

AANT 319 (1650) – Physical Growth and Development
Summer 2019 6W1
University at Albany

Instructor: Elizabeth Holdsworth

Office: Arts & Sciences 106

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-3 and Thursdays 3-5 (zoom), or by appointment

Overview

Course Description

Analysis of the pattern of human growth during the prenatal and postnatal periods and their variation around the world. The course focuses on the influence of social factors, nutrition, alcohol and cigarette use, race/ethnicity, pollution, and features of the physical environment which modify growth patterns. Prerequisite(s): A ANT 110; or A BIO 110 and 111; or 120 and 122 and 121 and 123; or 102.

This course will primarily use written discussion to help you gain familiarity with these topics and start analyzing them critically and applying them to real-world situations. As there are no lectures, reading the assigned texts will be critical to understanding the basic information needed to write thoughtful, evidence-based discussion posts. This course should be fairly low-stress (all exams are open book and give you ample time to complete them), but it will require logging into the course every day Monday-Friday.

Course Objectives

Through active participation in online discussions and thoughtful completion of required readings and assignments, students will be able to:

- describe the major trends in human growth over an individual's lifespan
- identify what factors influence growth at what periods in development
- identify appropriate methods of measuring growth and development
- critically analyze scientific literature to identify and assess main conclusions
- describe the role of growth and development in human evolution

Readings

Required Texts: *Human Growth and Development 2nd Edition*, Noël Cameron and Barry Bogin, 9780123838827 (ebook: 9780123846518)

You can buy the book or it is available through the University library.

Journal articles will be assigned weekly and uploaded to Blackboard.

Assigned readings will need to be completed prior to engaging in discussion for that topic. There will be a reading evaluation that will need to be completed before it is possible to access the discussion board for that topic, so make sure you give yourself plenty of time to read the chapter, complete the evaluation, and make your first post before the deadline for the first discussion post.

Grading

Grade Distribution:

- **Discussion: 148 points** (~30%), 10 points each for 14 discussions, 8 points for introduction discussion
- **Scientific Article Journal Entries: 80 points** (~16%), 10 points each for 8 responses
- **Quizzes: 47 points** (~9%), 3 points each for 14 quizzes, 3 points for syllabus quiz, 2 points for intro quiz
- **Exam 1: 75 points** (15%)
- **Exam 2: 150 points** (30%)
- **TOTAL: 100% - 500 points**

Letter Grade Breakpoints:

- A >93.0%
- A- 90-92.9%
- B+ 86-89.9%
- B 83 - 85.9
- B- 80 - 82.9
- C+ 76-79.9
- C 73-75.9
- C- 70-72.9
- D+ 66-69.9
- D 63-65.9
- D- 60-62.9

Grading Rubric

Quizzes (Reading Evaluations) will be multiple choice quizzes, automatically graded and corrected by Blackboard. Article responses are graded on how insightful the comments are at **concisely** conveying significant and meaningful conclusions from the article, without merely repeating statements from the article.

Discussion will be graded on whether the basic post requirements have been met (number of posts required) and the quality of the posts. A well-written post uses professional language and uses information from assigned readings to support the point of the post. A good post will present a new comment that has not been introduced in discussion yet. A post that merely expresses agreement/disagreement or basically repeats another student's comment will not

receive a good grade. You can view the grading rubric in the discussion forums or in the gradebook.

Exams will be short essays, but you will have a few days to complete the exams. You will be graded on quality of content, original thought, and writing (paragraph structure, editing, clarity of writing, professionalism).

Journal responses document your interpretation and response to a scientific article I will share relating to topics we have covered in the class. Journal responses will also be graded on quality of content and professionalism of writing. After reading the scientific article for this week, submit your reflection on the article. Your response should be 3-5 sentences of what you think are the most important, significant points from the article. A good response is well-written (edit grammar and try to be clear and concise) and is able to identify key ideas/significant findings without merely repeating the article.

My Expectations

You will need to log in every day Monday-Friday every week to complete reading quizzes, turn in assignments, and participate in discussion. Logging in Saturday-Sunday will help you keep on top of discussions, but otherwise you may just wish to use the weekend to do some reading for the next week.

I expect everyone to be courteous to each other in discussion. All discussion posts should be professional. If you disagree with another student, I expect you to explain why you disagree by using logic and scientific/academic sources to support your argument. I expect no ad hominem fallacies or personal attacks. Everyone may voice their opinion, but not all opinions are equal - make sure your point of view is supported with facts from course readings or other scientific, scholarly sources.

I expect you to complete assignments by their due dates. All assignments will close promptly at 11:59 pm on their due date, and there will be no extensions.

I expect you to handle technical issues on your own or by contacting the ITS Service desk. Just a reminder that the service desk is not open at all hours, so I highly encourage you to start work on your assignments at least a day early in case of technical issues. Even if the help desk is closed, make a request through their website as soon as you have an issue. If there is an issue such as a discussion forum not available or you can't see the next module when I said it would be posted, email me as I likely have to change settings to make it available to the whole class.

You need to have a backup plan in case your computer or internet is not working. Come up with a plan now, it's best to assume that something will go wrong with technology so you're prepared. You could use someone else's computer or go to the library (school or public). Not having a back-up plan is not an excuse for late work.

Course Schedule

COURSE CALENDAR AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Topics/Activities	Start	End	Assignments Due
Course Information	--	--	
Welcome and Introduction	5/24/19	5/31/19	Reading, quiz, and first post in introduction discussion by 5/28/19, journal entry due 5/29
Module 1	5/24/19	5/31/19	Chp 1 and quiz, first discussion post due Tues 5/28, replies due Fri 5/31, SYLLABUS QUIZ DUE 5/31
Module 2	5/29/19	5/31/19	Chp 2 and quiz, first discussion post due 5/29, replies due 5/31, journal entry due 5/31
Module 3	5/31/19	6/7/19	Chp 3 and quiz, first discussion post due 6/3, replies due Fri 6/7, journal entry due 6/7
Module 4	6/4/19	6/7/19	Chp 4 and quiz, first discussion post due Tues 6/4, replies due Fri 6/7
Module 5	6/5/19	6/7/19	Chps 5 & 17 and quiz, first discussion post due Wed 6/5, replies due Fri 6/7
Exam 1	6/5/19	6/12/19	
Module 6	6/7/19	6/14/19	Chp 7 and quiz, first discussion post due Mon 6/10, replies due Fri 6/14, journal entry due by Fri 6/14
Module 7	6/11/19	6/14/19	Chp 6 and quiz, first discussion post due Tues 6/11, replies due Fri 6/14
Module 8	6/14/19	6/21/19	Chp 10 and quiz, first discussion post due Mon 6/17, replies due Fri 6/21, journal entry due Wed 6/19
Module 9	6/18/19	6/21/19	Chp 14 and quiz, first discussion post due Tues 6/18, replies due 6/21, journal entry due Fri 6/21
Module 10	6/21/19	6/28/19	Chp 9 and quiz, first discussion post due Mon 6/24, replies due Fri 6/28, journal entry due by Fri 6/28
Module 11	6/25/19	6/28/19	Chp 12 and quiz, first discussion post due Tues 6/25, replies due Fri 6/28
Module 12	6/26/19	6/28/19	Chp 16 and quiz, first discussion post due Wed 6/26, replies due Fri 6/28
Module 13	6/28/19	7/5/19	Chp 18 and quiz, first discussion post due Mon 7/1, replies due Fri 7/5, journal entry due 7/5
Module 14	7/2/19	7/5/19	Chp 11 and quiz, first discussion post due Tue 7/2, replies due 7/5
Exam #2/3	6/28/19	7/5/19	

*****All due dates are by 11:59 pm on that day!**

*****All start dates are 12:01 am**