

Adolescent Development

PSYC 203 Summer 2017

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Adolescence is a period of tremendous growth which occurs at multiple levels, such as biologically, cognitively, socially and emotionally, and all of this development occurs within multiple contexts, including family, friends, peers, school, and the community. Acquiring an understanding of adolescent development will help us better appreciate how and why young people behave the way they do, and inform the way we support and nurture them as they traverse this exciting life stage. The primary objective for this course is to deepen your respect for adolescents, and the families, educators and communities that nurture them. In addition, I would like to provide you with a broad-based knowledge of the theories and issues of adolescent development: its roots and new directions.

In this online class you will read, write, research, engage with media, and participate in discussions – learning in this multifaceted manner requires strong motivation, independence, and a good deal of time. The general requirement for a face-to-face class is that for every 1 hour of class there are 2-3 hours of work outside of class. Hence, a 3 credit online class during a regular semester will require approximately 12 hours per week of work for 14 weeks (168 hours total). But, in the summer you must complete that amount of work in 5 ½ weeks, so that means you **should put in about 30 hours a week**. **Just so you really understand, let me say it again, THERE IS A LOT OF WORK FOR THIS CLASS!**

There will be assignments due several times a week, each requiring independent work in-between assignments! Given the short time and large amount of work, there will be no wiggle room in deadlines. Late work will not be accepted, and missed exams may not be made up.

REQUIRED TEXT: Cobb, Nancy (2010). *Adolescence: Continuity, Change and Diversity, 7th Edition*, Sunderland, MA: Sinauer Associates. *I selected this book because it is somewhat reasonably priced and has a free companion website, be sure to shop around since it is an older book and there should be lots of used copies out*

Additional Materials will be available on PLATO, including a link to the companion website (free, but you must register): <http://sites.sinauer.com/cobb/>

