Common Course Outline
PSYC 230
Child Psychology
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description:

Child Psychology
Studies the physical, cognitive, linguistic, emotional, social, and personality development of the child from conception through adolescence; presents psychological principles, research and methodology; emphasizes scientific study of child development.
Prerequisite: PSYC 101

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. Demonstrate they have learned the fundamental theoretical perspectives, principles, concepts, vocabulary and methodology for each of the topics listed in the "Major Topics"" section of this syllabus.
2. Compare and contrast the major theoretical perspectives in child psychology.
3. Apply data derived from child developmental psychological research when evaluating alternatives and making personal decisions pertaining to children.
4. Critically analyze and evaluate information on child development found in film, television, radio, print, and information technology resources.
5. Apply concepts concerning child development to one's own experiences and a culturally diverse community.
6. Communicate an understanding of child developmental concepts in written, oral, and/or signed format.
7. Describe the relevance of ethnicity, gender, religion, age and race to understanding differences in such areas of child psychology as parenting styles, treatment of infants, gender roles, sexual expression, and other topic areas.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of informational technology tools for accessing interpreting and expressing knowledge of child psychology in a rapidly changing world.

9. Recognize psychological information in child development is continually evolving requiring the pursuit of lifelong learning both independently and collaboratively.

10.   Explain different psychological constructionist viewpoints about knowledge as either independently and/or socially constructed by the learner.
11.   Increase effectiveness in working as part of a cooperative learning group.

Major Topics

1.   Research methods used in studying child development.
2.   Theoretical perspectives in child development.
3.   Historical perspectives on child development
4.   Hereditary influences upon child development
5.   The role of family and culture in child development
6.   Parenting Styles
7.   Effective methods for guiding and instructing children at different ages
8.   Prenatal development
9.   Physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and language development during:
    A.   Infancy
    B.   Early Childhood
    C.   Middle Childhood
    D.   Adolescence
10.   Developmental problems of childhood and adolescence
11.   Death, dying, and bereavement

Course Requirements

Evaluation and student feedback in this course will combine several of the following formats:
1.   Tests/Quizzes
2.   Service learning
3.   Research papers
4.   Oral presentations
5.   Cooperative learning group assignments
6.   Written analysis of case studies
7.   Classroom participation
8.   Project using the Psychology Abstracts

(Revised 05/03/00)