

PSYC 2655 - Child Development

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 42806,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Jeffrey Coldren

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Jeffrey Coldren

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

- Ph.D. Child Development and Developmental Psychology, University of Kansas, 1992
- MA. Human Development, University of Kansas, 1987
- BA. Psychology, Albright College, 1983

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Course Description

2655. Child Development. Foundations of human development from conception through approximately the first decade of life. Fundamental issues of developmental processes in biological, cognitive, and social-emotional domains and their broader implications for society and later development of the individual. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Child Development: An Introduction	J. W. Santrock	

This book is part of the "First Day Ready" program. If you wish to purchase a physical copy of the textbook, contact the bookstore. You will access the text and all assignments through Blackboard and McGrawHill's Connect learning platform.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	none	First Week: Introduction to the Course	Discussion Board - Introduce Yourself Discussion Board - Most Significant Issue Due Friday August 28 at 11:59 PM
8/31	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 1, 2, 3	The Nature of Child Development	Policy Recommendation Design a Study Discussion Board - Reflection Due Friday, September 11 at 11:59 PM EST

9/14	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 4, 5, 6	Prenatal and Neonatal Periods	Discussion Board - Birth Discussion Board - Reflection Evaluating Toy Claims Video Concept Clip - Infant Habituation Video - Detecting Autism Discussion - Predicting Autism Lab Activity - Infant Vision Due Friday, September 25 at 11:59 PM EST Exam 1 - Friday, September 25 - in class
9/28	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 7, 8	Cognitive Development	Discussion Board - Reflection Discussion - Risky Behavior Testing for Piaget's Conservation Lunch Time with Piager Day-Night Stroop Effect Due Friday, October 9 at 11:59 PM EST
10/12	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 9, 10	Intelligence and Language	Discussion Board - Reflection Link - Take the Garnder Test Discussion - Which Kind of Intelligence Are You? Discussion - Your Experience with Intelligence Tests Take a Position - Intelligence Language Observation The Wug Test Video Concept Clip - Intelligence Due Friday, October 23 at 11:59 PM EST Exam 2 - Friday, October 23 in class
10/26	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 11, 12	Emotional Development and the Self	Discussion Board - Reflection Discussion - Your Own Attachment Discussion - Media and Self-Esteem Attachment Observation Identity Statues Due Friday, November 9 at 11:59 PM EST
11/9	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 13, 14	Gender and Morality	Discussion Board - Reflection Gender Stereotyping on TV Observing Altruism Kohlberg's Stages of Moral Reasoning Due Friday, November 20 at 11:59 PM EST Exam 3 - Friday, November 20 in class
11/23	SmartBook and Quizzes - chapters 15, 16, 17	Social Systems in Development	Discussion Board - Reflection Video and Reaction - Bullying Video and Reaction - Economic Case for Preschool Discussion Board - Parenting Class Requirement Take the Grit Scale Thinking about Grit Discussion Discussion Board - Most Significant Issue Due Friday, December 4 at 11:59 PM EST
12/7		Finals Week	Exam 4 - Monday, December 7 at 10:30 AM

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.