

Department.: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 232W

Course Title: Laboratory in Developmental

Credits: 4

Contact Person: John Rickards

Catalog Copy: Second semester. Four credits. Prerequisite: PSYC 236 and PSYC 202Q or 202WQ ; ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250 .

The techniques necessary for performing psychological research on young children; advanced topics.

W Criteria: - The students will perform both observational and experimental studies with children. The students will be required to write up these projects as laboratory reports after each is completed. The reports will follow American Psychological Association writing style, which means they must include the justification/background for the study, a detailed methods section, results including statistical analyses when appropriate, and discussion of the findings with reference to the background and reference study. The laboratory reports will include 20-30 typed and double-spaced pages of text. The laboratory reports will be handed in twice. The first draft of each report will be commented on extensively. The content will be assessed for inclusion of the relevant theoretical issues and practical descriptions. The style will be assessed for its clarity, well-formedness of structure, and conciseness. These first drafts will not be graded. The second versions will be assessed for the same content and style factors, as well as for inclusion of suggested changes. These second versions will be graded. Students who receive failing grades on the lab reports will also fail the course.

Laboratory sessions are conducted at the UConn Child Labs and/or Storrs Community Nursery School. Students spend 3 hours weekly observing and interacting with the children attending the preschools. Laboratory sessions are discussed during class time. On specific weeks, students engage the children in specific tasks and/or manipulations, based on measures first practised during class. All studies are approved by the UConn IRB.

Role of Grad Students: N/A