



Course Syllabus

Bethesda University of California

BETHESDA UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT:

Bethesda University of California is a Christ-centered community of higher education preparing Korean/English speaking men and women with professional competence, academic excellence, and spiritual integrity to be servant leaders in the Church, community, and global society.

I. COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number & Title: GS 215 Child Psychology
Semester: Spring 2015
Professor: Estee Song
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II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This survey course is intended to provide an overview of current knowledge, theories, and means of generating knowledge in the field of child psychology. Learning basic principles of child psychology in accordance with early child development. Emphasizes an application of child psychology in teaching and counseling children.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A goal of this course is for you to gain a general knowledge of child disorders within the context of a developmental psychopathology framework. In addition, you will demonstrate familiarity common psychological disorders and understand the biological, psychological, and sociocultural components that contribute to abnormal behavior and children.

Specific course objectives include:

1. Familiarity with the diagnostic criteria and prevention of child disorders
2. Understanding of developmental considerations that influence the diagnosis and behavioral manifestation of childhood disorders
3. Consideration of contextual influences on the development, maintenance, and treatment of Childhood disorders.

After completing this course, students will have achieved the following:

Student Learning Outcomes	Assignments for Assessment
1) Demonstrate and communicate an understanding of the major concepts, findings, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in Child psychology	Weekly Reading Assignments Class Interaction
2) Critically compare and contrast and identify major categories of mental illness found in children.	Weekly Reading Assignments Group Discussion
3) Acquire relevant understanding of how the scientific method is used to study Childhood Disorder;	In-Class Formal Assessment Chapter Review
4) Demonstrate familiarity with diagnostic criteria associated with common psychological disorders experienced in childhood.	In-Class Formal and Informal Assessment

IV. COURSE TEXTS:

Bible (New King James)

Mash, E.J., & Wolfe, D.A. (2013) *Abnormal Child Psychology 5th ed*. Florence, KY: Wadsworth.

ISBN-10: 1111834490 ISBN-13: 978-1111834494

Reserve Readings:

1. Wicks-Nelson, R., & Israel, A.C. (2009). *Abnormal Child and Adolescent Psychology*. (2009). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (7th edition)
2. Pelzer, D. (1995). *A child called "it": One child's courage to survive*. Deerfield Beach, FL: Health Communications, Inc.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

A. Class attendance and Participation (20%)

You are expected to arrive on time and attend every lecture. All cell phones must be turned off during class time. You will be expected to participate in the class discussion, especially as we interact with the textbooks and assigned reading.

All unexcused absences will have the following consequences:

- 1) 1st absence: Final grade lowered by 1/3 grade level
- 2) 2nd absence: Final grade lowered by an entire letter grade
- 3) 3rd absence: Dismissal from the class

B. Reading: In order to fully understand the course material, as well as to do well in this course, it is crucial that you stay current with the assigned readings. A list of reading assignments for the semester is included in the schedule. Additional readings will be announced ahead of time in class. You should read assignments prior to each class meeting. You will be in a much better position to understand the lecture if you have done the reading. It will also increase your ability to take effective notes. The lectures cover material that is not in the reading. Therefore, it is crucial that you attend each lecture. You are responsible for all the material in the assigned reading and lectures. The class will include both lecture and discussion, so you need to come to class fully prepared each day to discuss the assigned material.

C. Exams: There will be four exams in the course. There will be three midterms during the semester (see schedule for dates). Exams will cover material from the lecture and readings. The midterms and final will not be comprehensive; it will cover only the period of time between the two **midterms** (simply cover information from the last unit). The exams will consist of multiple choice, matching, short-answer, and essay questions. The questions will be taken from class material, and the textbook. You will be held responsible for all of the information covered in each chapter, not just the topics discussed in class, so be sure and read each chapter carefully.

- 1) Midterms (60%)
- 2) Final (20%)

Make-up Exams: The opportunity to make up a missed exam is a privilege, not a right, and will only be considered in cases of extreme unforeseen events. In the case of a serious problem, it is your responsibility to contact me by telephone before the exam is given. If for some reason I do not answer the phone, please leave a message on my voice mail with a number where I can reach you. Or email notification. No make-ups will be allowed without first contacting me.

VI. HOMEWORK TIME ESTIMATE

- Reading Assignments: 21 hours
- Chapter Review: 14 hours
- Midterm & Final Study: 13 hours

VII. COURSE GRADING:

Grades will be assigned according to the following distribution:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Grade Points	Quality of Performance
A	95-100	4.0	Outstanding
A-	90-94	3.7	Excellent
B+	87-89	3.3	Good +
B	84-86	3.0	Good
B-	80-83	2.7	Good -
C+	77-79	2.3	Satisfactory +
C	74-76	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	70-73	1.7	Satisfactory -
D+	67-69	1.3	Poor
D	64-66	1.0	Very Poor
D-	60-63	0.7	Extremely Poor
F	59 or lower	0	Failure

VIII. Incomplete Policy

All course work is due on the dates assigned. Students who fail to submit assignments on time will be subject to the course's late grading policy. In all other cases and unless otherwise stated by the instructor, all course work is due by 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the semester.

A grade of incomplete will only be awarded to students who cannot physically complete their course work by the last day of the semester due to an avoidable situation such as a serious illness. In such cases, students must provide valid evidence of their condition. After a semester has ended it is no longer possible to request an incomplete. Incompletes will not be granted simply because of poor time

management. Students who assume that an incomplete will be issued because they failed to finish their course work by the end of the semester will automatically receive a grade of F.

Incompletes must first be approved by the Academic Affairs office. To apply for an incomplete, student must fill out an incomplete-grade-request form and submit it to the office by December 2, 2013. After receiving approval from the office, the student must then obtain approval from his or her instructor.

IX. ATTENDANCE:

Attendance at BUC is mandatory! Attendance, preparedness, diligent work and engaged participation are important! Students are expected to attend and participate in all classes. Any adjustments to the course schedule will be announced in class. If you miss class you are responsible for getting any notes, handouts, or other materials from a classmate.

X. OFFICE HOURS: Always available by appointment.

XI. COURSE PRAYER SUBJECTS:

- A. Growth in grace: We may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:18)
- B. Time with God: Let nothing hinder our time with God. Protect us from the distractions of busyness, unnecessary demands, fatigue, over commitment, compromise, and doubt. Bless us with rich study time, and give us opportunities, desire, and places to seek You (God) in prayer, both alone and with others. (Acts 6:2-4; Mt. 26:41; 2 Tim. 2:15; Mk. 1:35; Acts 1:14)
- C. Worship: Draw us into deeper worship of You (God). Give us a vision of heaven, and keep us from traditions that hold the form of godliness but deny its power.
- D. Passion for God: Lord please instill in us a 'soul that followeth hard after thee,' one that clings passionately to you. (Ps. 63:8)
- E. Knowledge: Enlighten the eyes of us so that we may know the hope of His calling, the riches of our glorious inheritance in the saints, and the incomparably great power that is in us who believe. Let us see the full revelation of Jesus Christ. May we know Christ and the power of His resurrection. (Eph. 1:18-19; Gal. 1:12; Phil. 3:10)

XI. COURSE SCHEDULE

Wk	Date	Topic	Assignment	
			Reading (Solso)	Other
1	2/23	Introduction	Chapter 1	
2	3/2	Theories & Etiology	Chapter 2	
3	3/9	Research Design in Clinical Child Psychology	Chapter 3	
4	3/16	Emprically-Based Approaches to Assessment	Chapter 4	
5	3/23	Emprically-Based Approaches to Treatment	Chapter 4	Review Question Due
6	3/30	Midterm I ADHD I	Chapter 5	
7	4/6	NO CLASS- EASTER READING WEEK		
8	4/13	ADHD II (Guest Lecturer)	Chapter 5	
9	4/20	ODD and Conduct Problems I	Chapter 6	
10	4/27	ODD and Conduct Problems II	Chapter 6	Review Question Due
11	5/4	Midterm II Anxiety Disorder I	Chapter 7	
12	5/11	Anxiety Disorder II	Chapter 7	
13	5/18	Mood Disorder / Depression (Guest Lecturer)	Chapter 8	Review Question Due
14	5/25	Midterm III Depression in Children	Chapter 8	
15	6/1	Learning Disorder	Chapter 11	Review Question Due
16	6/8	Final		

