KIN 3301
Youth Development in Context

Instructor: Jordan Daniel, PhD
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides an overview of youth development principles utilizing an ecological framework (Brofenbrenner’s nested doll theory). As this time period is extremely formative for the lives of youth major theories and concepts from various fields will be examined through the lens of kinesiology. Special attention will be placed on the application of these principles with a sensitivity to context.

COURSE GOALS
- Think critically about the role of diverse settings in youth development outcomes.
- Understand key research in fields that address youth development including psychology, sociology and education while viewing these contexts through the lens of kinesiology.
- Explore how theory, research, and practice are connected to meaningful change

EVALUATION:
Assignment                              Points
1 Paper                                  25
1 Movie Review                           20
1 Test (Open Note)                      20
Class Participation & Discussion       20
Professionalism                          15

Total Points                             100
Grades will be based on the following distribution:
A  100-90
B  89-80
C  79-70
D  69-60
F  59 or below
**Paper**
The paper is worth 25% of your grade. This paper that should reflect what your initial reaction and how you would integrate those concepts in a youth development organization. You get to choose which book you write it on (pending instructor approval).

**Movie Review**

The movie review is worth 15% of your grade. This review is an attempt to integrate knowledge of youth development and the themes of a movie. We will discuss this on the first day.

**Test**

The Test is a comprehensive exam of the course. It is open book and open note.

**Attendance & Participation**

See Below

**Professionalism**

See Below

**V. ATTENDANCE & Participation:**

Students are expected to attend and participate in all scheduled class meetings. Chronic failure to attend and participate in class discussion will affect your final grade in this class.

**You are expected to attend each class and to be on time for the beginning of class.**

Students are responsible for anything that happens in class during their absence. *Notify the instructor at least one week in advance* if you have a scheduling conflict that will cause you to miss class. You are responsible for asking the instructor about your attendance record so that you do not go over the allowed 2 absences and tardies. (2 tardies = 1 absence).

1 absence = minus a letter grade.
2 absences = minus another letter grade.
3 absences will result in failing the course.

- Officially sanctioned college activities (athletics and competing academic duties) may be considered permissible absences if the student shows official documentation to the instructor a class period in advance of the absence.
- Observance of a religious holy day may be considered permissible absences pending verification.
What you put into this class is what you get out of it. If you decide to put in the minimal effort you will get the minimal benefits. Coming to every class does not warrant participation. Things that will assist you in participation: speaking when asked a question; lively discussion in group discussions; and an overall willingness to go above and beyond. The participation grade is under the sole discretion of the instructor.

VI. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/Professionalism:
A. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date. Students not turning in an assignment will be recorded as a grade of zero (0).
B. Prior arrangements must be made with the instructor if an absence from an exam is unavoidable and is university excused.
C. The student is responsible for all work and is encouraged to have a contact within the class. Students are encouraged to set up an appointment to meet with the instructor for additional information as needed. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST A GRADE ON A TEST OR ASSIGNMENT: THERE IS A 24 HOUR WAITING PERIOD BEFORE I WILL DISCUSS THE ISSUE. THE PROTOCOL IS: YOU WILL SEND A PROFESSIONAL EMAIL THAT REQUESTS A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE; WE WILL SET UP A MEETING; THE ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED; A RESOLUTION WILL BE MADE.
D. Upon entering class room turn all cell phones and other handheld electronic devices off/silent to prevent distractions affecting other student’s learning opportunities. If you need to take notes with a laptop, be expected to show the notes you have taken.
E. Students with Disabilities:
   Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
   Students with disabilities who request reasonable accommodations must meet with the Course Coordinator within the first week of classes. Reasonable accommodations will be provided as authorized by the Office of Student Life as long as course requirements are not compromised. Faculty will provide no accommodations without authorization from the Office of Student Life. It is the student’s responsibility to be a self-advocate when requesting accommodations.
F. The Angelo State University Honor Code:
   “Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.”
Rules that Guide Class Discussion: To create an environment that fosters open examination of ideas, we must be well-prepared for class, express ourselves effectively, respect and listen to everyone’s ideas, challenge each other to think critically, and correct mistakes or misunderstandings in a positive and encouraging manner. With that in mind, here are some guidelines for class discussion:

1. *No question or opinion is “stupid.”* We must start where we are at, and undoubtedly each person in this room is “at” a different point in their understandings and experience.

2. *We will listen to each other with respect.* The proper response to comments you do not understand or agree with is to ask the speaker to explain and to probe for deeper understanding.

3. *We not only accept, we encourage diverse viewpoints and opinions.* Critical thinking comes from examining many different dimensions of any topic. Students are encouraged to raise points and examine positions that they do not agree with, in attempt to foster a tradition of critical thinking.

4. *There is no room for anger when discussing academic ideas and issues.* When you feel an emotional response to an issue, step back and examine the values or beliefs inside you that were validated or threatened by someone else’s comment. Use those points of emotion as a window to better understand the cultural factors that are embedded deep within yourself.

**This syllabus may be changed as circumstances dictate.**

Readings will be given out by the professor.