



PSY 300 002E 20912
MW 9:30am to 10:45am Henderson 207
Learning Processes and Development
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2014

Instructor: Shonda A. Gibson, Ph.D.

Office Location: One Stop Shop 118

Office Hours: by appointment only

Office Phone: 903-886-5743

University Email Address: Shonda.Gibson@TAMUC.edu (*best way to contact me*)

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook Required: Woolfolk, A. E. (2010). *Educational psychology*, (12th ed.). New Jersey: Pearson. ISBN-9780132900157

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide the student with information about the application of psychological theory to the learning processes and development of children and adolescents. Principles and procedures of measurement and evaluation are also included. The primary objective is to facilitate a clear understanding of the complex, dynamic processes of learning and development.

Student Learning Outcomes: The student will be able to:

1. Distinguish age-appropriate behaviors as they relate to learning and teaching.
2. Apply information regarding the theories of the teaching-learning processes to how people learn, what factors motivate them, and how they retain knowledge.
3. Distinguish between measurement and evaluation and the implication of each for assessing student progress.

The four major areas that will be covered in this course are: 1) development, 2) learning and motivation, 3) measurement and evaluation, and 4) professionalization issues, including critical thinking.

Course Details

Class time will not be used to deliver lectures about factual knowledge that can be found in the textbook. Factual knowledge includes definitions, bulleted listings, principles, and other easily-understood facts that are already well covered in materials assigned to be read. You are required to have carefully read and acquired basic understanding of factual materials from assigned textbook (or other relevant) readings before coming to a class session. Class time will, instead, be devoted to learning through:

- ✓ Discussions of real-world events, thought-provoking questions, and video materials
- ✓ Analyses of cases
- ✓ Demonstrations of technical content
- ✓ Hands-on simulations

This course is web enhanced and will require you to come to class 2 days weekly, and work in eCollege (an online course program). You will be required to connect (at the very least) on a weekly basis. This syllabus may change, depending upon the circumstances of the semester, fully at the discretion of the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are expected to complete all readings and attend each class prepared to ask questions and/or contribute to class discussions. Course grades will be determined by performance in the following areas:

1. **Class ticket/Attendance** – Reading material is assigned for each week. Your “ticket” to enable entry to class and educated discussion will be 1) a minimum of a full-page summary of the reading material (chapter), 2) 5 W’s reflection, and 3) Entry in discussion – how would you assess learning?.

Personalize the reading experience by addressing 5 W’s:

1. What is the main point of the reading material?
2. Who should (or does) care?
3. Why is this important?
4. When can you apply this information?
5. WOW – The one thing that surprised me was...

Summary is due in the eCollege dropbox before the day of discussion related to each chapter, as noted in the course outline – our in-class discussions will center on your summaries. Tickets are only accepted in eCollege, and before the class!

NO POINTS WILL BE ISSUED IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND THE CLASS DISCUSSION.

14 Chapters, 50 points per summary, Total: 700 points. .

2. **Take-home activities** – Six take-home activities, with each activity worth 50 points, are due through the semester. Writing mechanics such as grammar and spelling will be taken into account when assigning a grade. All responses must be typed using a 12-point font, double-spaced, unless otherwise noted. All work must be submitted through the designated dropbox in the eCollege class.

6 activities, 50 points each, Total: 300 points

3. **Exams** – Exams will constitute a portion of the grade. There will be four exams, three regular exams (100 points each) and one cumulative final, (120 points). Exams will vary in terms of format, but are likely to include both multiple-choice, true-false, short answer, and/or essay questions. Exams will be administered through the enhanced eCollege class and will be open as noted in the course schedule. No make-up exams will be given. Exams may be re-scheduled, without penalty, only when arrangements have been made with the instructor in *advance of the testing date*.
3 Exams 100 points each, and 1Final 120 points, Total: 420 points

4. **Research participation** - A goal of this class is to help you familiarize yourself with research methods. One manner to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at TAMUC, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments (see me for more information on alternative assignments). **ONE FULL LETTER GRADE.**

Students must complete a total of 6 experiment credits. However, if students complete their first 4 experiment credits without any “no-shows” you will receive 2 free punctual participant credits. In other words, if you show up to your experiments on time you will only need to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment system (SONA) you will be asked to take a prescreen survey. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen survey in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive 1/2 free experiment credit. You are only allowed to complete 3 experiment credits with online studies, the remaining experiment credit(s) will need to be obtained by participating in laboratory studies.

If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an ‘A’ in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final grade in the class will be a ‘B.’ Several weeks have been specifically noted as research participation in an effort to remind and encourage you to complete the required research participation.

5. **Extra-Credit:** The instructor may present opportunities and activities for extra-credit points as the semester progresses – see course schedule and eCollege course for details. Extra credit opportunities will not be issued on an individual basis.

Evaluation:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>% OF TOTAL</u>
Class Tickets (14 worth 50 points each)	700	(44%)
Take-Home Activities (6 worth 50 points each)	300	(19%)
Exams (3 worth 100 points, final worth 120 points)	420	(27%)
Total points possible	1420 points	
+ Research Participation	Full Letter-Grade	(10%)

Grades:

A =	90% and above
B =	80-89%
C =	70-79%
D =	60-69%
F =	less than 60%

As fully described above, there is no possibility of earning a passing grade in this course without participating in combination of activities (class tickets, discussions, activities, exams, and research).

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web enhanced course.

The following technology is required to be successful in this course.

Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up), Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word – 2003 or 2007), Access to University Library site, Access to an Email

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, log in through your MyLeo account.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000.

This course will be utilizing the Sona system to coordinate your research participation. Register with the Psychology Research Participant Pool via the EMS website (using the “request a new account” link) at <http://tamuc-commerce.sona-systems.com/>. If you already have an account and can log in, it is fine to continue using it. You do not need to create a new one. Complete instructions are available at:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/educationHumanServices/departments/psychologyCounselingSpecialEducation/special-education/documents/EMSpictorialGuide.pdf#EMSGuide>

Additionally, students will utilize the ManeSync portal in creation of an electronic portfolio.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

University Closing Due to Inclement Weather:

University closing information will be posted on the web at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu>.

Academic Honesty:

The *Student's Guidebook* addresses the issues of academic cheating and plagiarism. These are a breach of conduct, and students are subject to disciplinary actions.

Student Behavior:

Disturbing the education of students by other students is taken seriously. Appropriate (as defined by the instructor) level of interaction/participation during classroom discussions and presentations is expected. All pagers, cell phones, electronic games, radios, CD players, or other devices must be turned off when you enter the classroom. No laptops are allowed to be used in class. No recordings (audio or video) are allowed. Disruption of class or inconsiderate behavior will not be tolerated. It is my expectation that every student will have the utmost respect for their peers in class when discussing experiences of a sensitive nature.

Student Conduct:

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” Students are expected to follow the code of conduct in class described in the Student Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct). Violation of the code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary processes described in the Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic honesty. This means that neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated and students who engage in either will be subject to the disciplinary processes described in the Code of Student Conduct). Plagiarism essentially means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving them credit. Therefore, “quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author you will need to credit the source in the text” (APA, 2001, p. 249). If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please see me. Students who plagiarize any material will earn a grade of F for the course.

Students are expected to attend all classes – no make-up work will be assigned or accepted. More than 3 absences during the semester are considered excessive. Students are responsible for following University procedures to drop a class. If you stop attending the class for any reason, you must initiate the process of dropping, or you will receive a failing grade. Plan to take care of this several days ahead of time, so that you will have the time required to get the forms signed, submitted, etc. *If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get class notes from a fellow student – I will not provide any notes or reviews from class.*

Accommodations:

Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must go through the Academic Support Committee. The Director of Disability Resources & Services must notify

instructors in writing before accommodations will be made. For more information, please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services, Halladay Student Services Bldg., Room 303D, (903) 886-5835.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

PROPOSED COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR				
WEEK	DATE Start - End	MONDAY *class	WEDNESDAY *class	FRIDAY ASSIGNMENT DUE
1	1/13 TO 1/19	Course Review and Introductions	Learning Outcomes	Introduction in Student Lounge of eCollege. Set up your SONA EMS account.
2	1/20 TO 1/26	CH 1 (ticket due)	CH 4 (ticket due)	
3	1/27 TO 2/2	CH 5 (ticket due)	In class discussion	THA 1 submit online
4	2/3 TO 2/9	CH 14 (ticket due)	Exam 1 online	
5	2/10 TO 2/16	CH 3 (ticket due)	Research participation	THA 2 submit online Extra Credit - Speaker
6	2/17 TO 2/23	CH 2 (ticket due)	In class discussion	Extra Credit Teacher Job Fair
7	2/24 TO 3/2	CH 9 (ticket due)	CH 6 (ticket due)	THA 3 submit online Extra Credit - Speaker
8	3/3 TO 3/9	Research participation	Exam 2 online	
9	3/10 TO 3/16	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
10	3/17 TO 3/23	CH 7 (ticket due)	Meet in computer lab	THA 4 submit online Extra Credit - Speaker
11	3/24 TO 3/30	CH 8 (ticket due)	In class discussion	
12	3/31 TO 4/6	CH 10 (ticket due)	In class discussion	
13	4/7 TO 4/13	CH 11 (ticket due)	Exam 3 online	
14	4/14 TO 4/20	CH 12 (ticket due)	In class discussion	THA 5 submit online
15	4/21 TO 4/27	CH 13 (ticket due)	Career Development	
16	4/28 TO 5/4	Career Development Research participation	Career Development Research participation	THA 6 submit online
17	5/5 TO 5/9	No Class	FINAL EXAM DUE - online	