Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
PSYC 221
PSYCHOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A study of child growth and development from birth to puberty. Examination of the basic theories principles and practices of childhood training and education.

RATIONALE
In this study of human development, course materials and student interactions will introduce the methodologies and topics of the childhood years of human life. The stages of life from birth through middle childhood will be examined with respect to the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial areas of development. An understanding of the behavior and thinking of the self and others will be an effective tool for intrapersonal and interpersonal Christian growth.

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office
D. The Holy Bible

IV. COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES
The following learning outcomes are in accordance with PDLOs 1–6. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Demonstrate his/her competence in the major concepts, theories, and principles of child development.
B. Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings as they relate to everyday life, examine evidence of ambiguity, ethnics, Christian/Biblical faith, and values.
C. Apply critical thinking to solve problems related to parenting, children’s behavior, and cognitive processes.
D. Apply psychological concepts, ethics, Christian/Biblical faith, and values in the stages of child development.

E. Communicate effectively in written, oral, and technological formats to compare theories with best practice.

F. Recognize the complexity of socio-cultural and international diversity.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings, Bible Readings, and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (8)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will post a new thread in the Discussion Board Forums responding to prompts provided by the instructor. Each thread must be 200–250 words and must include at least 1 idea/term from the textbook cited in current APA format. In addition to the thread, the student will read and reply to at least 1 of his/her classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 100–150 words and must contain at least 1 Scripture/biblical reference. (CLOs: A, B, C, D, E)

D. Article Critique Project

The student will complete an Article Critique Project in 4 stages as he/she works toward the final submission of an Article Critique Final Paper. These assignments must all be in current APA format and will be based on 1 main scholarly article and 3 additional scholarly articles obtained through the Jerry Falwell Library. (CLOs: A, B, C, E, F)

The stages of submission are as follows:

1. Title Page and Reference List

   The student will submit a title page and a reference list including the main article chosen for the critique. The article chosen must be a peer-reviewed journal article. Proper APA formatting is required.

2. Revised Title Page and Reference List

   The student will create a Revised Title Page and Reference List including the main article and the three supplemental articles. The student will make any needed corrections from the instructor’s prior feedback. The articles chosen must be peer-reviewed journal articles. Proper APA formatting is required.

3. Proposal

   The student will create a 1–2-page APA-formatted paper that will summarize the main article’s key points, identify the article’s strengths and weaknesses, and develop a tentative thesis statement for the final paper.
4. Final Paper

The completed Article Critique Paper must include a title page, a 4–5-page body, and a reference page. Proper APA formatting is required.

E. Observation Paper

For this assignment, the student will observe a child under the age of ten in a natural setting for at least 30 minutes to 1 hour, and submit a 2–3-page paper reporting his/her observations. The paper must demonstrate the theories and concepts learned throughout the course. (CLOs: A, B, C, D, E)

F. Exams (4)

Exams will consist of 40 multiple-choice questions. Each of these open-book/open-note exams will have a time limit of 2 hours and 45 minutes. The student will be responsible for reading and studying his/her textbooks in preparation, as not everything on the exams can be covered or discussed in the modules/weeks. (CLOs: A, B, C, F)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (8 at 40 pts ea)</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Critique Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Page and Reference List</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised Title Page and Reference List</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observation Paper</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (Modules 1–2)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (Modules 3–4)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Modules 5–6)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 4 (Modules 7–8)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</table>

B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.

3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.

4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# Course Schedule

**PSYC 221**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Martorell et al.: chs. 1–2 1 presentation</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist  DB Forum 1 Article Critique Project: Title Page and Reference List</td>
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<tr>
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<td>DB Forum 2 Article Critique Project: Revised Title Page and Reference List Exam 1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Martorell et al.: chs. 5–6</td>
<td>DB Forum 3 Article Critique Project: Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Martorell et al.: chs. 7–8</td>
<td>DB Forum 4 Exam 2</td>
<td>40 100</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Martorell et al.: ch. 9</td>
<td>DB Forum 5 Article Critique Project: Final Paper</td>
<td>40 100</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>DB Forum 6 Exam 3</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Martorell et al.: ch. 12</td>
<td>DB Forum 7 Observation Paper</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Martorell et al.: chs. 13–14</td>
<td>DB Forum 8 Exam 4</td>
<td>40 100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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DB = Discussion Board

**Note:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.