

**MAYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Welcomes You To PSY 243-75**  
**Child Psychology (3 credit hours / 3 contact hours)**  
**Spring, 2006**

**Course Description**

This course provides an overview of physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development from conception through adolescence. Topics include theories and research, interaction of biological and environmental factors, language development, learning and cognitive processes, social relations, and moral development. Upon completion, students should be able to identify typical and atypical childhood behavior patterns as well as appropriate strategies for interacting with children.

**Prerequisites:** PSY 150

**Corequisites:** None

**Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** April Pittman  
**Office Location:** 247 Gwaltney Hall  
**Telephone Number:** 828-765-7351, ext. 266 or 1-800-462-9526  
**E-mail Address:** arpittman@cc.mayland.edu  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am-12:30pm and 2-3pm and other times by appointment.

**Course Information**

This course is an independent study. The student and the instructor will meet during the instructor's office hours in Rm. 247 of Gwaltney Hall.

**Required Text:** Kail, R.V. (2003). *Children and Their Development*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

**Course Objectives/Competencies:**

Your active participation in this class will provide you with:

- Knowledge of the major theories of human development as they pertain to child development.
- Knowledge of the general stages of development in childhood.
- An appreciation of the socio-cultural influences on child development.
- An appreciation of the physiological and psychological changes occurring as a result of development in childhood.
- The ability to analyze the various developmental tasks in childhood.

**Mayland Community College's General Education core courses will provide the essential body of knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society.**

**Graduates of all degree programs at Mayland Community College will have completed the general education core. That core encompasses the essential knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society. Upon completion of the general education core, students will be able to demonstrate the following:**

1. Effective communication in speaking and listening situations needed for college, personal, and work successes
2. Effective communication in writing and reading situations needed for college, personal, and work successes
3. Logical, critical, and creative thinking to evaluate evidence and reach a conclusion
4. Application of basic computer use skills

5. Application of fundamental math skills
6. Basic awareness of the diversity of various world groups from both historical and contemporary contexts

For each of the following goals of Child Psychology, the applicable General Education Learning Competencies are noted.

To be successful in this course you will need to:

- Be an active participant in class and small group discussions regarding topics in psychology (1 and 2).
- Apply critical thinking skills to material presented in the textbook, lectures, activities, and discussions (1, 2, and 3).
- Work independently and as part of a group to successfully complete written assignments related to material from the course (1, 2, and 6).
- Develop an understanding of cultural, racial, and ethnic differences in human thought and behavior (6).

**Attendance Policy:**

The student will schedule weekly meetings with the instructor and submit assignments in person and via e-mail.

**Make-Up and Late Work:**

There will be a 10-point per day late penalty for written assignments that are turned in after the due date.

The term projects will not be accepted after the due date and no other assignments will be accepted after Monday, May 8.

There will be **no make-ups for Unit Assessments**. One assessment grade will be dropped before the final grade is calculated. A grade of 0 for a missed assessment will be treated as the lowest grade and dropped.

**Grading Criteria:**

<i>Chapter quizzes</i> .....	35%
<i>Term Project</i> .....	15%
<i>Case Studies</i> .....	25%
<i>Written Assignments</i> .....	25%

**Grading Scale:**

<b>A</b> = 93-100	<b>D</b> = 70-76
<b>B</b> = 85-92	<b>F</b> = 0-69
<b>C</b> = 77-84	

**Inclement Weather Procedures:**

Please review the Inclement Weather Policy in the Mayland Community College Catalog. In the case of bad weather use your best judgment and remember that personal safety must come first. Call me in advance if weather prevents you from coming to a scheduled appointment.

**Academic Standards/Student Expectations/Ethics:**

Honesty and integrity with respect to academic work is expected in this and all classes at Mayland Community College. As outlined in the MCC Student Code of Conduct, any form of academic dishonesty is subject to disciplinary action. At the minimum, students who engage in academic dishonesty of any type will receive a grade of F for the course. For a description of acts considered to be violations of the code of conduct, refer to the MCC Code of Conduct in the student handbook and college catalog.

**Withdrawal Dates:**

Monday, February 13 - End of Unconditional Withdrawal

Monday, March 27 – End of Conditional Withdrawal

**If a student has not been in contact with the instructor and has not attended class for a consecutive two-week period, an administrative withdrawal will be submitted by the instructor. After the administrative withdrawal is completed the student will not be allowed to be added back to the course.**

Students who are auditing the course must notify the instructor during the first week of the course.

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**Disclaimer:**

While I have attempted to be as thorough as possible with this syllabus, actual class procedures may vary to suit the needs of this group.

**Accommodation:**

Any student requesting special accommodations for this course due to a disability should apply for services through the SOAR Office or the Counseling Center, which will document the disability. A counselor will then help determine which accommodations, if any, the student needs for success in this course.

**Course Outline**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
Week 1	Introductions & Syllabus	
Week 2	The Science of Child Development	Read chapter 1 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 3	Prenatal Development, Birth, and the Newborn	Read chapter 4 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 4	Growth and Health	Read chapter 5 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 5	Perceptual and Motor Development	Read chapter 6 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 6	Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development	Read chapter 7 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 7	Information-Processing Approaches to Cognitive Development	Read chapter 8 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 8	Intelligence and Individual Differences in Cognition	Read chapter 9 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 9	Language and Communication	Read chapter 10 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 10	Emotional Development	Read chapter 11 Complete Case Study, Written

		Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 11	Understanding Self and Others	Read chapter 12 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 12	Moral Understanding and Behavior	Read chapter 13 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 13	Gender & Development	Read chapter 14 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 14	Family Relationships	Read chapter 15 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 15	Influences Beyond the Family	Read chapter 16 Complete Case Study, Written Assignment, and chapter quiz
Week 15	Term Project	Submit Term Project for Grading