

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS**  
**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**  
**EDUC/HD 380: Applications in Child and Youth Development**  
**Fall Semester 2012, CRN 42250/42251**  
**Course Location/Days/Time**

**Professor:** Erika Daniels

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**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the School of Education Community is to collaboratively transform public education by preparing thoughtful educators and advancing professional practices. We are committed to diversity, educational equity, and social justice, exemplified through reflective teaching, life-long learning, innovative research, and ongoing service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student-centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism, and shared governance.

***COURSE DESCRIPTION***

Considers the social, cultural, cognitive, emotional, linguistic, and behavioral development of children and adolescents from multidisciplinary, multicultural, and applied perspectives. Students will learn major theories of development in order to apply that knowledge to their work in evidence-based services and programs for children and youth. Course includes a field experience component through which students will consider how their in-class learning is enacted in the lived experiences of children and youth. Special attention is given to identifying multicultural and sociocultural influences on development.

**Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the main principles of cognitive development, information processing, and sociocultural theory in order to identify how each is manifested in the lives of children and youth
2. Use the field experience to demonstrate how academic theory contributes to understanding observed differences in socially, culturally, and linguistically diverse children and youth
3. Understand and then evaluate the ways in which academic theory is applied within the realms of health, human services, and education
4. Apply knowledge gained from the field experience when considering influences such as environment, culture, family/sibling/friend relationships on the development of thought and reasoning
5. Create an understanding of what various theoretical constructs actually mean in the “real life” of children and youth
6. Summarize findings of empirical research in major areas of cognitive development, including perception, language, memory, conceptual understanding, problems solving, social cognition, and acquisition of academic skills and apply those summaries to understanding the lived experiences of children and youth
7. Understand cognitive and developmental processes and determine how that knowledge can be best applied to work with children and youth in education and other human services fields.

**\*Special Note: Because this course requires a field service component, a background check will be required. It is your responsibility to check with the agency you will be serving and to meet fingerprinting and other requirements to serve as a volunteer. All students should work with the Office of Service Learning to ensure that proper procedures are followed.**

### **All University Writing Requirement**

Writing requirements for this class will be met as described in the assignments. Every course at the university, including this one, must have a writing requirement of at least 2500 words.

### **Students with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations must be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Office of Disable Student Services (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 4300, and can be contacted by phone at (760) 750-4905, or TTY (760) 750-4909. Students authorized by DSS to receive reasonable accommodations should meet with their instructor during office hours or, in order to ensure confidentiality, in a more private setting.

### **CSUSM Academic Honesty Policy**

Students will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All written work and oral presentation assignments must be original work. All ideas or materials borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated with quotation marks.

Students are responsible for honest completion of their work including examinations. There will be no tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor's attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole. *Incidents of Academic Dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students. Sanctions at the University level may include suspension or expulsion from the University.*

### **Plagiarism**

As an educator, it is expected that each student will do his/her own work, and contribute equally to group projects and processes. Plagiarism or cheating is unacceptable under any circumstances. If you are in doubt about whether your work is paraphrased or plagiarized see the Plagiarism Prevention for Students website <http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/index.html>. If there are questions about academic honesty, please consult the University catalog.

### **Electronic Communication Protocol**

Electronic correspondence is a part of professional interactions. If you need to contact me, e-mail is often the easiest way to do so. Please be reminded that e-mail and on-line discussions are a very specific form of communication, with their own nuances and etiquette. For instance, electronic messages sent in all upper case (or lower case) letters, major typos, or slang, often communicate more than the sender originally intended. With that said, please be mindful of all e-mail and on-line discussion messages you send to your colleagues, to faculty members in the School of Education, or to persons within the greater educational community. All electronic messages should be crafted with professionalism and care.

Things to consider:

- Would I say in person what this electronic message specifically says?
- How could this message be misconstrued?
- Does this message represent my highest self?
- Am I sending this electronic message to avoid a face-to-face conversation?

In addition, if there is ever a concern with an electronic message sent to you, please talk with the author in person in order to correct any confusion.

### Attendance Policy

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the School of Education all students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, students must attend more than 80% of class time, or s/he may not receive a passing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor. Individual instructors may adopt more stringent attendance requirements. (Adopted by the COE Governance Community, December, 1997). Should a student have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible. ***For this class: Students missing three class sessions will see their grades reduced by one full grade. Students missing four or more class sessions will see their grades reduced by two full grades. Leaving early or arriving late by more than 15 minutes constitutes one absence. Illness and emergencies are considered on a case-by-case basis. However, notification of an absence does not constitute an excuse.***

### REQUIRED TEXTS

- Martinez, M. (2010). *Learning and Cognition: The Design of the Mind*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.
- Willingham, D. (2009). *Why Don't Students Like School? A Cognitive Scientist Answers Questions about How the Mind Works and What it Means for Your Classroom*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Scholarly and applied articles from academic researchers and field practitioners are required and will be found on the Cougar Courses site.

### Grading Standards (Points)

<b>A</b>	93-100	<b>B+</b>	87-89	<b>C+</b>	77-79
<b>A-</b>	90-92	<b>B</b>	83-86	<b>C</b>	73-76
		<b>B-</b>	80-82	<b>C-</b>	70-72

### ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to demonstrate competency in the use of various forms of technology (i.e. word processing, electronic mail, use of the Internet, and/or multimedia presentations). Specific requirements for course assignments with regard to technology are at the discretion of the instructor. Assignments are to be turned in on the due date, no exceptions.

Proofread and edit word-processed assignments prior to submission. Hand-written work is not accepted. Assignments are written in Times, size12 font, and are double-spaced. Ensure the text is error-free (grammar, spelling), and ideas are logically and concisely presented. All citations, where appropriate, use American Psychological Association (APA) format.

Assignment	Points Possible
Interview with a Youth; Due November 15	25
Presentation of Interview Findings & Implications; Due November 29	15
Service Learning Write Up; Due December 6	30
Final Exam: Online during Finals Week—Due December 13	30
Total Points	100

### 1. Interview With a Youth

You will identify a child or adolescent with whom to work this semester. You will conduct a series of interviews centered on the major theories discussed in this course. Because the focus of this course is on *understanding how theories of development apply to the lived experiences of children and adolescents*, these interviews will encourage you to make those connections. This assignment encourages you to *create an understanding of what various theoretical constructs actually mean in the “real life” of children and adolescents*. See pages 6 & 7 for sample interview questions.

### 2. Presentation (Interview and Implications)

In order to emphasize the *importance of practically applying the theories and concepts from this class to the real world of children and adolescents*, you will prepare a presentation of the major findings from your interview series. This presentation can be a poster, PowerPoint, or any other creative format, and you will share the work in a Gallery Walk during the 14<sup>th</sup> week of the course. Your presentation must summarize your findings from the interview series and *discuss their implications for education, social work, and other human services fields*.

### 3. Service Learning Experience and Write-Up

Because this course focuses on *understanding how theories of child and adolescent development are applied in daily practice*, you will spend 1-2 hours per week volunteering in a field-based program of your choice. You may volunteer in a public or private school classroom, a hospital, or a social work setting. You will document your interactions with the children or adolescents you encounter and write an analysis that makes connections between and among the theories we discuss in class and your experiences in the field. We will discuss procedures for identifying a field site, expectations for gaining permission to volunteer, and requirements for the write-up in class. See page 6 for questions to guide your thinking during the observations. Use the graphic organizer on page 8 to hold your thinking if you find it useful.

### 4. Final Exam

During finals week, you will take a comprehensive final exam in order to demonstrate your understanding of the major theories and concepts related to child and adolescent development and *how they apply to education and human services*. Because research suggests that the act of retrieving information on a regular basis aids in retention, there will be 2-3 questions given at the end of class each Tuesday. They represent the primary learning undertaken that week and should be used to create a study guide. These questions will become part of the final exam.

**\*Course Format:** Because the focus of this class is on an applied understanding of how children and youth develop cognitively, emotionally, and socially, all topics will be taught through interdisciplinary and multicultural perspectives. The topics listed below identify the main idea for each class session and will be discussed with an interdisciplinary lens. We will integrate findings from numerous related fields as we work to understand how theory enacts itself in the real lives of children and youth. To that end, class will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays during weeks 1, 2, 14, and 15. During weeks 3-13, class will meet on Tuesdays only. Students will spend Thursdays during weeks 3-13 in their service learning experience in order to observe ways in which Tuesday's content is manifested in the lives of children and youth. \*

Week	Topic	Readings & Assignments
1: Aug 28 & 30	T: Introductions; Understanding brain & oral language development R: Social influences & multicultural perspectives on development	Articles on CC
2: September 4 & 6	T: Vygotsky and the sociocultural perspective R: <i>Online session</i> : Exploring how social contexts influence behavior	Martinez pp. 209-212 Willingham, Chapter 1
3: September 11	T: Attention and memory development (working and long-term) R: Service learning—Notice the children's attention and memory capacities	Martinez, Chapter 3 Willingham, Chapter 3
4: September 18	T: Development of literacy R: Service learning—Notice how the children use reading, writing, speaking, and listening to communicate and make meaning	Martinez pp. 212-216
5: September 25	T: Problem solving and metacognition R: Service learning—Notice how the children react to problems, challenges, and difficulties	Martinez, Chapter 5
6: October 2	T: Problem solving and critical thinking R: Service learning—Notice whether and how the children employ the critical thinking strategies we discuss on Tuesday	Articles on CC
7: October 9	T: Academic skills R: Service learning—Notice how children feel about achieving academically; Identify social influences on their academic work	Willingham, Chapters 4 & 5
8: October 16	T: Development of identity: Self, ethnic, situational R: Service learning—Identify how the children appear to view themselves; Notice any social and multicultural influences	Articles on CC
9: October 23	T: Self-concept and self-esteem R: Service learning—Notice what value the children place on their abilities. Is that value influenced by their social, cultural, and linguistic identity?	Articles on CC
10:	T: <i>Online session</i> : Motivation	Martinez, Chapter 6

October 30	R: Service learning—Identify varying levels of motivation among the children. Think about the multicultural and social influences on their behavioral and/or academic choices	See detailed directions on Cougar Courses
11: November 6	T: Motivation continued <i>and</i> Peer and friend relationships R: Service learning—Notice how the children interact with their peers; What appears to influence the decisions they make and the language they use with different individuals	Martinez pp. 343-364
12: November 13	T: Understanding the lived experiences of children & adolescents R: Service learning—Think about how the course themes (brain development, patterning, meaning making, and knowledge creation) manifest themselves in the children you work with	Articles on CC <b>Due Thursday (on CC):</b> Interview with a youth
13: November 20	T: <i>Online session:</i> Connections between thinking and learning (brain-based learning) R: Service learning—Think about why some children learn with relative ease while others struggle; Identify social and multicultural influences on thinking and learning	Martinez, Chapter 8
14: November 27	T: Brain-based learning (continued) R: Gallery Walk with findings from the child/youth interviews	<b>Due Thursday:</b> Interview implications
15: December 4	T: Intersections among research, practice, and reality R: Discussion of service learning experience	<b>Due Thursday (on CC):</b> Write up of service learning experience
16: December 13	<b>Final Exam</b> <b>Online during Finals Week; Due December 13, by 9 am</b>	

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEW & SERVICE-LEARNING WRITE UP  
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- 1.) How do the theories of cognitive development inform and/or influence service providers' interactions with their patients/students/clients?
- 2.) What outside influences such as environmental factors, cultural expectations, and family/sibling/friend relationships are evident on the patients/students/clients at your service-learning site? In other words, how do outside forces influence the choices you see being made?
- 3.) How do these outside influences affect the development of thought and reasoning within the patient/student/client?
- 4.) How do these outside influences affect the service providers' responses and their ability to address the needs of the patient/student/client?
- 5.) How will your understanding of the cognitive, emotional, and social development of the people (patients, students, clients, and service providers) you observe during your service learning experience inform and/or influence your interactions and decision-making processes within your future social and professional life?
- 6.) *For the interview with a child/adolescent in particular:* How will your observation and understanding of this child's cognitive, social, and emotional development inform and/or influence your interactions and decision-making process with other children of this age?

## SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR THE INTERVIEW WITH A CHILD OR ADOLESCENT

- 1.) What types of things do you like to do in your free time? How do you decide what to do when you have a choice?
- 2.) How do you feel about school? What is your favorite part? What is your least favorite part?
- 3.) Tell me about your family and friends.
- 4.) Do you have a best friend?
- 5.) What is the best part about having a good friend?
- 6.) What is something difficult about having a best friend?
- 7.) What is your favorite thing to do with your family?
- 8.) How do you solve disagreements with your friends?
- 9.) How do you respond when your parents won't allow you to do something you want to do or have something you want?
- 10.) Have you thought about what you want to be when you grow up? If you know what you want to be, what do you need to do while you are young in order to get ready to achieve that goal?

During one of your interview sessions, take time to “play” with your child or adolescent. Play a board game, outdoor sport etc. Observe their actions, question their choice of moves etc.

Exploring Theoretical Constructs in “Real Life”

<b>Concept</b>	<b>Behavior</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Vygotsky and the Socio-cultural perspective			
Development of Literacy			
Attention and Memory			
Academic skills and Problem solving			
Identity Development			
Social/Emotional Development			
Environmental and Contextual Influences			
Brain-based Learning			