

PSYC 2477-001: Social and Emotional Development Prospectus

Social and Emotional Development is an intermediate-level course, ideally for students who have taken Introduction to Developmental Psychology (formerly PSYC 181). Researchers who study social and emotional development aim to understand how social relationships and the understanding of social groups change over time, how the self-concept and personality characteristics change from childhood to adulthood, and how emotion expression, understanding, and regulation develop from infancy into adulthood. Course objectives are to become familiar with major findings and theories in the field and to learn to think critically about research in social and emotional development.

Class Structure for Spring 2023

PSYC 2477 will include in-person sessions and out-of-class activities.

In person sessions will meet twice per week (Tuesdays/Thursdays) for 80 minutes. In-class time will be reserved for lecture and active learning activities that might include, for example, brief (ungraded) quizzes to assess comprehension of lecture material, group projects, and opportunity to ask questions about reading or lecture material.

Out-of-class activities will mainly include readings that students will be expected to do following each class. There will be a brief quiz to accompany each reading. Students will also be expected to complete a writing assignment.

Outline of Assignments & Assessments

- Following each in-class session, students will be expected to do reading that expands on material introduced in class. Students will be quizzed (for comprehension) on the reading material. Students are expected to complete at least 90% of the quizzes and will receive extra credit for completing 100% of the quizzes. Reading comprehension quizzes will be 20% of the final grade.
- There will be three exams. Each exam will be 15% of the final grade (45% total). You may drop your lowest exam grade.
- Students will be allowed to choose one of three empirical papers to read for the critical reading assignment, the goal of which will be to write a two-page paper summarizing the work and identifying strengths and weaknesses. I will provide a comprehensive rubric to guide your efforts in this assignment and we will practice doing various aspects of this assignment in class before you will be asked to do it independently. The critical reading assignment will be worth 20% of your final grade.

Essential Course Policies

- All reading materials will be made available on the course Canvas site
- Class participation is encouraged, expected, and will count towards your final grade