

**George Mason University**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**Secondary Education Program**



EDUC 672-002 Human Development and Learning: Secondary Education  
Fall Semester 2014

Instructor: Karen Banks, Ph.D  
Day and Time: Thursday 4:30-7:10  
Class Location: West Building 1004  
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Office Hours: By appointment

**Required Textbooks:**

Woolfolk, A.E. (2010) *Educational psychology* (12th ed). Upper Saddle, NJ: Merrill.  
(A.W.)

Ormrod, J.E. & McGuire, D.J. (2007) *Case studies: Applying educational psychology*.  
Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (O & M)

Other articles and handouts will be distributed during class or posted on-line on Bb. The site for our course is at <http://mymasonportal.gmu.edu>.

**Course Description**

Education 672 explores the processes that influence the intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of middle and high school students. Within that context, the course further examines the processes and theories that provide a basis for understanding

the learning process. Particular attention is given to constructivist theories and practices of learning, the role of symbolic competence as a mediator of learning, understanding, and knowing, and the facilitation of critical thinking and problem solving. Processes of developing and learning are considered as they impact the design of instruction and the selection of curriculum. The course also explores the relation of theories of learning to the construction of learning environments, student motivation, classroom management, assessment and how technology supports teaching and learning.

### **Course Methodology**

The course is structured around readings, case analyses, reflections on those readings, conceptual analyses of developmental psychology and learning theories, expert group projects, a review of current research, and technology activities. EDUC 672 seeks to build clear bridges between theoretical/research perspectives and classroom practice. Student participation and involvement are crucial for making the course successful for everyone. The class will involve large and small group work, and individualized work on the online discussion link on Bb. The online discussions are to be considered a regular instructional time, and the assignments given are the equivalent of a full, in-class session.

### **Relationship Between Course Objectives and Conceptual Framework Core Values**

| <b>Course Objectives</b>   | <b>Conceptual Framework Core Values</b>   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of stages and processes relating to adolescents' social, emotional, moral, cognitive, and physical development by watching an adolescent movie, interviewing an adolescent and teacher, and analyzing these characteristics in three five-page research papers.</p> | <p>Research based practice<br/>Ethical Leadership<br/>Social Justice</p>                |
| <p>Students will develop an understanding of how individuals differ in their approaches to learning and how to create instructional opportunities that are adapted to learners from diverse cultural backgrounds and with exceptionalities by analyzing individual case studies.</p>                                 | <p>Research based practice<br/>Social Justice<br/>Ethical Leadership</p>                |
| <p>Students will demonstrate an understanding of how theoretical approaches to learning and development relate to classroom management, instruction, and assessment by creating a case study of an adolescent learner, developing learning objectives and planning teaching and assessment strategies.</p>           | <p>Research based practice<br/>Ethical Leadership<br/>Innovation<br/>Social Justice</p> |

| Course Objectives   | Conceptual Framework Core Values  |
|---|---|
| <p>Students will develop and reinforce their critical thinking, problem solving, oral, and writing skills by participating in a collaborative group that researches and presents various aspects of psychological theory and research using PowerPoint slides.</p>  | <p>Research based practice<br/>Collaboration<br/>Ethical Leadership<br/>Innovation</p>                    |
| <p>Students will demonstrate an understanding of the process of creating a learning environment in which adolescents construct knowledge, access prior knowledge, engage in problem solving, and add information to social/environmental scaffolding through successfully analyzing case studies and analysis of peer-reviewed, data-based research shared with classmates on Bb.</p> | <p>Research based practice<br/>Ethical Leadership<br/>Collaboration<br/>Innovation<br/>Social Justice</p> |

### Course Requirements

- 1. Classroom Participation and Attendance Policy:** Due to the importance of classroom presentations and classroom discussion (including case studies) to your total learning experience, attendance and participation are important. Readings must be completed before class. Attendance and participation make up 10% of the grade. If you must miss a class, notify the instructor (preferably in advance), and you are still responsible for completing all assignments and readings for the next class. You are responsible for getting assignments in on time and catching up if you are absent. [Anyone missing more than two classes should see the instructor to discuss dropping the class.]
- 2. Written Assignments:** All written assignments must be completed on a word processor. Assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of class on the date due. If you are absent, send your assignment to the instructor as a Word attachment. There is a 20% late penalty for late assignments, unless arrangements have been made, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition, all work submitted in this course must be your own or attributed to the proper author using the appropriate research reference format (APA). Refer to the GMU Honor Code for further information <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/> ~~<http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code>~~ . Students must use the writing style described in the Fifth Edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA) or a similar style manual or resources on OWL Purdue.
- 3. Oral Group Presentation:** Students will be assigned to groups of no more than four students. Each group will select a chapter from the book, additional research and readings related to the topics in the chapter to present to the class. Research cited in the

presentation should reflect data based research in adolescent development. The oral presentation includes both a description of a developmental theory that underlies the research cited and an interactive activity for the class that demonstrates application of the theory in classroom instruction. The presentation should last 20-40 minutes and should include use of power point to present information. The power point should be sent to the instructor at least a day prior to the class meeting so it can be posted on Bb. References for the presentation should be included on the last slide of the power point. (20 points)

**4. Fieldwork Assignments: Fieldwork Assignment #1 – Analysis of educational theory seen in teen-based movie (can be done with a partner)**

Choose any one of these “teenage flicks:” The Great Gatsby, Stand and Deliver, Dead Poet’s Society, Dangerous Minds, To Sir with Love, Mr. Holland’s Opus, Divergent, Coach Carter, Finding Forrester, Napoleon Dynamite, Secret Life of Bees, Freedom Writers or Hunger Games. Feel free to explore and find a movie that might be relevant. If you choose a different movie, please check with the instructor before you use it to complete this assignment. After watching the film, please analyze the adolescent behavior, cliques, characteristics, and interactions in a **five-page** (double-spaced) paper. Look for **five characteristics of adolescent development** that are mentioned throughout the textbook. In the paper briefly describe the characteristic and then explain how circumstances in the movie illustrate the theory. Use direct and indirect quotations from the movie, with appropriate citations for the text and movie in APA format. (10 Points)

**Fieldwork Assignment #2 – Independent Analysis of Case Study (Cases 11 and 36) (can be done with a partner)**

Students will be assigned two case studies to compare and analyze, supported by information presented in the text that describes adolescent development (e.g.—physical, social/emotional, cognitive and motivation). The comparison/analysis should also include a discussion of how the characteristics presented in the case studies would influence classroom strategies you would use. You need to cite the text to support your analysis with necessary citations in APA format. The analysis of the two case studies and teaching applications should be at least five pages in length (total). (10 points)

**Fieldwork Assignment #3- Interview an Adolescent (can be done with a partner)**

Interview an adolescent about how motivation affects his/her learning and behavior. That is, what motivates this student to succeed? Also, interview a teacher about motivational techniques that work in the classroom. The student and teacher do NOT need to be in the same classroom. The interview and analysis should result in a paper that shows a connection between information gained from the interview with motivation, social/cognitive and cognitive development. Students need to present teaching strategies that support positive motivation and engagement in classroom instruction, with a connection to theory and research discussed in class, in a paper at least five pages in length. References should be cited from the textbook and other research discussed in class. (10 points)

### **5. Application Project (PBA) (must be individual)**

Students will create a case study of a typical adolescent that may be encountered in a general education classroom. Students will describe the physical, social/emotional and cognitive/language development of the adolescent. Strategies for determining adolescent motivation, prior knowledge and values and goals of the adolescent will be described. Strategies for meeting the needs of the case study adolescent within a classroom will be described. Authentic assessment strategies that measure transfer of classroom learning to the adolescent's out-of-school learning will be described. All strategies will be supported by at least two research references for each set of strategies (six references total) and the textbook, in APA format. (30 points)

### **6. Bb assignments**

Students will participate in two Bb discussions (out-of-class) that will involve summarizing a peer-reviewed, data-based research article related to adolescent literacy development, risk-taking behavior, homelessness, career awareness, adolescent pregnancy, and/or self-destructive behaviors such as self-mutilation or gang-involvement. Students will explore, on Bb, suggested strategies for becoming aware of issues adolescents may be facing and how to relate to adolescents in a classroom setting. All students will read the discussion board posts and be prepared to discuss in class. Make sure to include the full reference in APA format for the article on Bb. (10 points)

**NOTE: Maintain copies of all projects to document progress through the Secondary Education Program. Projects may become part of your professional portfolio, and useful when you have your own classroom.**

**The Graduate School of Education (GSE) expects that all students abide by the following:**

#### **Dispositions**

Students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions. See [gse.gmu.edu](http://gse.gmu.edu) for a listing of these dispositions. The Virginia Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education promote standards of professional competence and dispositions. Dispositions are values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward students, families, colleagues, and all members of the learning community. The Graduate School of Education expects students, faculty, and staff to exhibit professional dispositions through a:

#### *Commitment to the profession*

- Promoting exemplary practice
- Excellence in teaching and learning
- Advancing the profession
- Engagement in partnerships

#### *Commitment to honoring professional ethical standards*

- Fairness
- Honesty

- Integrity
- Trustworthiness
- Confidentiality
- Respect for colleagues and students
- Commitment to key elements of professional practice*
  - Belief that all individuals have the potential for growth and learning
  - Persistence in helping individuals succeed
  - High standards
  - Safe and supportive learning environments
  - Systematic planning
  - Intrinsic motivation
- Reciprocal, active learning
  - Continuous, integrated assessment
  - Critical thinking
  - Thoughtful, responsive listening
  - Active, supportive interactions
  - Technology-supported learning
  - Research-based practice
  - Respect for diverse talents, abilities, and perspectives
  - Authentic and relevant learning
- Commitment to being a member of a learning community*
  - Professional dialogue
  - Self-improvement
  - Collective improvement
  - Reflective practice
  - Responsibility
  - Flexibility
  - Collaboration
  - Continuous, lifelong learning
- Commitment to democratic values and social justice*
  - Understanding systemic issues that prevent full participation
  - Awareness of practices that sustain unequal treatment or unequal voice
  - Advocate for practices that promote equity and access
  - Respects the opinion and dignity of others
  - Sensitive to community and cultural norms
  - Appreciates and integrates multiple perspectives

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS:**

All students must abide by the following:

**Professional Dispositions:** Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

- Students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions. See <http://gse.gmu.edu/facultystaffres/profdisp.htm> for a listing of these dispositions.
- Students must follow the guidelines of the University Honor Code. See <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/> for the full honor code.

Please note that:

o Plagiarism encompasses the following:

1. Presenting as one's own the words, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgment.
2. Borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgment. (from Mason Honor Code online at <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>)

o Paraphrasing involves taking someone else's ideas and putting them in your own words. When you paraphrase, you need to cite the source using APA format.

o When material is copied word for word from a source, it is a direct quotation. You must use quotation marks (or block indent the text) and cite the source.

o Electronic tools (e.g., SafeAssign) may be used to detect plagiarism if necessary.

o Plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct are treated seriously and may result in disciplinary actions. • Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the GMU Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. See <http://www2.gmu.edu/dpt/unilife/ods/> or call 703-993-2474 to **access the ODS**.

### **SPECIAL ATTENTION**

- Please turn off cell phones and/or pagers while in the classroom.
- Please activate your GMU account. All correspondence will be through your account.
- All notices regarding whether class will be cancelled or delayed will be posted via appropriate university sources
- Any exceptions to the following guidelines for attendance, tardiness, and late assignments will only be made with the advanced knowledge and pre-approval of the professor.

- Cell phones, pagers, and other communicative devices should be stowed away and out of sight. Laptops or tablets (e.g. iPads) may be permitted for the purpose of taking notes only. Engaging in activities not related to the course (e.g. gaming, email, chat, etc.) will result in a significant deduction in your participation grade.

### Grading Scale

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| A = 93-100% | B = 80-87%      |
| A- = 90-92% | C = 70-79%      |
| B+ = 88-89% | D/F = Below 70% |

### Point Distribution

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Fieldwork Assignments:        | 30                |
| Attendance and Participation: | 10                |
| Oral Presentation:            | 20                |
| Application Project           | 30                |
| Discussion on Bb              | 10                |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                 | <b>100 points</b> |

### Tentative Course Schedule

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic/Assignments</u>  |
|-------------|---|
| 8/28        | Introductions, Goals for the Semester<br>Create a representation of an adolescent<br>Research strategies used to study development<br>Review texts and syllabus<br>Assignment: Read Ch 1 and 2 AW and<br>Case Study 40 O & M                            |
| 9/4         | Research in Development and Cognitive Development<br>Discussion of Case Study 40 O & M<br>Form groups for presentations and schedule<br>Assignment: Read Ch 3 and 11AW and Case Studies 48<br>and 24 O & M  |
| 9/11        | Meet at Fenwick Library<br>Use of databases orientation<br>Explore peer-reviewed articles for posting on Bb<br>Upstairs classroom<br>Assignment: Read Ch 4 AW, Case Study 24 & 37 O & M   |
| 9/18        | Self, Social and Moral Development<br>Social Cognitive Theory and Motivation in Learning<br>Discussion of Ch 3, 4 and 11AW<br>Discussion of Case Studies 24 & 37 O & M<br>Group Presentation (Ch 4)<br>Assignment: Read Ch 6 AW and Case Study 25 O & M |



- 9/25                                    **Out of Class Bb assignment: review research on a topic related to adolescent development and post on Bb**  
Read other posts so you are prepared to discuss in class
- 10/2                                    Discussion of Bb assignment  
Culture and Diversity  
Discussion of Ch 6 AW and Case Study 25 O & M  
Group Presentation (Ch 6)  
Assignment: Read Ch 5 AW and Case Study 33 O & M
- 10/9                                    Language Development and Diversity in the Classroom  
Discussion of Ch 5 AW, Case Study 33 O & M and  
Group Presentation (Ch 5)  
Assignment: Read Ch 7 & 8 AW, Case Study 12 O & M  
**Field Work Assignment #1 DUE**
- 10/16                                   Behavioral and Cognitive Views of Learning  
Discussion of Case Study 12 O & M  
Group Presentation (Ch 7)  
Assignment: Read Ch 10 AW and Case Study 26 O & M
- 10/23                                   Learning through Constructivism  
Discussion of Ch 10 AW and Case Study 26 O&M  
Group Presentation (Ch 10)  
Assignment: Read Ch 9 AW and Case Study 41 O & M  
**Field Assignment #2 DUE**
- 10/30                                   **Out of Class Assignment on Bb (two parts)**  
**View Dr. George Banks on YouTube, and post a review of research on a topic of adolescent development on Bb**  
Review other posts to be prepared for class discussion
- 11/6                                    Discussion of Bb postings and Banks presentation  
Discussion Ch 9 AW and Case Study 41 O & M  
Constructivism and Cooperative Learning  
Group Presentation (Ch 9)  
Assignment: Read Ch 13 and 14 AW, Case Study 47  
O & M
- 11/13                                   Discussion of Ch 13 and 14 AW and Case Study 47 O&M  
Group Presentation (Ch 13)  
**Field Assignment #3 DUE**
- 11/20                                   Teaching Adolescents in the real world  
**Application Project (PBA) DUE**

11/27

**Thanksgiving Break**

12/4

Wrap Up Review of Goals for Semester  
Return of Projects and Class Evaluations

Every student registered for any (CEHD, Secondary Education) course with a required performance-based assessment is required to submit this assessment (**Application Project**), to TaskStream (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a onetime course or part of an undergraduate minor.) Evaluation of your performance-based assessment will also be provided using TaskStream. Failure to submit the project to TaskStream will result in a the course instructor reporting the course grade as Incomplete (IN). Unless this grade is changed upon completion of the required TaskStream submission, the IN will convert to an F nine weeks into the following semester. Directions will be posted on Bb for anyone unfamiliar with the process.

EDUC 672  
Name:

Rubric

Application Project (PBA Assignment)

\_\_\_\_/6

Characteristics of case study adolescent include physical, social/emotional and cognitive language development

\_\_\_\_/6

Strategies for determining motivation, prior knowledge, values and goals

\_\_\_\_/6

Strategies for meeting needs of adolescents in a classroom setting

\_\_\_\_/6

Authentic assessment strategies to measure classroom learning and transfer outside of school

\_\_\_\_/6

Six data-based references (in addition to the text) to support strategies

Total: /30

Comments: