

BSY 20220  
WE '00

AG

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

**Text: CHILDREN**

**Instructor: Roger O'Guin  
234-5645**

**TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Week 1 Chapter's 1 & 2  
Week 2 Chapter's 3 & 4  
Week 3 Chapter's 5 & 6  
Week 4 Chapter's 7 & 8  
Week 5 Chapter's 9 & 10  
Week 6 Chapter's 11 & 12  
Week 7 Chapter's 13 & 14  
Week 8 Chapter 15  
Week 9 Chapter 16  
Week 10 Chapter 17**

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY:** Attendance is important because this course has been designed to be participatory. *Any* predetermined absences must be coordinated with the instructor on the first day of class. Attendance includes *being on time and participating*. Because this is an accelerated course and due to university policy, any more than *two (2)* missed classes will constitute an incomplete grade or a failure. It is the responsibility of the student to *check in with the instructor if late arriving for class. Turn off all pagers and cell phones when arriving to class. Please remove wrist watches when arriving to class as well.* This syllabus is your contract with the instructor! Should you lose it, it is your responsibility to obtain another one.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To develop an understanding of the theories of child development.**
- 2. To develop an ability to critically evaluate the theories using scientific methods to avoid drawing false conclusions about natural events.**
- 3. To develop personal constructs regarding child development.**
- 4. To learn to apply psychological theories to life in a practical manner.**

**OVERALL GRADES WILL BE FORMULATED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERION.**

***Term Paper...one third of grade.***

Term papers must be seven pages (7), in length, typed, and double spaced. Keep in mind that this is a university level curriculum. Poor grammar, poor syntax, poor punctuation and misspellings do not lend themselves to this level of academics. Term papers are due by week *eight* (8). The topic of individual papers will be chosen by the student, however, the content of the thesis *must* be consistent with a philosophy from the text and must include one or more characters from a film shown in class. Papers turned in late will drop one letter grade for each weeks delay!

***Weekly Summaries...one third of grade.***

Each weeks reading assignment will correlate with the text. For instance, week 2 will be spent critiquing chapter's 3 and 4. Weekly summaries need to be complete *prior* to coming to class. Students should be prepared to verbally participate regarding the topics from the previous weeks reading and then hand in the appropriate summary. Papers turned in late will drop one letter grade for each week delayed!

***Participation...one third of grade.***

Students should be prepared to openly and objectively discuss each section of the text weekly. All classes will consist of open dialogue on the materials studied the previous week. This may include working in groups on assigned projects or reporting on appropriate films. Being able to discuss the material indicates comprehension. This is an important third of the grade because it replaces standard mid-term and final examination measurements.

The scientific method is a set of assumptions and rules about collecting and evaluating data. The explicitly stated assumptions and rules enable a standard, systematic method of investigation that is designed to reduce bias as much as possible. Central to the scientific method is the collection of data, which allows investigators to put their ideas to an empirical test, outside of or apart from their personal biases. In essence, stripped of all its glamour, scientific inquiry is nothing more than a way of limiting false assumptions about natural events.

Scientific research has four general goals: to describe behavior, to predict behavior, to determine the cause of behavior, and to understand or explain behavior. All final papers therefore, will embody these four methods in Behavioral Research.