 5pm; if you email me on Friday at 5pm, you can expect a reply by Monday at 5pm). For more tips on course communication, see the e-tiquette document on eClass. *Remember that office hours are one of the best ways to communicate with me – if you drop in on Zoom (no appointment or permission needed), we can talk about the course material, how you're doing in the class, or whatever else you want.*

Course Calendar

Readings, assignments, quizzes and exams will be posted on eClass, organized by week. Below is a basic outline of what topics we will cover and when, and when the exams are. This schedule is subject to change at my discretion, if course delivery is disrupted for any reason or it seems like the class would be better served by revising the schedule.

Week	*Topic*
1 – week of 2/1	Course intro; Genes and environment
2 – week of 2/8	Methods in developmental psychology
3 – week of 2/15	Classic developmental theories
4 – week of 2/22	EXAM 1 – no class meeting
5 – week of 3/1	Brain and perception development (prenatal through baby)
6 – week of 3/8	Attachment
7 – week of 3/15	EXAM 2 – no class meeting
8 – week of 3/22	Language acquisition
9 – week of 3/29	How babies think about other people *(discussion on Wednesday, not Friday)*
10 – week of 4/5	Moral development
11 – week of 4/12	EXAM 3 – no class meeting
12 – week of 4/19	Adolescence
13 – week of 4/26	Personality development
14 – week of 5/3	Healthy aging, or, how to lead a happy life
15 – week of 5/10	Amnesty Day – 5/10 EXAM 4 during finals period

Grading and Course Policies

Grading Criteria and Policies
Your grade in the course will be based on the following components, using the indicated weights:

Exams: 40%
>There will be 4 non-cumulative exams. I will drop your lowest exam grade. In other words, the average of your 3 best exam grades will be worth 40% of your course grade. The exams will be held 2/26, 3/19 and 4/16 during our regular meeting times, and during our scheduled time during finals period. All exams will be administered online. The exams will be open-book, but will also be timed. This means that only students who have effectively studied the material will be able to take best advantage of access to their course materials. A missed exam cannot be made up; it will count as a 0, which will be dropped if that is your lowest grade. If you miss two exams for valid, documented reasons (e.g. medical incapacity), you will be allowed to make up the latter exam. For this reason, it is important for you to keep documentation for any exam you miss, in case you miss a second one.

Quizzes: 15%
>There will be frequent (roughly every 2 weeks), short online quizzes. These are intended primarily to help you track your own learning. If you're acing the quizzes, that tells you that you're keeping up with the material. If you're struggling on the quizzes, that's a signal that you need to devote more energy to the class and/or seek help, and the quizzes can help you identify particular topics that you should go back to or ask questions about. Missed quizzes cannot be made up, but I will drop your lowest quiz grade.

Assignments: 35%
>There will be one or more assignments each week, and they will take a variety of different forms. The goals of the assignments are to help you learn by engaging with the material beyond simply reading or hearing about it, and to prepare you for each week's synchronous discussion session. Details for each assignment (including grading guidelines or rubrics) will be provided each week on eClass, and all assignments will be submitted via eClass. Because the assignments are designed to prepare you for class discussion, they must be submitted before our synchronous discussion sessions (see eClass for exact due dates), and late submissions will not be accepted.
>
>You will have the opportunity to resubmit ONE assignment by Amnesty Day, May 10. You can either submit a revision of a previously graded assignment, in the hopes of receiving a higher grade (though note that a higher grade isn't guaranteed – the revision has to actually merit a better grade than the original), or you can submit an assignment that you did not submit by the original deadline.

Participation: 10%
>Engaging in lively, productive intellectual conversation is important for your learning and that of your classmates. I will grade both the quantity and quality of your contribution to these conversations. Note that participation does not only refer to our synchronous discussion sessions; your contributions to eClass forums will also weigh on your participation grade. In all of these exchanges, I expect you to be engaged, prepared, curious, respectful, and supportive. Expressing disagreement and confusion is not only acceptable – it's encouraged! The more you ask, and the more you try to push on the boundaries of your knowledge and work out all the kinks, the more you and your classmates will learn.

Grades for all exams, quizzes and assignments will be posted on eClass.

Course Grading Scale

A+: 97-100%	B+: 87-89.99%	C+: 77-79.99%	D+: 67-69.99%
A: 93-96.99%	B: 83-86.99%	C: 73-76.99%	D: 65-66.99%
A-: 90-92.99%	B-: 80-82.99%	C-: 70-72.99%	F: <=64.99%

Attendance Policy

I do not take attendance – I care more about the work you do and the learning you demonstrate than about forcing you to sit in a certain place at a certain time, and skipping class is a self-punishing crime (i.e. you will learn less, which will show up in other ways). That said, our discussion sessions are an important part of this course, and I fully expect everyone to attend. Missing these sessions will result in missing the assignments that we will complete during the sessions (which cannot be made up), and will negatively impact your participation grade (you can't participate if you're not there). If you have a legitimate reason that you cannot participate in a discussion session (e.g. documented illness that incapacitates you, religious observance), contact me to discuss alternative ways for you to complete that work.

Even though our discussion sections will be conducted via Zoom, I expect the same level of engagement that you would display in a physical classroom. This means that you should not be doing other things during our meetings (e.g. don't Zoom in from work or from your car), you should be in a place that is quiet and calm enough that you can engage in intellectual discussion (e.g. there should not be a TV on in the background), and you should keep your camera on with your face visible for the duration of our meeting (consider using on of Zoom's virtual backgrounds if you don't want the class to see your messy room).

Late Work/Make-Up Policy

The assignments in this course are designed to go in a certain sequence (e.g. there's no point in preparing for a conversation that already happened), so late assignments are generally not accepted. The exception to this is Amnesty Day, which permits you to submit one missed assignment or a revision of a graded assignment. If you believe you have a valid, documented reason for an extension on an assignment (e.g. medical incapacity, military deployment), contact me directly.

Technology

Technological Requirements and Recommendations
This class will rely heavily on eClass and Zoom. Make sure that you have Zoom downloaded on your computer and that you're familiar with how to use it. You should also have a standard internet browser, like Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. You may need word processing software; Google Docs (free through your MSMC email account) is fine if you don't have Word or another program on your computer. You will also need a PDF reader, like Adobe Reader (though many browsers can also read PDFs). You may be able to do some coursework on a mobile device, but I am designing the course for desktop usage, so it is recommended that you do your course work on a desktop or laptop computer. If you have a problem with eClass, let me know; many "problems" may actually be settings that I can change. For problems with eClass that I can't resolve, contact the Office of Digital Learning & Instructional Design Services at onlinelearning@msmc.edu. For other tech support needs, the IT Support Center can assist you. To obtain technology support, please visit https://helpdesk.msmc.edu/support/ to submit a ticket or email it.support@msmc.edu.

MSMC Policies and Resources

Important Dates
Failure to actively participate in any of the ways defined in this syllabus before or on the academic withdrawal date listed below may result in your instructor submitting an academic withdrawal (AW) from the course. Please note that failure to actively participate in this course could impact your eligibility for Financial Aid.

Per the above, please be aware of important Spring 2021 dates:
- February 5 - Add/Drop deadline with 100% refund
- February 15 - Academic Withdrawal (AW) deadline
- April 19 - Last Day to withdraw without academic penalty

It is the responsibility of the student to facilitate an official course drop/withdrawal by the date(s) listed above. The student should inform both the instructor and the Registrar's office if he/she plans to drop or withdrawal from this course.

College Policies
Students are responsible for complying with all policies in the Student Handbook, including the Academic Honesty Policy.

> *Academic Honesty Policy*
> The mission of Mount Saint Mary College is concerned with "...the development of sound values, goals and commitments on the part of students. Equipping students to play responsible roles in society has been a consistent aim of our institution." Instances of academic dishonesty subvert the mission of the College and the experience students derive from it. These instances harm the offender as well as students who maintain academic honesty. The Mount community, therefore, commits itself to do all in its power to prevent such dishonesty and imposes impartial sanctions upon those who harm themselves, their fellow students and the College in this way.

Definitions:
Generally, academic dishonesty may be defined in the following ways:
   a. Cheating: using or attempting to use, giving or attempting to give, unauthorized materials, information, assistance or study aids in any academic exercise or evaluation (tests), unless the nature of the academic exercise legitimizes cooperative learning;
   b. Plagiarism: copying or imitating the language, ideas or thoughts of another person, and passing off the same as one's original work;
   c. Falsification: forgery, alteration or misuse of academic documents, records or forms.

For additional information, please go to the Student Handbook located at www.msmc.edu under Student Life.

Required Tutorial for Online Learners

OLSOT (Online Learning Student Orientation Tutorial)
This mandatory, self-paced orientation is required of all students taking fully online courses. If this is your first fully online course and you have not done so yet, please complete this tutorial before beginning this course. The tutorial will appear as a red hold notification in the Alerts section of your MSMC Portal (my.msmc.edu). Please click on the notification to begin the tutorial. Please expect to spend approximately 1 hour completing this tutorial. If you have any questions regarding the OLSOT, please contact the Office of Digital Learning and Instructional Design Services at onlinelearning@msmc.edu.

Student Support Services

Counseling Services (https://www.msmc.edu/Student_Services/Counseling):
Many students face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academics, social life, or emotional well-being. MSMC Counseling Services offers a variety of confidential services to help students through difficult times including counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, and mental health screenings. Counseling Services can be reached at counseling@msmc.edu.

Disability Services (https://www.msmc.edu/Student_Services/Disability_Services):
It is the policy of Mount Saint Mary College to accommodate students with disabilities in accordance with federal and state laws. If you, as a student with a disability, have difficulty accessing any part of the course materials or activities for this class, please notify the instructor immediately. Accommodations for test-taking should be arranged in advance. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office as soon as possible so that appropriate accommodations can be determined. Please call the office at 845-569-3638, or email them at disabilityservices@msmc.edu.

If you have met with the Coordinator in the Disability Services Office and have been given an accommodation letter, please make an appointment to speak with me as soon as possible so that we can discuss the logistics and implementation of your accommodations.

*IT Support Center (*https://portal.msmc.edu/ICS/Offices/Information_Technology/):
The IT Support Center is here to assist you with your general technology needs including Mount Account support, computer hardware/software issues, and more. IT will continue to assist with hardware, software, and/or network/connectivity issues during remote operations. Seek support from the IT Help Desk by emailing IT.Support@msmc.edu.

Kaplan Family Library (https://www.msmc.edu/library/):
The MSMC Library creates a dynamic, responsive learning environment by connecting people with information. They facilitate teaching and learning, foster scholarship, and create a vibrant intellectual and social gathering place for the Mount Saint Mary College community. They offer outstanding information resources, expert information literacy instruction, attentive personal service, and relevant programming in a space designed for study, discovery, collaboration, and inspiration. For more information, visit the library website, email library@msmc.edu, or call 845-569-3600.

Tutoring (https://portal.msmc.edu/ICS/Offices/Tutoring_Center/):
The Office of Student Success offers tutoring, coaching, and more through video or phone meetings. Contact oss@msmc.edu for more information.

The Writing Center (https://www.msmc.edu/Student_Services/writing_center):
The Writing Center is the home for writing at Mount Saint Mary College. Their primary function is to support students as they are completing academic writing assignments. The Writing Center's team of trained writing tutors assists Mount students in all stages of the writing process: brainstorming and organizing ideas; structuring sentences, paragraphs, and essays; strengthening argumentation; incorporating research and appropriate systems of citation; improving grammar and style; and more! Students seeking help with their writing should email writing.center@msmc.edu.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes:

Skills (I): Possess communication, problem-solving, and technological skills in a variety of contexts as demonstrated in the ability to:
1. write a clear, well-organized paper that incorporates relevant details, sources, and examples, while following standards for style, usage, and documentation appropriate to the discipline;
2. deliver an oral presentation that demonstrates internalized knowledge and understanding of a topic, engages an audience, and makes effective use of appropriate visual aids;
3. correctly assess and analyze graphical and statistical data;
4. accurately interpret, analyze, and evaluate evidence in order to construct well-supported arguments that justify clearly stated conclusions;
5. identify, access, and evaluate relevant sources of information and use technological tools and other resources for organizing, conducting, and presenting research.
Knowledge (II): Acquire and integrate knowledge essential to the understanding of:
1. representative literary works and how artistic forms such as literature, art, music, theater, and film convey meaning;
2. the role of science in influencing decisions affecting public policy;
3. major theories, methodologies, and applications of the natural sciences, including the use of the scientific method for the study of living organisms and the physical environment;
4. major theories, methodologies, and applications of the social sciences, including, where applicable, the use of the scientific method;
5. culture, including historical events, philosophical and religious traditions, and social customs; and
6. issues related to diversity and the interconnectedness of cultures, including non-Western and underrepresented groups.
Values (III): Demonstrate a commitment to values by:
1. identifying the values systems of Judeo-Christian traditions, non-Western traditions, and underrepresented groups as conveyed in sacred texts, creative arts, and other forms of human expression;
2. acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for supporting ethical judgments based on the application of sound reasoning to everyday life; and
3. practicing civic engagement, community service, and service learning.