



TECA1354.011I1
Child Growth and Development
Fall 2025
Internet Session

Instructor: Robert Castro, rcastro@com.edu, 409-933-8442

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

Office (Student) Hours & Location: Mon & Wed: 1:00 – 5:00: LRC A-215B

Required Textbook:

Course Description: A study of the physical, emotional, social, language, and cognitive factors impacting growth and development of children through adolescence.

Course Requirements:

- **Log into Brightspace at least once a week** to check for Announcements and e-mail, to complete the weekly quiz, to post a discussion and journal response to the weekly prompt, to review the Module Content, and to retrieve tools needed to complete course assignments. As mentioned above in the “Course Communication” policy, you must monitor and respond to any and all assignments/discussions specified in the Semester Outline/Course Calendar available in Brightspace, and at the end of this document, within prescribed timelines, and you must monitor and respond to instructor initiated Brightspace e-mail within 3 calendar days. The instructor will likewise monitor and respond to Brightspace student-initiated e-mail within 3 calendar days. (This does not apply to weekends or during periods when COM is officially closed.)
- **Participate in all Brightspace** activities in a professional manner (see Guidelines for Professionalism portion of this document and the Participation & Professionalism Grading Rubric located in the Brightspace Menu in the Course Forms folder.)
- **Complete with satisfactory evaluation and submit all assignments within the time limit prescribed by the instructor. Due to the nature of the assignments for this course, assignments are to be submitted online, with the associated grading rubrics attached.** Detailed descriptions of assignments and associated grading rubrics can be found in your Brightspace Course Menu in the “Assignments” link. Assignments and their due dates are indicated in the Semester Outline toward the end of this document but are subject to revision if circumstances dictate or if there is consensus among instructor and students. **See Makeup, Late Work, and Extra Credit Policies that follow.**
- **Maintain a quiz average of 50% or better.** Weekly quizzes will be administered through Blackboard, and students are responsible for taking quizzes within the date/time parameters indicated on the Semester Outline (at the end of this document). **Brightspace quizzes will not be re-opened once the**

availability parameter has elapsed.

- **COMPLETE ALL CHILD/ADULT STUDY PROJECTS LISTED BELOW.** This course does not require state mandatory observation hours.

Child/Adult Study Requirements:

For this project the student will use appropriate observation and documentation skills to purposefully collect and document assessment information about one child/teen. The student will apply knowledge of child growth, development, and learning to analyze assessment information. The student will then use that analysis to infer where the child is along a continuum of development, describe some of the possible influences that have impacted the child's/adult's growth and development, and describe possible scaffolding strategies to support the child's growth and development. This assignment consists of several parts designed to correlate with course content and to provide appropriate instructor feedback and support to students as they work through the project. All information regarding the child/adult and/or the child's/adult's family must be kept confidential. Do not use names – only gender, age, and general description may be used to identify the child.

Assignment Guidelines:

Students are expected to follow the school's guidelines and to represent the college responsibly and professionally. All instructions and forms related to the Theoretical Perspective and the Child Study Project can be found in Blackboard under the "Assignments" link. The following are guidelines you are expected to follow:

- **First, and foremost**, keep in mind that during these assignments you are expected to behave as a responsible College of the Mainland student and as an individual who is worthy to enter the teaching profession.
- **Be prepared** by bringing appropriate materials for documentation. You should take care to make your notes adhere to **objective** notations of what you observe. This will give you practice in making professionally objective anecdotal notations and will help you later to make more accurate reflective inferences/interpretations that can be supported with objective information.

Failure to follow these procedures can cause you to have points deducted from your assignment grades. The number of points deducted would be at the instructor's discretion, depending on the nature of the infraction and/or the frequency of the infraction. **Also keep in mind that any violations of College of the Mainland Code of Conduct, whether on or off campus, will result in a referral to the Office for Student Conduct and may result in dismissal from this class.**

Classroom Conduct Policy:

College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook>. Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from this class.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

The student's grade will be **weighted** in the following manner:

Discussion and Quiz Discussion	=	10%
Assignments, Discussion, and Journals	=	90%
Total	=	100%

Assignments and Special Projects:

Each major assignment and project have a detailed description that is located in the "Assignment" folders on the Brightspace Course Menu. Students should use the associated grading rubric for each assignment for specific content/format requirements.

All major projects, assignments, discussions, and journals will be submitted on Brightspace or in my office mailbox.

Assessment Methods:

Participation and Professionalism will be assessed using the Class Participation Record Keeping Form and the associated grading rubric which can be found in the "Course Forms" and "Assignment" folders on the Brightspace Course Menu.

Detailed Assignment/Project descriptions and associated grading rubrics for all other major assignments and projects are located in the "Assignment" folder on the Brightspace Course Menu as well.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit for the course may be earned by:

- Completing the online course evaluation at the end of the course for bonus points toward your Portfolio score (40% of your course grade).
- Completing all online quizzes by the due dates indicated on the Semester Outline, which will earn additional points toward your quiz average (10% of your course grade).
- Completing all observations by the last due date indicated on the Semester Outline which will earn additional points toward your portfolio average (50% of your course grade.)

Grading Scale:

College of the Mainland's grading system is as follows:

A (90 - 100%)	=	Superior achievement of course objectives
B (80 - 89%)	=	Outstanding achievement of course objectives
C (70 - 79%)	=	Achievement of minimum objectives

D (60 - 69%)	=	Marginal achievement of course objectives
F (Below 60%)	=	Failure to achieve course objectives
I	=	A temporary grade given to indicate that, in the instructor's judgment, the student can complete the course objectives within a specified extension of time.

Make-Up Policy:

If a student misses an assignment or test due to an **emergency absence, or illness**, it is the student's responsibility to promptly arrange for make-up work. Parameters for make-up work will be made at the discretion of the instructor and may not be an option, depending on the circumstances. **Keep in mind, if you have not spoken to me and made arrangements for submission, the assignment, project, or quiz *WILL NOT be accepted*.** Do not expect the instructor to remind you.

Revised or Resubmitted Work:

Assignments and projects submitted on time may be revised and resubmitted if resubmitted within one week of the date the graded assignment/project was returned to the student.

For Field Experiences (if necessary): If for any reason you are unable to show up on an agreed upon date/time, contact the school in advance. Remember that the making and keeping of these arrangements is an indication of how you would perform as an employee of the school, so do not miss a scheduled observation except under emergency circumstances. Make alternative arrangements to complete the Field Experience as soon as possible.

Attendance Policy:

College of the Mainland does not allow a certain number of "cuts"; therefore, you must log in to this course at least once a week. An absence from online session is the responsibility of the student and the student will receive a Participation Grade of 0 for that particular session. (This will negatively impact the participation and professionalism portion of the student's final course grade.) Excessive absenteeism from online sessions and/or failure to keep up with Brightspace content/assignments will result in the student's failure to accomplish the course learning outcomes and will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Brightspace or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
Summarize principles of growth and development	Personal Responsibility	Child Study Project

Identify typical stages of cognitive, social, physical, language, and emotional development.	Critical Thinking	Child Study Project
Compare, contrast and apply theories of development in practice.	Communication	Theoretical Perspective
Discuss the impact of developmental processes on educational practices.	Social Responsibility	Child Study Project
Identify the stages of play development (i.e. from solitary to cooperative) and describe the important role of play in young children's learning and development.	Empirical & Quantitative	Virtual App Wiki Project
Demonstrate skills in practical application of developmental principles and theories, observation techniques, assessment, and recognition of growth and development patterns.	Critical Thinking	Portfolio

Academic Dishonesty:

Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams – is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on the exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Department Chair, Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8107 or swakao@com.edu.

Course outline:

SESSION	Brightspace Content	ASSIGNMENTS/ASSESSMENTS DUE (B=Brightspace)
Week 1 Orientation	Welcome to the course! Setting the Stage	In Brightspace, see "Read Me First" and complete all of the "Getting Started" tasks. Orientation Discussion Orientation Assignment Orientation Quiz
Week 2 (Ch. 1 and 2)	- Why study child growth and development - Foundations, theories, themes, and research in child growth and development - Research in child growth and development - Biology of Hereditary - Heredity and environmental influences on growth and development - Genetic Bases of Child Development	- Read Ch. 1 Science of Child Development - Read Ch. 2 Genetic Bases of Child Development Chapter 1 and 2 Quiz Discussion Virtual Families Discussion Child Study #1 due
Week 3 (Ch. 3 and 4)	- From Conception to Birth - Influences on Prenatal Development - Happy Birthday! - The Newborn - Physical Growth - Challenges to Healthy Growth - The Developing Nervous System	- Read Ch. 3 Influence of Prenatal Development - Read Ch. 4 Growth and Health Chapter 3 and 4 Quiz Discussion Virtual Families Discussion Theoretical Perspectives Project due
Week 4 (Ch. 5 and 6)	- Basic Sensory and Perceptual Processes - Complex Perceptual and Attentional Processes - Motor Development - Setting the Stage: Piaget's Theory - Modern Theories of Cognitive Development - Understanding in Core Domains	- Read Ch. 5 Motor Development - Read Ch. 6 Theories of Cognitive Development Chapter 5 and 6 Quiz Discussion Virtual Families Discussion Child Study #2 due
Week 5 (Ch. 7 and 8)	- Memory - Problem Solving - Academic Solving - What is Intelligence? - Measuring Intelligence - Special Children, Special Needs	- Read Ch. 7 Cognitive Processes and Academic Skills - Read Ch. 8 Intelligence and Individual Differences in Cognition Chapter 7 and 8 Quiz Discussion Virtual Families Discussion Child Study #3 due

Week 6 (Ch. 9 and 10)	• The Road to Speech • Learning the Meaning of Words • Speaking in Sentences • Using Language to Communicate • Emerging Emotions • Temperament • Attachment	• Read Ch. 9 Language and Communication • Read Ch. 10 Emotional Development • Chapter 9 and 10 Quiz Discussion • Virtual Families Discussion • Child Study #4 due
Week 7 (Ch. 11 and 12)	• Who Am I? Self-Concept • Self-Esteem • Understanding Others • Self-control • Reasoning About Moral Issues • Helping Others • Aggression	• Read Ch. 11 Understanding Self and Others • Read Ch. 12 Moral Understanding and Behavior • Chapter 11 and 12 Quiz Discussion • Virtual Families Discussion • Child Study #5 due
Week 8 (Ch. 13 and 14)	• Gender Stereotypes • Differences Related to Gender • Gender Identity • Gender Roles in Transition • Parenting • The Changing Family • Brothers and Sisters • Maltreatment: Parent-Child Relationships Gone Awry • Peers • Electronic Media • Institutional Influences	• Read Ch. 13 Gender & Development • Read Ch. 14 Family Relationships • Chapter 13 and 14 Quiz Discussion

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html>

An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Technology Outage Policy: Students are responsible for completing all course work by the due dates stated in the syllabus. Occasionally the College may experience emergency campus-wide technology outages, should this occur during a Quiz or submission of an Assignment, you will need to notify the instructor. You will need the Quiz to be reset or for the instructor to extend assignment due date. The assignment due date will be extended or the quiz will be reset after the campus-wide outage is confirmed by Informational Technology. An Announcement will be sent to all students relaying the information about the new due date for the assignment or quiz.

In case of a personal technology issue or if you have questions about an assignment or need clarification of requirements, you are expected to contact the instructor using Course Email. The College has a number of [computer labs](#) so access to requisite technology needed to complete assignments should not be an issue.

Netiquette: When communicating via the online mechanisms of this course it is important to remember that those communications are conducted in a public forum and should reflect a level of professionalism reflective of that forum. At a minimum such communications should be respectful of others and use appropriate writing mechanics (spelling, grammar, etc.).

For more information, go to: <http://www.studygs.net/netiquette.htm>