

HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SYLLABUS - EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY PSY207-03 (CRN# 21002)
T 7:00-9:50 Fallston 203
SPRING 2011

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. Chuck Conjar

OFFICE: Fallston 250 / OFFICE HOURS: T 6-6:50 PM and by appointment

HOME PHONE: See Instructor

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WORLD WIDE WEB: <http://pages.towson.edu/conjar>

REQUIRED TEXT: Slavin, R. E. Educational Psychology, Ninth Edition. Allyn and Bacon, 2009.

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION: Educational Psychology focuses on the learning process and related ideas such as development, individual differences, cognition, effective learning environments, motivation and exceptionalities. Emphasis is placed on studying the development of effective teaching-learning relationships in the American school environment. Connections among a variety of disciplines are stressed, as well as links to the real world beyond the classroom. (3 credits)

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES & ACADEMIC OUTCOMES:

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- 1) Discuss the various developmental models and how they explain children's learning processes. (*Science and Technology, Communication, Critical Thinking*)
- 2) Evaluate contextual conditions that impact and enhance learning. (*Communication, Critical Thinking, Science and Technology*)
- 3) Demonstrate how various models available for organizing instruction impact classroom management and student learning. (*Communication, Critical Thinking*)
- 4) Identify the exceptional student and propose various strategies for dealing with these students in the classroom setting. (*Communication, Critical Thinking, Science and Technology*)

GRADING:

Your final grade will be based on the number of points you earn during the semester. Grades will be determined as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| A | 540-600 points. |
| B | 480-539 points. |
| C | 420-479 points. |
| D | 360-419 points. |
| F | 359 and below. |

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS:

1. Tests - 400 Possible Points (100 points per test)

There will be four unit tests during the semester. The first three will consist of 40 multiple-choice items and one essay question. Test 4 will consist of multiple-choice items based on Unit 4 and a cumulative review of Units 1-3. Tests will be administered during the first half of class on the dates listed in the schedule. Make up tests will be offered only if specific criteria are met. (See Make Up Test Policy)

2. Assignment 1: Brief Article - 40 Possible Points (See Brief Article Handout)

Students will complete a 2-page homework paper based on material from one of the units. The paper must include in-text references and a list of works cited. The paper must be typed, double-spaced using a computer word processing application.

3. Assignment 2: Research Project -100 Possible Points (See Research Project Handout)

Each student must complete a project due near the end of the semester. Students may either write an article (5-6 pages) or do an oral presentation (10-15 minutes). Some components will be submitted for feedback prior to completion of the project. The final project (or presentation outline if oral) must include an accurate list of all cited references that matches the in-text citations and must be typed, double-spaced, using a computer word-processing application.

4. Attendance and Participation - 50 Possible Points .

Active participation in class will facilitate learning and improve grades. Students can earn points by arriving on time, being prepared, sharing ideas and questions, and participating in class demonstrations. Students who are absent more than once or do not participate constructively will lose points. (See Attendance Policy). Occasional in-class writing assignments will also count toward the class participation grade.

5. In-Class Brief Paper - 10 Possible Points

Students will write a short assignment in two parts. The parts will be completed at the end of class on two consecutive weeks. Each part will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

COURSE POLICIES:

HCC students are bound by the academic policies outlined in the most current HCC Catalog. It is the student's responsibility to review these policies prior to the start of each semester.

A. Make-Up Test Policy

1. If you will not be able to attend class on the evening of a test, notify the instructor the week before the scheduled test date. The instructor will leave a copy of the test in the TEST CENTER and you will be permitted to take it anytime BEFORE the test is administered to the rest of the class.
2. If you intend to take a test in class, but are unable to attend due to illness, car trouble, etc., the instructor may make an exception and allow you to take the test under the following conditions:
 - You must have a valid excuse.
 - You must notify the instructor within two days following the test (Home Phone: 410-866-8218).
 - You must complete the test in the Test Center PRIOR to the beginning of the next class.
 - You will not be permitted to take any part of a make up test during class time.
3. All make up tests must be completed in the Test Center (443-412-2352). Test Center personnel have instructions to collect incomplete exams at 7:00 pm on the Tuesday after the test was administered in class.
4. If there are extreme circumstances (e.g., extended hospitalization), the instructor may allow you to take a special make up test. See the instructor before dropping the course.
5. Students who do not meet the above criteria for make up tests will receive a "0" for the missed test.

B. Attendance Policy

Students can earn up to 50 points for attendance and participation. Over the semester, students may have one unexcused absence with no penalty, but points will be deducted at a rate of 1-4 points for missing part or all of a class after the first absence. See the class points breakdown for other factors that may impact the class participation grade.

C. Policy on Late Assignments

Assignments submitted late will be accepted, but points will be deducted by one letter grade per week. Assignments that are emailed or faxed within two days of the scheduled due date will not be counted late, however, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor within the two-day window to make sure that the assignment was received. Exceptions to this policy include tests (see separate make-up test policy) and the In-Class Brief Paper (see note at bottom of class schedule).

D. Incllement Weather Policy

If a test is scheduled for the day a class is cancelled, the test will be administered during the next scheduled class. If class is cancelled the week before a test, come to the next scheduled class prepared to take the missed test. All tests will be administered as scheduled unless an announcement is given in class or on the web site.

GENERAL STATEMENTS:

A. Disability Support Services:

HCC is committed to serving students who have documented physical, learning, psychological, or other disabilities. Students who have a disability are responsible for contacting Disability Support Services at 443-412-2402 to discuss their needs for accommodations. All information shared with Disability Support Services will be held in confidence.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Students will be familiar with and adhere to the policy governing academic dishonesty and its sanctions as written in the HCC Catalog.

C. Student Conduct: Students will be familiar with and adhere to the policies and sanctions governing student conduct as written in the HCC Catalog.

D. Syllabus Modification Statement: The instructor reserves the right to modify and/or change the course syllabus with reasonable notification to students.

E. Student Services: A list of hours and locations for Student Services is available in OwlNet, on the Academic Life tab, under Quick Links.

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 31 - Refund deadline for 15-week classes

April 5 - Withdrawal Deadline for 15-week classes

October 1 - Deadline for December 2011 Graduation Application

May 14 - Semester Ends

Spring 2011 Educational Psychology Class Schedule - Mr. Conjar

| DATE | TOPIC | READING | PREPARATION |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| 1/25 | Introduction | NONE | |
| 2/1 | Theories of Development | Chapter 1, 2 | |
| 2/8 | Development During Childhood and Adolescence | Chapter 3 | |
| 2/15 | TEST 1 ///Student Diversity | Chapter 4 | REVIEW UNIT 1 (Ch. 1-3) |
| 2/22 | Behavioral Theories of Learning | Chapter 5 | ASSIGNMENT 1: BRIEF ARTICLE DUE |
| 3/1 | Information Processing and Cognitive Theories of Learning | Chapter 6 | ASSIGNMENT 2a: RESEARCH PROJECT TOPIC AND PRELIMINARY REFERENCE LIST DUE |
| 3/8 | Student-Centered and Constructivist Approaches to Instruction | Chapter 8 | |
| 3/15 | TEST 2 ///The Effective Lesson | Chapter 7 | REVIEW UNIT 2 (Ch. 4,5,6,8) |
| 3/22 | SPRING BREAK – COLLEGE CLOSED | | |
| 3/29 | Accommodating Instruction to Meet Individual Needs | Chapter 9 | ASSIGNMENT 2b: RESEARCH PROJECT SAMPLE DRAFT AND UPDATED REFERENCE LIST DUE* |
| 4/5 | Motivating Students to Learn† | Chapter 10 | |
| 4/12 | Effective Learning Environments† | Chapter 11 | ASSIGNMENT 2c: FINAL RESEARCH PROJECT AND REFERENCE LIST DUE |
| 4/19 | TEST 3 /// Assessing Student Learning | Chapter 13 | REVIEW UNIT 3 (Ch. 7,9,10,11) |
| 4/26 | Learners With Exceptionalities | Chapter 12 388-411 | |
| 5/3 | Special Education | Chapter 12 411-437 | |
| 5/10 | Final Exam | | REVIEW UNITS 1-4 (Ch. 1-13) |

* Students who opt for oral presentations for the research project must submit a rough outline instead of a sample draft on March 29.

† An in-class brief paper will most likely be completed on April 5 and 12. **Students who are absent on either date must make special arrangements either before or within 48 hours after each class in order to be eligible for full credit on the assignment. Students who miss one of the two parts of the assignment will only be eligible for half credit.**