Project 1 - Film Analysis Paper-150 points

Students will watch and analyze a modern film through the lens of a theoretical framework we discuss in class. Students will choose from a list of recent films provided by the instructor in the course film guide on Blackboard. This guide includes film overviews, trailer links, rating information/relevant content warnings, and multiple locations where students can access each of the films.

Description: Write a 2-3-page paper (APA format: 12-point font, double-spaced) that describes/critically analyzes the developmental trajectory of one or more characters from the film using a developmental theory. A title page and reference list do not count toward the 2-3-page body of the paper.
You should address how the film deals with and/or defines development and how the film speaks to the character's context(s).

For example, it may be relevant to note how the character influences and is influenced by certain aspects of their environment/context. How might the film deal with issues such as a character's path to resilience vs. psychopathology? What about specific relations between two characters over time (e.g., caregiver and child)? Would you view the character's trajectory as typical? Why or why not? What stages of development are highlighted within the film and how do these stages/ages influence the character's development? What domains are highlighted in his/her trajectory? Is the trajectory linear or non-linear? Are there other course concepts are portrayed in the film?

Note that the example questions above are simply concepts you *may* want to consider as you watch the film and write your paper. *You should not structure your paper as a response to each of these questions*. Further, you will not be able to address all of these issues in a coherent 2-3 pages. These ideas are meant to stimulate your thinking and are not exhaustive.

The paper should include a clear, developmentally focused take home message from the film, as well as your criticisms or recommendations for the film in light of the theory you chose. You should cite empirical articles to support your claims and analyses throughout. You may cite your textbook but should also use peer-reviewed papers (at least 3). **Note: At least one of the characters you analyze should be between the ages of 0-18 during the film. You should discuss specific scenes from the film as examples in your paper.**

Grading/Rubric:

A general rubric will be provided as you are working toward your rough draft, but some aspects will be left open-ended as they are designed to facilitate critical thinking and allow you to be creative with how you showcase and apply the knowledge you've gained in this course.

Here are the general grading categories for project 1

- Demonstrates understanding of topics in course
- Demonstrates understanding of basic concepts presented in film
- Demonstrates correct application of concepts from course to film
- Demonstrates critical thinking and unique ideas
- Analyzes the film using a developmental theory
- Describes how the film deals with development and context
- Describes a clear, developmentally focused take home message from the film and any criticisms or recommendations

Weighed less heavily, but still graded and important:

- Quality of sources
- Writing style/convention
- Spelling/Grammar
- In-text APA formatting
- Properly formatted reference list, in APA format, with required number of sources

Project 2 - Educational Movie Guide – 150 points

Due May 5, 11:59 PM

Create an educational movie guide for developmental science to accompany your analysis (e.g., with discussion questions, suggested empirical readings, important scenes, things to look for etc.). The movie guide should be no more than 4 pages but **be creative! There is no minimum page limit.**