

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **PSYC 221**

#### **PSYCHOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A study of child growth and development from birth to puberty. Examination of the basic theories, principles, and practices of childhood training and education.

#### **RATIONALE**

Psychology of Childhood will enable you to be better prepared to understand and minister to children's cognitive, physical, emotional and moral needs as parents, teachers, church, and community leaders.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

PSYC 101 or PSYC 210

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES**

Click the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with Internet access (broadband recommended)
- B. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to LU students.)
- C. The Holy Bible

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The following learning outcomes are in accordance with PDLOs 1-6. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate understanding of the major theories and concepts of child development.
- B. Use critical thinking skills to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes of the developing child.
- C. Weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and integrate Christian principles and a Christian worldview throughout the course.
- D. Communicate effectively in written and technological formats.

- E. Demonstrate skills in critical thinking about major theories, themes, and issues facing children. (PLO3)
- F. Recognize the complexity of socio-cultural and international diversity in child development.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings, Bible readings, and lecture presentations
- B. Discussion Board forums (5)

Students will post a new thread in the Discussion Board forums responding to prompts provided by the instructor. After posting the original thread, students will read and reply to at least one of their classmates' threads within the same week.

- C. Article Critique

Students will write a 3–4-page paper in APA style summarizing and critiquing a scholarly journal article on a topic dealing with child development. This assignment is due at the end of Module/Week 3.

- D. Book Report

Each student will write a 6–7-page book report in APA format on a book that deals with either the development of children or issues facing children. Novels and autobiographical books are not permitted. The report is due at the end of Module/Week 5.

- E. Observation Paper

For this assignment, students will observe a child under the age of ten in a natural setting for at least 30 minutes to 1 hour and submit a 2–3-page paper reporting their observations. The paper should demonstrate the theories and concepts learned throughout the course. The assignment is due at the end of Module/Week 7.

- F. Exams (4)

Exams will be 40 multiple-choice questions. Each of these open-book exams has a time limit of 2 hours and 45 minutes. Students will be responsible for reading and studying their textbooks in preparation, as not everything on the exams can be covered or discussed in the modules.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Discussion Board forums (5 at 50 each)		250
Article Critique		100
Book Report		150
Observation Paper		100
Exam 1	(Modules 1–2)	100
Exam 2	(Modules 3–4)	100
Exam 3	(Modules 5–6)	100
Exam 4	(Modules 7–8)	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

**B. Scale**

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

**C. Disability Assistance**

Students with a documented disability may contact the LU Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to arrange for academic accommodations.

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **PSYC 221**

Textbooks: Papalia, et al, *A Child's World* (2011).

<b>WEEK/ MODULE</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Papalia: chs. 1–2	Course Requirements Checklist Discussion Board Forum 1	0 50
<b>2</b>	Papalia: chs. 3–4	Exam 1	100
<b>3</b>	Papalia: chs. 5–6	Discussion Board Forum 2 Article Critique	50 100
<b>4</b>	Papalia: chs. 7–8	Exam 2	100
<b>5</b>	Papalia: ch. 9	Discussion Board Forum 3 Book Report	50 150
<b>6</b>	Papalia: chs. 10–11	Exam 3	100
<b>7</b>	Papalia: ch. 12	Discussion Board Forum 4 Observation Paper	50 100
<b>8</b>	Papalia: chs. 13–14	Discussion Board Forum 5 Exam 4	50 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1000</b>

**NOTE:** Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.