

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 631

ADVANCED ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced study of developmental processes during adolescence. Focus on contemporary research in biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional development.

RATIONALE

This course is designed to give students an in-depth understanding of the major theories and contemporary issues involved in adolescent development, including a focus on cognitive, social, and moral development. Additionally, this course will explore the biological and psychological changes and challenges that occur during this age period, as well as the context surrounding these changes (e.g., family, peers, school, culture). This course will assist students in learning how to interpret and influence adolescent behavior in light of a Christian worldview.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate knowledge of key theoretical perspectives and concepts within adolescent psychology, including their strengths and limitations.
- B. Critically analyze and synthesize contemporary empirical research in adolescent psychology and development, including the application of findings to real-world situations.
- C. Demonstrate proficiency in conducting academic research and effectively communicating details of methods, results, and implications of findings.
- D. Evaluate major concepts within adolescent psychology and development from a biblical perspective.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 500–600 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge using citations from a module/week reading, an academic source, and a scriptural reference. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to the threads of at least 2 classmates. Each reply must be at least 150 words.

- D. Reflection Paper

The student will complete a Reflection Paper applying the module/week's content to the student's own life. This paper must be 2–3 pages in current APA format. The paper must cite at least 1 module/week reading and include a reference page. The paper must also include at least 1 scriptural reference.

- E. Communication Project: Topic/References

The student will submit details related to his or her upcoming Communication Project, including a listing of the topic/content choice, intended audience, format of project (e.g., PowerPoint presentation, website, pamphlet, YouTube video/PSA), and references. This assignment must include at least 2 references (these can be from module/week readings) and must include a reference page in current APA format.

- F. Case Studies (2)

The student will complete 2 Case Studies applying and demonstrating knowledge of course content to a provided scenario. The student will be required to answer various essay questions, analyzing and responding to information contained in the

scenario. The student must also cite any sources used in his or her answers and include a reference page. This assignment must be in current APA format.

G. Adolescent Interview Summary

The student will submit a 2–3-page write-up summarizing an interview the student will conduct with an adolescent during the course of the term. The interview must be at least 30 minutes. The summary must apply concepts covered in module readings to information learned in the interview. The summary must be in current APA format, cite at least 2 module/week readings, and include reference page.

H. Article Review

The student will complete an Article Review using a peer-reviewed scholarly journal article that presents original research. The review must be 2–3 pages in current APA format. The review must cite at least 1 module/week reading and include a reference page.

I. Communication Project: Final

The student will submit a project focusing on the communication of a major content area covered in the course to a hypothetical layperson audience (e.g., adolescents, parents, teachers). The student will aim to communicate material in a creative and engaging way and demonstrate an ability to summarize academic material for a non-academic audience. This assignment must include the use of at least 2 references (these can be from module/week readings). This assignment must be in current APA format and include a reference page. The Final will be submitted in the Discussion Board Forum area in order for classmates to read and respond. The student will also be required to reply to the submissions of at least 2 classmates. Each reply must be at least 150 words.

J. Quizzes (4)

Each quiz will cover the assigned readings and presentations for the previous and current module/week. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 40 multiple-choice questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 70 pts ea)	140
Reflection Paper	100
Communication Project: Topic/References	20
Case Studies (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Adolescent Interview Summary	100
Article Review	100
Communication Project: Final	100
Quizzes (4 at 60 pts ea)	240
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 631

Textbook: Moshman, *Adolescent Rationality and Development* (2011).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Moshman: Introduction 3 presentations 5 websites	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 70
2	Moshman: chs. 1–2, 5 2 presentations 2 websites	DB Forum 2 Quiz 1	70 60
3	Moshman: chs. 9–10 2 presentations 3 websites	Reflection Paper Communication Project: Topic/References	100 20
4	Moshman: ch. 11 2 presentations 2 websites	Case Study 1 Quiz 2	100 60
5	2 presentations 4 websites	Adolescent Interview Summary	100
6	1 presentation 2 websites	Article Review Quiz 3	100 60
7	2 presentations 4 websites	Communication Project: Final	100
8	3 presentations 3 websites	Case Study 2 Quiz 4	100 60
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.