

# Parenting and Child Development

½ Credit  
1 Semester

**Text:** The Developing Child by Nancy Brisbane c. 2000

**Prerequisites:** None

## **Course Description:**

This course is an introductory course of child development and theories regarding parenting styles. This course openly discusses the importance of key resources one should have before deciding upon parenthood.

## **Course Content:**

This course discusses theories of why children behave the way they do. It promotes the importance of a solid background of parenting style knowledge. It is a look at a child from prenatal (conception) until school age (age five/six years). The course discusses the importance of prenatal care since this is a crucial time of development and the importance of the first three years of life due to brain development. The areas of physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development are discussed thoroughly since all these areas are dependent of a “good start”.

Students will have many videos that show aspects of child development. The class also has a lot of hands-on-materials which are created for one’s portfolio and classroom activities geared for a nursery school setting since there is a 5-6 week lab experience. There will be study guides and handouts for the student’s portfolio.

## **Course Expectations:**

The students participate in class discussions, nursery school, and to recall what it was like to be a child...embracing new experiences and enjoying simple things. This is a class for people who enjoy children and possibly will aim for a career, which involves children.

## **Grades:**

Grades for the class will be determined by study guides (varying points), chapter/unit tests (100/200 points), projects (300/500 points), lab participation (25-100 points) and oral presentations (100 points).

## **Course Objectives:**

1. historical look on how parenting has changed over the years
2. parenting skills and how they are developed
3. various parenting style theories, pros and cons of each
4. family’s role in parenting
5. personal readiness and a solid foundation for having children

6. teens and parenting
7. family planning
8. prenatal care
9. preparing for childbirth
10. the birth process
11. adjusting to parenthood
12. postpartum depression
13. understanding infants
14. parenting infants
15. meeting physical needs of children ages 0-5/6 years of age
16. meeting intellectual needs of children ages 0-5/6 years of age
17. meeting emotional needs of children ages 0-5/6 years of age
18. meeting social needs of children ages 0-5/6 years of age
19. the value of play
20. children with special needs and opportunities and agencies related to this population
21. effective communication
22. promoting a role model for positive character development
23. handling parenting situations when things don't go right
24. differentiating positive, negative, and exceptional behaviors demonstrated by children
25. selection of child care
26. selection of materials appropriate for a child's mental age versus chronological age...videos, books, tapes, CDs, lessons, etc.