Growing Up in Panem: Developmental Psychology of the Hunger Games
PSYC 118D
Fall 2015

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<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Teaching Assistant</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Christy M. Byrd <a href="mailto:cmbyrd@ucsc.edu">cmbyrd@ucsc.edu</a></td>
<td>Ruby Hernandez</td>
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<td>Office: Social Sciences 2, Room 347</td>
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<td>Office Hours: Tue 1:00-2:00pm and by appointment: <a href="http://meetme.so/ChristyByrd">http://meetme.so/ChristyByrd</a></td>
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Meeting Times and Location:
Lecture: T/Th 4:00-5:45pm
Sections: A – Wednesday 9:30am-10:40am; B – Wednesday 11:00am-12:10pm
Porter Acad 148

Course Description
In this course, we will use The Hunger Games trilogy to explore contextual factors in child and adolescent development and critically examine the parallels between Panem and the real world. Topics will include poverty and hunger, media and development, oppression and privilege, social identity development, and war and exposure to violence, and resilience and resistance. Each topic will be explored in the books and then connected to existing psychology research and real world experiences. PSYC 10 and 100 are prerequisites. This course is designed to be fun and give us the opportunity to discuss and explore a series we enjoy—at the same time, hard work, deep reflection, and critical thinking skills will be required!

Objectives
At the end of this course you will be able to:
- Understand theories and concepts of developmental and social psychology
- Apply theories and concepts in developmental and social psychology to the experiences of characters in the series
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills

Class Structure
Each week will focus on a different theme. We will begin with readings for homework and a lecture on Tuesday. In sections on Wednesday, you will work in small groups to reflect on the lecture and develop your own responses and analyses. We will conclude with a large group discussion on Thursday based on the work in section. Active participation and engagement will be required throughout.

Required Texts
Readings on eCommons

**Recommended Text**


**Requirements**

- Introductory essay (required)
- Homework and in-class participation (70%)
- Analysis paper (20%)
- Portfolio (10%)

Further instructions for each assignment are on eCommons.

**Introductory essay:** You will write a short paper introducing yourself to the class and explaining your interest in the Hunger Games trilogy. You will also reflect on your background in the course topics and topics you are interested in exploring. Failure to complete this assignment will result in a No Pass for the class.

**Homework and in-class participation:** You are required to attend the first lecture or you will be dropped from the course. You are expected to attend each lecture and discussion section, arriving on time and having completed the assigned readings and homework. Homework will generally consist of short reflections on the readings that are turned in before Tuesday’s class on eCommons. In-class participation will be graded through completion of activities individually and in groups.

Homework and in-class participation will be graded based on completion with 0-3 points. Late assignments will receive a 1 point penalty. Assignments graded 0 or 1 points may be rewritten within 2 weeks after the original deadline to receive up to 2 points.

**Analysis paper:** You will write an analysis of an event or character in the series using theories from the class. The paper must have an original thesis and integrate material from at least two course readings and at least two outside scholarly readings. This paper should follow APA style. Late papers will receive a 5% point deduction every 24 hours.

**Portfolio:** The portfolio is intended to demonstrate your learning through the quarter and will consist of 3-5 of your best homework/participation assignments from the quarter and a reflection on key themes throughout the course and what you have learned. Late assignments will receive a 5% point deduction every 24 hours.
Course Policies

Contacting the Instructors
Please use the following link to schedule a meeting outside of office hours: http://meetme.so/ChristyByrd. Otherwise, email is the best way to contact me. Please include “PSYC 118D” in the subject line. I will respond to student emails only between 10am and 12pm each day. If you email me after 12pm, please do not expect a response until the next morning.

Before emailing us, please:

- review the syllabus
- read my latest announcements
- review the relevant resources on eCommons

To make sure your question isn’t answered in those places.

Absences: If you are going to miss class, you must email the TA for a make-up assignment before class begins. The make-up assignment and any homework for that day must be completed by the next lecture (Tuesday or Thursday) to receive full credit; otherwise, the assignments will be subject to a late penalty. You do not need to provide an excuse or documentation for absences.

Academic Honesty: You are responsible for the integrity of your work. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If you are found guilty of cheating or plagiarizing, you will receive a zero on the assignment. You may also be given a failing grade for the course and/or referred to your provost. Academic dishonesty includes submitting someone else’s work under your own name, collaborating with someone else on an individual project, or including another person’s written words or ideas into your work without appropriate attribution. If you are unsure as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please meet with the instructors. Information is also available here: http://library.ucsc.edu/help/howto/citations-and-style-guides.

Principles and procedures concerning academic integrity are available at this link: http://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_integrity.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Any student who thinks they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to submit their Accommodation Authorization and discuss specific needs, preferably within the first two weeks of the quarter. Please contact the Disability Resource Center at 831-45-2089 in room 146 Hahn Student Services or by e-mail at drc@ucsc.edu to coordinate those accommodations.
**Assignment Submission:** All assignments should be submitted on eCommons in the Assignments section. Hard copies and emailed copies will not be accepted. Assignments are determined as late based on the timestamp on eCommons. Extensions will not be granted for any reason, including technical difficulties – please allow sufficient time to upload your assignment well in advance of the deadline.

**Course Communication:** The instructor and TA will use email and eCommons to communicate about the course, including giving feedback on assignments and making announcements about homework assignments and changes to the syllabus. It is essential that you read all communications.

**Distribution of Course Materials:** Please note that students may be disciplined for selling, preparing, or distributing course lecture notes for any commercial purpose, whether or not the student himself or herself took the notes. The unauthorized sale of lecture notes (and handouts, readers or other course materials) is a violation of campus policies, state law and may also constitute copyright infringement subject to legal action.

For more information about the policy, please see this email from UCSC’s Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education (Dec 2010): http://its.ucsc.edu/security/copyright-notes.html

**Extensions:** You may request an extension of up to 2 days on the introductory essay, analysis paper, or portfolio. The extension must be requested at least 24 hours before the paper deadline. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Email the TA and copy me on the email to request an extension. Extensions on homework and in-class work will not be granted except as described in the absences policy.
# Course Schedule

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Homework</th>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td><strong>Introductions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Poverty and hunger</strong></td>
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<td>• <em>People Like Us: Tammy's Story (7:52)</em> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37ZpauS5Doo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37ZpauS5Doo</a></td>
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<td>Homework: What does it mean to be poor? What are the effects of poverty on Katniss, Peeta, and Gale? Which effects are similar to what was found in the research reported in the readings?</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/25</td>
<td><strong>Introductory Essay Due Friday at 11:55pm</strong></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Gender identity development</strong></td>
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<td>• <em>The Hunger Games</em></td>
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<td>Homework: Choose Katniss or Peeta, or Gale and describe their gender identity at the beginning of the first book and how it changes by the end. Use specific examples to illustrate your points.</td>
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<td><strong>Oppression</strong></td>
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<td>Homework: In what ways are the citizens of Panem oppressed? Identify at least one type of oppression as seen in the books and use specific examples to describe how it affects the citizens.</td>
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| 4 | **War and exposure to violence**  
   Guest Lecture by Dr. Tony Hoffman, Psychology |
|---|---|
|   | - *Catching Fire*  
   
   Homework: Compare and contrast the responses of Katniss and Peeta to their participation in the Hunger Games and the District 13 rebellion. What does the research suggest about their responses? |
| 5 | **Media** |
   
   Homework: Outline one of Gentile’s (2014) myths and his counter-argument against it. Do you find either side convincing? What would make each side more convincing? |
| 6 | **Resilience** |
|   | - *Mockingjay*  
   
   Homework: Make an argument about which pattern of resilience on p.11 of Masten (2014) Katniss displays. Address the counter-arguments by showing how she does not match the other patterns. Which factors on the “short list” (Chapter 6) contributed to her resilience?  
   
   On a separate page in the same document, include the thesis statement and a detailed outline for your analysis paper. |
| 7 | **Catch-up/Paper workshops** *(note: attendance is required)* |
|   | 11/10 Paper Workshop  
   11/11 No Section – Veteran’s Day  
   11/12 Paper Workshop  
   11/15 **Sunday 5pm Analysis Paper Due** |
### Resistance

*Guest Lecture by Dr. Jessica Taft, Latin American and Latino Studies*


Homework: TBA

### 11/20
- **Class Trip: Mockingjay - Part 2 Premiere**

### 9

**Movie discussion**

- 11/24 Movie Discussion
- 11/25 Optional Section
- 11/26 No Lecture - Thanksgiving

### 10

**Liberation**


Homework: Overall, what are the most striking parallels between our world and the world of Panem? How can developmental and social psychology help us understand and solve those issues? What can you as an individual do?

### Exam Week
- Portfolio due 12/10 5pm