

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College**  
**Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** PSY 235

**Credits:** 3

**Course Title:** Child Psychology

**Course Description:**

Studies development of the child from conception to adolescence. Investigates physical, intellectual, social and emotional factors involved in the child's growth. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:**

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand the impact of divorce, working mothers, etc. on child growth and development.
2. Learn various theories that help provide knowledge of the developmental stages inherent in child growth.
3. Gain a knowledge of role genetics, evolution, and the birth process, play in child development
4. Learn and discuss physical and motor development, featuring cognition, language and social personality foundation in infancy and childhood.
5. Draw appropriate conclusions and inferences.
6. Discriminate among degrees of credibility, accuracy, and reliability of inferences drawn from given data.
7. Understand one's own as well as others' personal functioning within social institutions.
8. Determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
9. Develop and/or enhance the knowledge, skills, and understanding to make informed academic, social, personal, career, and interpersonal decisions.
10. Reason by deduction, induction, and analogy.

**Major Topics to be Included:**

1. History, issues, and methods
2. Theories of child development
3. The evolutionary perspective, genetics, prenatal development, and the birth process
4. Physical, perceptual, and motor development of infants
5. Learning, cognition, and language development in infancy
6. Social and personality development in infancy
7. Physical and cognitive development in early childhood
8. Intelligence and achievement
9. Physical and cognitive development in early, middle and late childhood

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** Spring, 2014