Research Paper for PSY114-21:

**Worth 25% of Class Grade:** Each student is responsible for submitting a research paper and presenting their topic to the class on the scheduled date. During the semester students will be required to submit a unique topic, a detailed outline, and a preview reference page. These assignments will be considered when calculating a final grade for the research paper and presentation. The research paper, including a reference page, will follow APA format and will be submitted as a hard copy; e-mailed research papers will not be accepted.

**Appropriate Topics will be diseases, syndromes, or environmentally based issues that affect development in children.** This is NOT a complete list, but some examples of topics are:

- Neurofibromatosis
- Prader-Willi Syndrome
- Angelman Syndrome
- Tay-Sachs disease
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Strabismus
- Lead poisoning
- Reactive Attachment Disorder
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- Neo Natal Abstinence Syndrome
- Sickle Cell Anemia
- Turner Syndrome
- Down syndrome
- Autism
- Klinefelter Syndrome
- Multiples/fertility treatment
- Tourette’s Syndrome
- Childhood Obesity
- Chronic Poverty
- Breastfeeding
- Culture analysis (specific)
- Violence exposure
- Bilingualism
- Infant Massage
- Failure to Thrive
- Shaken Baby/maltreatment
- premature birth
- MJ use in the family
- Cerebral palsy
- Diverse family systems

The Final Grade for this project will be based on the preliminary assignments, the written research paper and the in-class presentation.

**Preliminary Assignments:**

UNIQUE SUBJECT CHOICE should be registered with the instructor before the end of the 3rd class meeting. Each student will be presenting to the rest of the class, therefore each student will need to choose a unique subject.

PREVIEW REFERENCE PAGE should include at least 3 sources from peer reviewed/scholarly journals found on Marvell databases. Other appropriate sources, in addition to the 3 previously mentioned, might be National or International ‘.org’ websites where statistics, prevalence, and general information
could be gathered. Wikipedia is NEVER an appropriate source and neither is WEBMD. If you have questions about appropriate sources, check with the librarians for guidelines on trusted websites.

DETAILED OUTLINE should include an overarching question you are trying to answer and then a brief description of each section of your paper. Use the RESEARCH PAPER description to help you decide what information you will include in each section. This is your opportunity to organize your paper/presentation.

THE FINAL PRODUCT/S:

THE RESEARCH PAPER should be 5 pages in length (in addition to Title and Reference pages), include in-text citations from at least the 3 appropriate sources, include a reference page in APA format, and be free from spelling and syntax errors. Exploration of the history of the condition, the symptoms/presentation of the condition, the prevalence of the condition, the causes and treatment of the condition, the short & long term effects on the growth and development of persons affected, what is the current research around the subject, and a call to action or ‘Next Steps’ should be part of the body of the paper.

THE PRESENTATION should be 7-10 minutes in length, include a handout for classmates, and include the use of visuals as part of the presentation. It is appropriate to have notes for the presentation but points will be deducted if the presentation is read; your presentation should NOT be a reading of your research paper. You may use the computer and projection equipment available in the classroom. If you have an Apple computer, it is YOUR responsibility to troubleshoot the issues around compatibility with the classroom equipment. The IT department will likely offer some assistance if asked with an appropriate lead time.