San José State University
ChAD106: Concepts of Childhood
(Section 01, online course)
Spring 2014

Instructor: Robin Love
Office Location: Sweeney Hall, SH325, (408) 924-4698
Robin.Love@sjsu.edu or through Canvas course shell
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30 -3:00 pm, by appointment and online
Required Reading: Course reader is available at Maple Press Copy Center (481 E. San Carlos St., San José, 408-297-1000), and its contents are available online in the Canvas course shell.
Course Shell: Accessed at https://sjsu.instructure.com. Login and setup information can be found at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/student_resources/index.html. Course communications will be conducted through site; materials such as the syllabus and handouts can be downloaded.

Course Description and Objectives:
Most dictionaries define childhood as the period between birth and puberty, however that simple description does little to capture the many connotations of the concept. This course is designed to explore the meaning of childhood to people of differing times and of differing cultures. The content of the course will guide students through an exploration of the historical diversity in the ways in which childhood has been defined, and in the development and clarification of their own concept of the meaning of childhood. A second major course goal will be to investigate cultural variations in ideas about what constitutes childhood. Throughout the course, emphasis will be placed on assisting students to understand that there is no single set of ideas about what childhood is. A third focus will be the impact on children's development and on society of the beliefs held by adults about childhood.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Describe and systematically compare concepts of childhood from a variety of perspectives (e.g., cultural, historical, psychological, philosophical);
2. Discuss the effect of differing concepts on childhood on the experiences of children;
3. Identify the historical context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the United States, and how they have influenced American culture;
4. Clearly articulate their own views on the concept of childhood.

Course Prerequisites:
This course meets area V (Culture and Civilization) of SJSU Studies. Enrollment in this course requires the passage of the WST, upper division standing and completion of the CORE GE. Remember courses to meet Areas R, S, and V of SJSU Studies must be taken from three different departments or distinct academic units.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

SJSU Studies Learning Objectives for Area V
Students in the course will address the following learning objectives through classroom discussion and lecture, and the completion of required readings and activities/assignments.

Learning Objective 1:
Students shall be able to compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, and/or attitudes of people from more than one culture outside the U.S. (Learning Objective 1 is assessed through the individual research paper assignment).
Learning Objective 2:
Students shall be able to identify the historical context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the U.S. and how they have influenced American culture. (Learning Objective 2 is assessed through various questions on the midterm and final exam).

Learning Objective 3:
Students shall be able to explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external pressures. (Learning Objective 3 is assessed through various questions on the midterm and final exam).

Course Assignments:
As an SJSU Studies course, the minimum writing requirement is 3,000 words and writing will be assessed for correctness, clarity, and conciseness.

Midterm and final examinations: These exams will be composed of essay questions. Questions will be taken from material covered in assigned readings and information presented in online seminars. Exam questions will be posted in the course shell as noted below. Student response will need to be uploaded in the course Dropbox in D2L by 11:59 pm on the due date.

Midterm exam will be available April 11th and due April 18th by 11:59 pm
Final exam will be available May 14th and due May 21st by 11:59 pm.

Research Paper: Your research paper will uploaded to the Assignment area of Canvas by 11:59 pm on May 2nd. Research papers should be 10-12 pages in length. Students will be responsible for researching and writing a research paper on one of the four global topics addressed in class (e.g., child health and mortality, education, child labor, or children and conflict). Students will systematically compare the practices, ideas, and values of three different countries – looking at the challenges those countries face and the progress that they have made. Students should research their topics through the use of both the criticism of other scholars (i.e., scholarly journal articles and books) and their own analyses of primary sources (e.g., images, artifacts, and census reports, etc.). A more detailed assignment description and rubric for the research paper are posted in the “Getting Started” Module on the Canvas course shell.

Students will need to turn in a one-page description of their research paper topic with at least six current scholarly references (in APA style) by 11:59 pm on April 4th to the Assignment area of Canvas. This assignment is not graded, but it provides an opportunity for the instructor to give students feedback on their writing and their term project plans early in the course.

Discussion topics and assignments: Each course topic will require the students to respond to online discussion questions or to complete online assignments/activities relating to the topic. These discussions and activities will be opportunities for the students to explore how the historical context of ideas and cultural traditions have influenced American culture, to discuss the process of change within modern cultures outside of the United States, and to personally reflect on their own concept of childhood as it is influenced by exposure to course readings, lecture, videotapes, and class discussion. The discussion question responses will be posted to the Canvas course shell on the dates listed in the course schedule. It is expected that each student's posted response to a discussion question will be at least 300 words in length, and that replies to other students will be at least 100 words in length. Students can access the class Canvas course shell at https://sjsu.instructure.com

Course Evaluation:
Course grades will be based on a 100-point total

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly discussion postings/assignments</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>28</td>
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Late Policy / Make-up Exam:
Make-up examinations will only be given under truly extraordinary circumstances. It is expected that any student too ill to complete a midterm on time will be able to provide the instructor with written verification from their physician or the Student Health Center.
All assignments are due on their scheduled due dates. If students have serious scheduling conflicts or will need to hand in an assignment at a different time, they will need to talk with the instructor before the due date to avoid a late penalty in grading. Any instructor-approved late course work (with the exception of the final exam) must be completed and turned in by the last day of class (May 14th) to be included as part of the final grade.

Turnitin.com:
The Department of Child and Adolescent Development takes issues of plagiarism and cheating very seriously. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the office of Judicial Affairs. Thus, it is department policy that all major papers and assignments must be submitted to Turnitin.com. All course assignments are submitted to the Canvas Assignment area so that they can also be processed through turnitin.com. Course papers and assignments will not be graded (or considered to be turned in) unless they have a turnitin.com originality report.

The Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development has created a web site for students, which explains the university policy on plagiarism, discusses students’ rights and responsibilities, and provides helpful tips for avoiding problems with plagiarism and cheating -- http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/Students/. The policy on academic integrity can be found at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.pdf.

Course Accommodations:
If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible or come to office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with Accessible Education Center (AEC) to establish a record of their disability. Students should contact the Accessible Education Center (AEC). It is located in ADM 110. And can also be reached at 408-924-6000 (voice) or 408-924-5990 (TDD). You may access their policies and services via the Internet at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/

University Resources:
The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. Tutors provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/

Consent for Sharing of Instructor Material:
Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

Course Schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC AND READINGS</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS (in bold)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 11</td>
<td>WHAT ARE CHILDREN? TOWARD A DEFINITION OF CHILDHOOD (LO2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Student discussion posting #1 and reply to another student due Mar. 14th by 11:59 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 17</td>
<td>VIEWS OF ANTIQUITY (LO1 and LO3)</td>
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(Student discussion posting #2 and reply to another student due Mar. 19th by 11:59 pm)

Mar 19

VIEW OF THE MIDDLE AGES (LO1 and LO3)

CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL TOPIC – INFANT HEALTH (LO1, LO2, and LO3)


(Student discussion posting #3 and reply to another student due Mar. 21st by 11:59 pm)

Mar 24

REDISCOVERY OF CHILDHOOD DURING THE RENAISSANCE (LO1 and LO3)

PURITAN VIEWS OF CHILDHOOD (LO1 and LO2)

(Student discussion posting #4 and reply to another student due Mar. 28th by 11:59 pm)

Apr 1

17TH AND 18TH CENTURY ENLIGHTENMENT PHILOSOPHERS (LO1 and LO3)


DEVELOPING A VIEW CHILDHOOD IN EARLY AMERICA (LO2)


RESEARCH PAPER DESCRIPTION (1 page with 6 references) is due April 4th in Canvas

Apr 7

CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL TOPIC – EDUCATION (LO2 and LO3)


(Student discussion posting #5 and reply to another student due Apr. 9th by 11:59 pm)

Apr 18

MIDTERM EXAM DUE Nov. 8th in Canvas by 11:59 pm

Apr 21

19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY ATTITUDES ABOUT CHILDHOOD (LO1, LO2, and LO3)

April 23

**CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL TOPIC – CHILD LABOR (LO1, LO2, and LO3)**


April 28

**CHILD STUDY MOVEMENT (LO2)**


May 5

**CHILDREN AND CONFLICT (LO1, LO2, and LO3)**


May 12

**BABY BOOM, BABY BUST AND CONTEMPORARY VIEWS OF CHILDHOOD (LO2)**


May 14

**CHILDREN’S GLOBAL ISSUES (LO2)**

Electronic reference (not in the reader):


May 21

**FINAL EXAMINATION due May 21st in Canvas by 11:59 pm**