

## **Child Development – FACS 191 online Western Kentucky University**

### **INSTRUCTOR**

**Dr. D'Lee Babb**

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

**Course Description:** Child development involves the study of the prenatal and postnatal factors which influence the physical, cognitive, communicative, and social-emotional development of children. Implications and applications of concepts learned are stressed.

#### **Course Rationale:**

The early childhood educator needs a solid understanding of all five domains of child development and how these domains are interrelated and interdependent to provide for the needs of young children in a developmentally appropriate environment.

#### **Course Objectives:**

When you have completed this course, you will be able to:

1. Define the principle concepts of child development,
2. Explain pre-, peri-, and post-natal development and factors that impact that development,
3. Develop knowledge of typical and atypical development of cognition, communication, motor, social-emotional, and adaptive/self-help skills in young children,
4. Develop an understanding of cultural diverse, family centered child development, and
5. Begin to meet the performance-based standards for early childhood personnel.

#### **Course Outcomes:**

1. Through this class the students will observe children and recognize different developmental milestones for the children being observed (objectives 1, 3 and 5).
2. During the class, the students will complete weekly assignments including designing brochures about pre and post-natal (objectives 1, 2, 4 and 5).
3. Students will take and complete exams demonstrating their knowledge of child development (objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4).
4. Students will complete a critical paper that integrates knowledge acquired from readings, lecture and course work and apply this knowledge to the infants, toddlers and preschoolers observed during the semester (objectives 1, 3, 4 and 5).

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Berk, L. E. (2012). *Infants and children: Prenatal through middle childhood* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.

You are responsible for obtaining your book by the beginning of the semester. They are required readings and all materials listed will be used during the semester.

***Additional articles for reading may be required. These articles will be posted on blackboard.***

#### **Other Resources:**

Blackboard issues: **270-745-7000**

**IF YOU CANNOT POST TO BLACKBOARD OR HAVE DIFFICULTY POSTING,  
CALL: 270-745-7000 (Information Technology)**

**If you do not know ANYTHING about blackboard, training is provided at**

**wku.edu/it. You may also call the afore listed phone number for Information Technology.**

**I cannot teach you blackboard or assist you with blackboard problems. IT has been designed to assist you with that.**

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:** This course will be conducted on the Internet and it will not meet in a classroom. Being self-motivated and able to work independently is important for success in this class.

1. Group discussion via online discussion board.
2. Independent reading in textbooks and supplemental material including internet sites requiring Adobe Reader and PowerPoint presentations.
3. Group and individual written projects submitted in Microsoft Word or designated forms.
4. Viewing of videos and audio on the internet.
5. Review and practice of selected assessment tools.
6. Fifteen (15) clock hours of field experience in child assessment.
7. Creative student production to demonstrate knowledge.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Regular use of a computer with internet access and a web browser.
2. Familiarity with surfing the internet, reading email and sending email.
3. An activated WKU email account that is checked daily (all email will be sent to a WKU email address and only to a WKU email address).
4. Access to Adobe Reader.
5. Ability to read PowerPoint slides.
6. Ability to view videos and audios on internet.
7. Ability to create videos and audio files and post them on the internet.
8. Actively participate in class via online activities.
9. Submit designated written assignments in Microsoft Word or other designated programs via Blackboard. Works and Word Perfect are NOT accepted.
10. Complete weekly online assignments.
11. Complete child checklists.
12. Complete online exams.
13. Participate in 15 hours of observation fieldwork.
14. Obtain any documentation required by facility for fieldwork, if appropriate.
15. Provide own transportation to conduct field work activities.
16. Maintain confidentiality of all information gathered about children and families through the field experience.
17. Maintain professionalism online by being respectful of comments by other students, never being rude, not using inappropriate language, or other such activity. Violation of this standard will lower your grade.

**EVALUATION**

Your grade for the course will be based on the assignments listed below. Class participation may be taken into account, as well as improvement over the semester. All exams and assignment boxes will open at 10:00 pm Friday for the start of each "week" as listed on the syllabus if not earlier and will close at 10:00 pm.

**Grading Procedures:** I grade on a percentage scale based on your total number of points compared to the total number of points available for the class as follows:

A = 100-90%    B = 89-80%    C = 79-70%    D = 69-60%    F = anything below 60%

4 Exams	200 (50 points each)
Observation Assignment	200

Critical Paper	100
Discussion Points and Weekly Assignments	200

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### **SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS**

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the responsibility of each student with a disability to notify the University of his or her disability and to notify the instructor and request verification of eligibility for accommodations. You may do so by contacting the Office for Student Disability Services in DUC A-200 of the Student Success Center in Downing University Center. Phone: 270-745-5004

Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

### **WHERE TO GO FOR HELP**

Academic Advisor – All admitted students have an assigned academic advisor. Although it is true that only certain categories of student's need an advisor's signature or approval on class registration, all students benefit by conferring with their advisor on a regular basis.

### **FINAL NOTE**

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as necessary. You are responsible for all changes to the syllabus and for all information presented during class, *regardless of whether or not you are currently participating in class.*

Please note, I respond to emails during work days between normal work hours (Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm). If you send me an email at a time other than outside of normal work hours do not expect a response before the next work day and note that it may take up to three work days to receive a response.

I reserve the right to ask any student to leave class if that student's behavior interferes with the learning process. This may result in a loss of points.

If at any point during the semester you are concerned about your grade, you are encouraged to talk with me as soon as possible. You may come by during my office hours or we can setup an appointment for another time.

I look forward to a great semester and a wonderful time of creative learning!!

**\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: The final syllabus will be posted on the class site prior to classes starting.\*\*\*\***