PSYC 230 – DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
Anna Shusterman

OVERVIEW
In this two-week, full-credit course, students will learn how children develop across different domains – physical, cognitive, language, social-emotional, identity, personality. We will emphasize the primary research literature in developmental science and expose students to the fundamental methods and theories used to study how children develop. In the process, we will learn to appreciate the beauty and detail of human development, as well as the ingenuity of research in the field over the last several decades.

WINTER MEETING SCHEDULE
- The course will be taught over 10 days, 4 hours a day, in two 5-day blocks.
- We will not meet during Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday holiday.
- We will meet on Saturday, Jan. 20.

Week One:
Monday 1/8 – What is Developmental Science? Questions, Methods, & Theories
Tuesday 1/9 – Physical, Brain, and Motor Development
Wednesday 1/10 – Cognitive Development 1
Thursday 1/11 – Cognitive Development 2
Friday 1/12 – Language Development
[Saturday 1/13 – Diversity in Development assignment due]
[Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend – 1/13 – 1/15 – No Class]

Week Two:
Tuesday 1/16 – Social Development: Attachment, Temperament, Self-Regulation
Wednesday 1/17 – Identity Development: Race, Gender, Culture, Groups
Thursday 1/18 – Resilience and Threat: Challenges to Healthy Development
Friday 1/19 – Child Observation
Saturday 1/20 – Systems and Development – Families, Schools, Communities
[Saturday 1/21 – Child Observation assignment due]

Reading period: Monday 1/22
Final Exam: Tuesday 1/23

COURSE POLICIES
(1) Attendance and participation are required at all course meetings. (2) No late assignments or exams will be accepted. (3) All written work must be your own.

GRADING
Pre-course assignment – 10%  Assignment 1 – 20%
Attendance, participation, Assignment 2 – 20%
& in-class assignments – 20%  Final exam – 30%
COURSE READINGS

Prior to the start of the course
Before the first day of class, students should read the following books and watch the movie The Human Spark. A brief assignment to be turned in the week prior to the course will help students review and synthesize the material.

- Movie: PBS The Human Spark, Part 2: So Human, So Chimp (55 minutes; available online)

Readings during the course
One paper will be assigned for each day. The papers will be selected from classic and current primary source articles to help students gain facility with reading and interpreting developmental science. All readings will be available on the course Moodle.