

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

PSYC 231

PSYCHOLOGY OF ADOLESCENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An investigation of the psychological and environmental factors related to puberty, peer identification and identity conflict in the adolescent. Emphasis will be upon the development of self-identity and the problems faced by the American adolescent.

RATIONALE

This course is a foundation of learning for individuals who will be working directly with adolescents (e.g., education, social work, law enforcement, family services, and youth ministries) because it explores the major theories and concepts of adolescent behavior and thinking. Students who take this course will learn how to influence and edify adolescents.

I. PREREQUISITES

PSYC 101 or 210

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

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 basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to LU students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Compare the historical accounts of child & adolescent development from the early Greek philosophers to modern day philosophers.
- B. Explain the different theories of child and adolescent development.
- C. Contrast the role that genetics & environmental factors play in the following areas of human development.
- D. Demonstrate understanding of developmental changes in information processing and intelligence.
- E. Relate social context, family, race, and ethnicity in adolescent development.

- F. Demonstrate understanding of the role peers, friends, and groups play in adolescent thinking and behavior.
- G. Recognize the different theories concerning the development of the sense-of-self in children and adolescents with respect to self-understanding, self-consciousness, self-protection & self integration.
- H. Distinguish self-identity theories, gender role acquisition, sexuality and sexual behavior.
- I. Describe moral development theories, values, and religiosity in adolescent development.
- J. List the various concerns that society recognizes as problems affecting adolescents today.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings, lecture presentations, and online articles

B. Class Introductions

The student will post a personal introduction to the class in an effort to build class community. Specific questions must be addressed by Friday night of Module/Week 1. Replies to two classmates' posts are due by Monday night of that same week.

C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

For each forum, the student will post a thread of 300–400 words addressing the assigned topic. Then the student will reply (in 100 words minimum) to at least two other students' threads. Threads are due by Friday night and replies are due by Monday night of the weeks assigned.

D. Letter to a Son or Daughter

The student will craft a letter to a son or daughter that imparts knowledge critical to his/her development as an adolescent and encourages the child in his/her journey towards adulthood. This assignment will be 2–4 pages in length. This will be submitted by the end of Module/Week 2.

E. Body Image Paper

The student will write a 4–6 page paper divided into two parts: 1) analyzing an advertisement regarding body image, and 2) creating a resource about body image for parents' use. This resource will include a collection of recommended resources that the student has gathered. The paper is to be submitted by the end of Module/Week 4.

F. Parent Interview Paper

The student will interview the parent of an adolescent, asking him/her questions (both provided and original) about parenthood. Then the student will compose a paper of two parts: 1) a list of questions given and answers received, and 2) a reflection on these answers, incorporating course resources, and an explanation of the student’s personal parenting philosophy. This paper will be 3–5 pages and will be submitted by the end of Module/Week 6.

G. Topic Paper

Students will select a topic related to adolescence and will write a topical paper incorporating at least 5 scholarly sources. It must be written in APA format and include a title page, an abstract page, 3–5 full pages of text, and a reference page. This will be submitted by the end of Module/Week 8.

H. Quizzes (8)

Each weekly quiz will consist of 25 multiple-choice questions that cover the material presented in readings. Quizzes are not cumulative in their content. There is a 90 minute time limit to complete each open-book quiz. To be successful, students must study and prepare before attempting any quiz.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Class Introductions	40
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 60 ea)	180
Letter to a Son or Daughter	60
Body Image Paper	60
Parent Interview Paper	60
Topic Paper	120
Quizzes (8 at 60 ea)	480
Total	1000

B. Scale

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

C. Plagiarism Policy

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Integrity Policy as stated in Student Expectations.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact the LU Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 231

Textbook: Santrock, *Psychology of Adolescence* (2010).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Santrock: ch. 1 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Quiz 1	0 40 60
2	Santrock: chs. 2 & 3 1 presentation	Letter to a Son or Daughter Quiz 2	60 60
3	Santrock: chs. 4 & 5 1 online article	Discussion Board Forum 1 Quiz 3	60 60
4	Santrock: ch. 6 3 presentations	Body Image Paper Quiz 4	60 60
5	Santrock: chs. 7 & 8 1 presentation	Discussion Board Forum 2 Quiz 5	60 60
6	Santrock: ch. 9 2 presentation	Parent Interview Paper Quiz 6	60 60
7	Santrock: chs. 10 & 11 1 online article	Discussion Board Forum 3 Quiz 7	60 60
8	Santrock: chs.12 & 13	Topic Paper Quiz 8	120 60
TOTAL			1000

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.