

The University of Lethbridge
Department of Psychology & Neuroscience
Psychology 4000A: Children With Disabilities
Fall 2005

Location: MWF; 2:00 - 2:50 pm; C620

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dr. Margaret Forgie
Office Hours: By appointment
Office: D-850
Phone: 329-2437
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Course Description:

This course will address issues related to understanding, interacting with, and educating children with different kinds of deviations in development. We will cover congenital disorders such as autism, and disorders of environmental exposure such as nutritional deficits. In our discussions we will address many different aspects of the situation, including diagnosis of the disorder, the biological basis of the disorder, the role of individual differences, and current intervention and therapeutic techniques. Class discussions will be based on weekly readings consisting of selected chapters from the required text. Presentations and discussions will include materials not covered in the text, and thus you will be responsible for all the material covered in class and the readings. Please note that neither I, nor your colleagues, will distribute lecture notes or powerpoint slides. It is your responsibility to ensure that your notes are complete.

Required Texts:

Batshaw, M.L. (2002). *Children with Disabilities: Fifth Edition*. Brookes Publishing, New York, NY

Northey, M., and Timney, B. (2005). *Making Sense in Psychology and the Life Sciences. A student's guide to research and writing*. Oxford University Press: Don Mills, ON.

Course Requirements:

Students with Special Needs:

If you have a documented condition that prevents you from fully participating in this course, it is your responsibility to contact me to make special arrangements to accommodate your individual situation. For obvious reasons I would prefer to meet with you within the first 5 classes.

Evaluation:

Attendance and General Participation (15%). As this is a senior seminar class in which I hope to engage in open discussion of the issues, you will be expected to attend, and actively participate in, all classes.

Quizzes (30%). There will be a quiz approximately once per week on a total of 10 occasions (see starred dates on the schedule), consisting of short -answer questions. **All** quizzes will count toward your

grade, and there are no make-up quizzes. **If you fail to write a quiz you will receive a grade of zero for that quiz.** Medical reasons for missing a quiz must be supported by a statement that test performance would be seriously affected on the date in question, with the physician's name, address and telephone number. *A simple note that you had visited the doctor's office is not sufficient.* Non-medical reasons must also be supported.

Presentation (25%) and Annotated Bibliography (10%). Each student will be responsible for presenting a 50-minute lecture on an assigned section of the required text, and you will lead the class in the joint discussion session to be held approximately once per week. You will be expected to significantly expand beyond the text in both forums. You will also be required to develop an annotated bibliography, consisting of five original articles. The five articles must complement your presentation and have been published after 2000 (i.e., within the last five years). The annotated bibliography will be due at the beginning of the class, on the day of your presentation.

Journal Article Assignment (20%). The attached *Journal Article Assignment* handout gives detailed information related to the form and content of this assignment, and will be discussed in detail in the first week of classes. The paper is due in class on **Monday, October 31**. Students will be given the option of re-writing the paper once, and submitting the revised version for re-grading. Details related to this process will be discussed in class.

GRADING SCHEME

A+ (90-100)	A (85-89)	A- (80-84)	B+ (77-79)	B (73-76)	B- (70-72)
C+ (67-69)	C (63-66)	C- (60-62)	D+ (57-59)	D (50-56)	F (<50)