



Adolescent Development

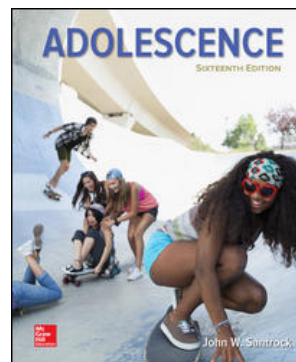
PSYC 203

Professor:

Lynn Shelley, Ph.D.
Wilson 105 H
Lshelley@westfield.ma.edu

Required Text:

Santrock, John. W. (2016). *Adolescence* (16th edition), McGraw-Hill, New York, NY. (15th or 14th edition may also be fine but no guarantees).



Course Overview:

Do you remember what it was like to go from being a child to an adult? A lot about you changed during that transition... there were changes in just about every aspect of your life, including your body, mind, emotions, friends, family, school, and even the technological gadgets that you used. Some of those changes were universal and happened to everyone of your age, and some things were unique to you. Developmental psychologists use science to study how and why humans change over time. This class focuses on changes that occur during adolescence, and how development during this time is impacted by social and cultural contexts. We will examine topics such as puberty, identity, sexuality, family relationships, peer relationships, moral development, self-management, and decision-making. This course will also discuss contemporary challenges facing adolescents. The objective is to deepen your respect for adolescents, and the families, educators and communities that nurture them. In addition, you will acquire a broad-based knowledge of the theories and issues of adolescent development: its roots and new directions.

Workload:

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 3 hours of work outside of class for 14 weeks (168 hours total). But, in the summer you must complete that amount of work in 5 ½ weeks, and do it online -- so that means for a summer class you should put in about 30 hours of work per week. Just so you really understand, THERE IS A LOT OF WORK FOR THIS CLASS, and the only way to do well is to put in the time.