

Psychology 550 (Psychology of Childhood)

1:00 - 2:45 MW

Autumn, 2007

Instructor: **Dr. Terri Fisher**

Office: Bromfield 117

Office Hours: 10:00 - 12:00 MW or by appointment or just drop in

Phone: (office) 419.755.4280 (Home) 419.756.4932

Email: fisher.16@osu.edu

Textbook: Hetherington, Parke, Gauvain, & Locke, *Child Psychology: A Contemporary Viewpoint*, 6th Ed.

Dates	Topic	Chapter
Sept. 19, 24	Introduction and Methodology	1
Sept. 26	Heredity and Environment	2
Oct. 1, 3, 8*	Motor & Perceptual Development	4 & 5 (skip 186-208)
Oct. 10 (Wednesday)	Test	
Oct. 15, 17	Emotional & Social Development	6
Oct. 22, 24	Language Development	7
Oct. 29, 31*	Cognitive Development	8
Nov. 5 (Monday)	Test	
Nov. 7, 14	Family Relationships	11
Nov. 19	Peer Relationships	12 (skip 538-544)
Nov. 21, 26	Moral Development	14
Nov. 28*	Sex Role Development	13
Dec. 3, 11:00 (Monday)	Final Exam	

*written assignments due

Please note: There will be **no class** on **Monday, November 12** (Veterans' Day).

Test dates are subject to change if deemed necessary by the instructor. Any such change will be announced in class.

Attendance

While attendance does not count toward class credit, students who consistently miss class will be ineligible for any sort of curve or “benefit of the doubt” consideration in borderline cases when the final grades are being determined. If you must miss class, be sure to get the notes from someone in the class. A modified version of the PowerPoint slides are available on Carmen, the OSU course management system (www.carmen.osu.edu).

Tests

Each test will be worth 100 points and will consist of multiple-choice, short answer, and essay questions. Test questions will **not** be limited to material discussed in class. You are responsible for **all** material in the assigned chapters. If it is necessary for you to miss a test, you must make arrangements with me before the test is given. Please do not request an alternative testing time for reasons of personal preference. Illness or death remain the only good excuses for taking a makeup test.

Tests will be returned and discussed as quickly as possible. No grades will be provided to students prior to the return of tests in class. Students are not allowed to retain the test booklets in their possession. Arrangements will be made for those students who wish to review their old tests.

Grades will be posted on Carmen, the OSU course management system (www.carmen.osu.edu).

Projects

Two written critiques of journal articles reporting research on children are required. The first is due on October 8 and will be worth 20 points. The second is due on October 31 and will count 30 points. You will lose 10% of the total points for every day your critique is late. Each assignment is due at the beginning of the class period or it will be counted as late. Detailed instructions appear on an additional handout.

In addition, each student will be asked to do a child study project. The details of the assignment will be discussed in class. The written report of this project is due on November 28 by 1:00 pm. This project will be worth 100 points. You will lose 10 points for each day this project is late.

Class Cancellations

I do not anticipate any class cancellations this quarter. However, it is possible (though unlikely) that due to weather conditions the campus might be closed. If that should happen on a day that a test is scheduled, the test will be administered on the next day that we do have class.

Academic Misconduct

Cheating on a test in any way, including providing or receiving information during the test, stealing a test, failure to return a test, and changing answers once a test has been turned in are all behaviors that are considered academic misconduct and will be dealt with as such (see OSU Student Handbook).

Plagiarism is another form of academic misconduct. This refers to using the written work of somebody else without acknowledging that the paper, paragraph, sentence, or phrase did not originate with you. The best way to avoid plagiarism is to put everything you write in your own words. Quotation marks around “borrowed” material indicate that the words were originally written by another person. If you use too many quotation marks, however, the work will not really be your own, even if it is not technically plagiarized. For more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it, you may refer to the OSU Student Handbook.

Final Grades

The point scale to be used to determine grades for the course will be as follows:

A	93% - 100%
A-	90% - 92%
B+	87% - 89%
B	83% - 86%
B-	80% - 82%
C+	77% - 79%
C	73% - 76%
C-	70% - 72%
D+	67% - 69%
D	60% - 66%
E	less than 60%

The total number of points that can be earned during the quarter is 450.



Graduating Seniors

All instructors are expected to give final exams and graduating seniors are not considered exempt. Graduating seniors will take the final exam with the rest of the class during the scheduled exam period. You will need to identify yourself as a graduating senior because I will have to turn in your grade early.

Students with Disabilities

Any student who feels that he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Michelle McLane at the Office of Disability Services to discuss his or her specific needs. You may contact Michelle by calling (419) 755-4304 or visit her at the Conard Learning Center in room 100E in order to coordinate reasonable accommodations. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor and seeking available assistance in a timely manner.

Classroom Courtesy

Please make every attempt to arrive to class on time. Arriving late is disruptive to the class and to the instructor. Electronic devices should remain in your pocket or bag and any audible electronic signal should be turned off. The only students who should even be checking their calls or messages are those who are parents or who are expecting an emergency call. Students who are seen with their communication devices out will be asked to put them away the first time and will have them confiscated if any subsequent offense occurs for the rest of the quarter.

Textbook Online Learning Center: www.mhhe.com/hetherington6

OSU-M Psychology Program: www.mansfield.ohio-state.edu/psych

