

## FCS 3270-01: PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

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### Course Objectives:

- A. To explore the historical, biological, and cultural factors influencing the relationship between the parent and child throughout the life-span.
- B. To introduce the theories of parent-child interactions and discuss their differences and similarities.
- C. To become aware of the assumptions and expectations we have about guiding children, and how these shape our behavior and how it effects others.
- D. To assist students in the formulation of their own philosophies of parent-child interactions and guidance.

### Texts:

Brooks, Jane B. (2002). The Process of Parenting (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.) CA: Mayfield Publishing Company.  
Cherry, C. (2002). Please Don't Sit on Your Kids. Cathage IL: Feron Teaching Aids.

### Requirements:

1. Attendance and participation. It will be expected that all required readings be read prior to class. It is important that all class members contribute to the class discussion. It is the instructor's opinion that each person will have something to contribute, and that we will learn a great deal from each other.
2. Group activities. There will be two group activities during the semester. These will take place during class.
3. Mid-term paper. This is an assignment to integrate materials from your texts to better understand your own development.  
**Autobiographical.**
  1. Report the guidance techniques used by your care givers (parents, daycare, babysitters, teachers, grandparents, etc.)
  2. Infer what philosophy (theories) may have guided their techniques. Use information from texts and outside materials to describe techniques used by care givers. For example, parenting styles, discipline style, punitive vs. non-punitive discipline, ecological factors, communication, boundaries etc.
  3. Report your reactions to their techniques, recognizing your own contribution to the outcome of the interaction.
  4. Any other factors you feel were important contributions to your relationship/s with your care givers.
  5. You will be utilizing most of your information for this paper from your textbooks.\*This paper is your mid-term\*
4. Final Paper  
**Personal guidance philosophy.** Describe the personal guidance philosophy that you have developed. You should draw on the writings of major theorists with whom you agree. (Quotes must be appropriately cited.) It is expected that you will explore materials from class discussion, texts, and outside books and professional articles. You will probably draw on the work of at least 10 theorists (sources).
  1. What has contributed to your personal guidance philosophy? Including: historical issues, upbringing, classes, experiences, observations, readings, etc.
  2. What is your philosophy? This should be the major portion of your paper. What are the key aspects you feel are critical in the parent-child relationship.
  3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of your philosophy?
  4. How difficult do you feel it is to be a parent? How difficult do you feel it is to be a child?
  5. Be Creative.

### Grading:

Participation	20
Group projects	30
Midterm paper	100
Final paper	<u>150</u>
Total	300