FLCC Course Syllabus

General Information

Date
04/13/2017

Department
Social Science

Course Prefix:
PSY

Course Number:
205

Course Title:
Adolescent Psychology

Course Information

Credit Hours
3

Lecture Contact Hours
3

Catalog Description
This course provides an overview of human development during adolescence which occurs from age 11 through 19 years of age. Biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional development during adolescence are studied. Families, schools and cultures are emphasized as contexts for development. This course will primarily focus on normal development of the adolescent however, some attention will be directed to some of the more common or particularly problematic disorders of adolescence.

Prerequisites
PSY 100

Grading Scheme
Letter Grade

This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category
Social Sciences

FLCC Values

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

Inquiry
Interconnectedness
Vitality
Perseverance
Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Evaluate the methods that are employed to study adolescent development throughout the life span.
2. Distinguish between the psychological approaches to adolescent development and their contribution to the field, (e.g. humanistic, behavioral, or psychodynamic approaches).
3. Analyze controversies and issues using psychological approaches to adolescent development.
4. Apply different theories/approaches of adolescent psychology used to interpret adolescent behavior in a variety of social settings.

Program Affiliation

This course is required as a core program course in the following program(s)

Other - Write In: Approved PSY elective in the AS Psychology degree

Outline of Topics Covered

Outline of Topics Covered in Course

PSY_205_topics_list.docx

Outline of Topics Covered

1) Introduction to adolescent development
   a) Adolescence in Western Cultures: A brief history
   b) The scientific study of adolescence and emerging adulthood
      i) Methods and designs in research
      ii) Interdisciplinary approach to the study of adolescence
   c) Adolescence around the world
2) Biological foundations
   a) Puberty
   b) Cultural, social and psychological responses to puberty
   c) Biological development and the environment
3) Cognitive foundations
   a) Piaget's theory of cognitive development
      i) Abstract thinking
      ii) Metacognition
   b) The information-processing approach
   c) Critical thinking and decision making
   d) Social cognition/Adolescent egocentrism
4) Cultural Beliefs
   a) Cultural beliefs and socialization
   b) Cultural beliefs in multicultural society
   c) Religious beliefs
   d) Moral development
   e) Political beliefs
5) Gender
   a) Gender in traditional cultures
   b) Cultural beliefs about gender
   c) Socialization and gender in western cultures
   d) Gender and globalization
6) The self
   a) Culture and self
   b) Self-esteem
   c) Identity
7) Family relationships
   a) The adolescent in the family system
   b) Parenting styles
   c) Attachments to parents
d) Divorce, remarriage, single parenthood and dual-earner families

8) Friends and Peers
   a) Developmental changes in friendships
   b) Friends’ influence and peer-pressure
   c) Popularity and unpopularity
   d) Youth culture

9) Love and sexuality
   a) Developmental course of adolescent love
   b) Sternberg's theory of love
   c) Falling in love and breaking up
   d) Marriage including arranged marriages
   e) Cohabitation

f) Sexuality

10) School
   a) Characteristics of effective schools
   b) Engagement and achievement in high school

11) Work
   a) Adolescent work in traditional cultures
   b) Work and adolescent development
   c) Part-time work while in high school
   d) Occupational choice
   e) Unemployment
   f) Volunteer work-community service

12) Media
   a) Theories of media influence
   b) Media and adolescent socialization
   c) Controversial media

13) Psychological problems and Resilience
   a) Two types of problems
      i) Externalizing
         a. Risky behavior
         b. Substance use
         c. Delinquency & crime
      ii) Internalizing
         a. Depression and suicide
         b. Eating disorders
   b) Resilience