

# Developmental Psychopathology

PSY 3214  
McDaniel College

## Kramer Yotam, Clinical Psychologist

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Office Hours: By appointment

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## Class Days/Time:

Monday and Thursday, 8:30-10:00

## Classroom:

Room 004

## Course Description

This course is designed to provide an introduction to developmental psychopathology. The first part of the course will cover general issues in regards to normal and abnormal development, diagnosis, ethical considerations and various psychoanalytical and modern emotional development theories.

In the second part of the course various psychological disorders whose onset is typically during childhood or adolescence will be discussed. Relations between disorders and theories, how disorders are diagnosed and assessed, their clinical course and how they are treated will be discussed through introduction of current theory and research.

## Course objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Master the basics of psychoanalytical and modern developmental theories.
2. Apply knowledge of developmental principles to current issues affecting children.
3. Understand the process of assessing developmental psychopathologies and the most commonly used systems for classifying psychological disorders.

## Learning outcomes:

4. Students will be able to express knowledge about basic developmental psychology theories and child psychopathologies.
5. Students will be able to assess basic developmental psychology theories and therapeutic methods using critical perspectives.

## **Required Texts/Readings**

### **Course Textbooks:**

Alan Carr, *The Handbook of Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychology: A Contextual Approach* (2nd Edition.). Hove: Routledge, 2006.

Dante Cicchetti and Donald K. Cohen, *Developmental Psychopathology, Theory and Method* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Willy, 2015.

Donald W. Winnicott, *Playing and Reality*. Psychology Press, 1971.

Daniel N. Stern, *The interpersonal world of the infant*. Karnak Books. 1998.

### **Teaching methods**

The course will integrate a number of reading materials, lectures, discussions and video presentations.

### **Course requirements and assignments**

*Attendance:* Because active discussion and participation are integral parts of the learning experience in this course, class attendance is expected.

*Reading:* Students are expected to read course materials every week, while paying attention to their thoughts, reactions and feelings. Emailing me with notes or questions about the week's material or about the lessons is encouraged. These comments will be discussed in class, and will be assessed as part of the grading for participation.

### **Assignments**

*Case presentation:* Students will be requested to present in pairs a single case study from the 'case studies book'.

*Midterm papers and presentation:* Each student will be required to choose one topic from the second part of the course for a comprehensive midterm paper. Papers must be typed neatly, double spaced and stapled.

All submitted papers should include the student's name, project title and class information. All assignments will be collected during class on the due date. No late papers will be accepted.

The paper will be reviewed by the lecturer and returned to the students with remarks and suggestions.

Students will apply these suggestions and will present the topic that they have chosen.

Grading of the course will take into account the midterm essay, the presentation and the application of remarks and suggestions given.

Details about grading will be discussed in class.

### **Final exam:**

Students will be presented with a number of multiple choice questions.

### **Grading:**

Weekly reading responses and participation in class: 20%

Midterm paper and presentation: 40%

Final exam: 40%

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Assignments, Deadlines	Readings
1		Introduction to course	Syllabus
1		Normal and abnormal development	Carr Ch. 1,2 Cicchetti and Cohen Ch. 1
2		Classification, epidemiology and treatment effectiveness	Carr Ch. 3
2		The consultation process and intake interviews	Carr Ch. 4
3		Freud and the establishment of the developmental psychoanalytic tradition	Cicchetti and Cohen Ch. 18
3		Anna Freud and developmental psychopathology	Cicchetti and Cohen Ch. 18
4		Margaret Mahler and the pathology of separation Individuation processes	Cicchetti and Cohen Ch. 18
4		The Klein-Bion model	Cicchetti and Cohen Ch. 18
5		Donald Winnicott	Winnicott, 1971
5		Attachment theory	Ch. 10
6		The interpersonal world of the infant. Daniel Stern	Stern, 1998
6		Midterm week	
7		Autism and pervasive developmental disorder	Carr Ch. 9
7		Autism and pervasive developmental disorder	Carr Ch. 9
8		Sleep problems	Carr Ch. 6
8		Toileting problems	Carr Ch. 7
9		Conduct problems	Carr Ch. 10
9		Attention and over-activity problems	Carr Ch. 11
10		Drug abuse	Carr Ch.15
10		Physical abuse	Carr Ch. 19
11		Sexual abuse	Carr Ch.21
11		Separation and divorce	Carr Ch.23
12		Grief and bereavement	Carr Ch. 24
12		Elective topics	
13		Elective topics	
13		Course wrap-up & exam review	
14		Final exam	