Social Development and Socialization Processes  
EDHD 720: Fall 2019  
Course Syllabus

The aim of this course is to cover theory and research in the area of social development. Social development is the study of our social origins, how we become social members of society, and the sources of influence on this central aspect of human development. This field of research involves studying how children conceptualize the social world, interact with parents and caretakers, develop social relationships with peers, construct theories of morality, understand how others think and feel, develop empathy and interpret, analyze, and respond to cultural messages and ideologies. We will cover parent-child relationships, peer relationships, theory of mind, moral development, social cognition, aggression, self and group identity, shyness and social withdrawal, prejudice, exclusion, rights, and cultural aspects of social development. We will discuss these issues in our analysis of the theoretical and research literature.

Course Requirements and Grading. Students will be required to give two oral presentations using power point, turn in two typed discussion questions weekly (for the first half of the semester and one question per week for the second half of the semester), write an 8-page critique due at the mid-term, and write a 16-page theoretical term paper which will be summarized and presented to the class at the end of the semester. All papers should be written using APA Manual Style, 6th edition which is available as a book and with online formatting guides. Grading will be as follows: 25% for oral presentations and weekly questions (100 points for full credit), 25% for Paper #1, and 50% for the Term paper (letter grade).

Please see the University’s website for graduate course-related policies at: https://gradschool.umd.edu/course-related-policies.

Course Structure and Readings. The first half of each class meeting will be devoted to a discussion of theoretical material on specific topics. The second half of each class meeting will be spent discussing reading questions as well as hearing a student-led class presentation, and the preparation of the mid-term and term paper projects. We will use a reader, written specifically for this course, available at the UMD bookstore, https://umcp.bncollege.com/shop/umcp/home, (301.314.2718), and online at Amazon. The reader is a compilation of original journal articles and book chapters in the field of social
development. In addition, original journal articles will be made available by the instructor to the class (noted with an asterisk, *, at the end of the reference citation).


The reader is organized by the week, with a brief introduction to the topic, 2-3 original articles, and a reading box referred to as “A Closer Look.”

**Course Objectives.** To help students:
- Gain knowledge about theory and research in social development.
- Understand the scientific method and acquire the ability to formulate research questions.
- Become versed in the original research and scholarship in the field of social development
- Develop critical reading, writing, and presentational skills through reading assignments, writing assignments, group discussions of theoretical material, and class presentations of current research findings.

**Class Attendance.** Students should attend each class session, except in the case of illness and/or extenuating circumstances. Please inform the instructor of missed absences with an explanation. Medical notes are expected for absences as well as missed deadlines.

**Academic Dishonesty.** It is assumed that all students understand the consequences of academic dishonesty at the University of Maryland. If you do not, please consult the graduate catalog or course registration booklet to become familiar with how cheating, fabrication, facilitation of academic dishonesty, and plagiarism are defined by the University.

**Late Assignments.** Late papers or assignments without a medical note will automatically be marked down one full letter grade for each class day that they are handed in late.

**Students with Disabilities.** If you are a student with a documented physical or learning disability, please contact me by the first week of class so that we can make arrangements for the necessary accommodations.

Aug 27 **Introduction to the Course:** Overview, Readings, Assignments, Class Exercises, Presentations, and Papers

Sept 3 **Part I: Introduction**
*Social Contexts and Social Development*


Presenters: ____________________________________________

Sept 10

**Part II: Foundations and Early Beginnings**

*Biological, Emotional, and Moral Beginnings*


*A Closer Look*

Presenters: ____________________________________________

Sept 17

**Parent-Child Attachment**


**A Closer Look**

Presenters: ____________________________________________

**Sept 24**

**Mental States and Theory of Mind**


**A Closer Look**

Presenters: ____________________________________________

**Oct 1**

**Part III: Self, Relationships, and Social Groups**

*Children’s Peer Relationships*


A Closer Look

Presenters: ___________________________________________

Oct 8

*The Development of Morality*


A Closer Look

Presenters: ___________________________________________

Oct 15

*Self Identity and Group Identity*

through twelve. *Child Development*, 73, 509-527. doi:10.1111/1467-8624.00421


**A Closer Look**

Presenters: __________________________________________

**Paper #1 due today:**

- **Email Subject Line:** EDHD 720 Mid-term paper [YOUR NAME]
- **Filename for Paper:** EDHD 720 Mid-term paper [YOUR NAME]
- **Cover page:** On the cover page, include the topic title of the paper, course number and semester (EDHD 720, Fall, 2019), your name, and your email address.

**Oct. 22**

**Part IV: Peer Rejection and Exclusion**

**Shyness and Social Withdrawal**


**Psychology, 44, 380-392. Doi:**
10.1080/15374416.2014.940622*

**A Closer Look**

**Presenters:**

Oct 29

**Aggression and Bullying**


**A Closer Look**

- Term paper one-paragraph topic statement due today (hard copy in class)

**Presenters:**

Nov. 5

**Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Exclusion**


**A Closer Look**

**Presenters: ________________________________**

**Nov. 12**

**Part V: Family, Community, and Culture**

*Parenting Attitudes and Beliefs*


**A Closer Look**

**Presenters: ________________________________**

**Nov 19**

**Culture, Ethnicity and Rights**


*A Closer Look*

Presenters: ____________________________________________

**Nov 26**  
**Final Class Presentations**

Presenters: ____________________________________________

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**Dec 3**  
**Final Class Presentations**

Presenters: ____________________________________________

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TERM PAPER IS DUE **Friday DEC. 6TH, 4:00 PM**, email to Prof Killen, mkilien@umd.edu

*Email Subject Line*: EDHD 720 Final paper [YOUR NAME]  
*Filename for Paper*: EDHD 720 Final paper [YOUR NAME]  
*Cover page*: On the cover page, include the topic title of the paper, course number and semester (EDHD 720, Fall, 2019), your name, and your email address.

Please note: Late papers without a medical note will have a grade penalty per day