

**COURSE INFORMATION GUIDE**  
CHYS 2P38: Childhood, Youth and Society

**Important:** The information contained in this guide is not equivalent to the course syllabus. It is intended to provide students with more information about scheduled courses than is provided through the undergraduate calendar. Keep in mind that it is prepared well in advance of the final courses preparation and merely provides an early idea about course objectives, content, and structure. In some cases this guide may be based on a previous year's course and not be reflective of the coming year's offering. Do not purchase texts or acquire readings based on the information guide.

**Instructor:** TBA

**Course Description:** In this course, we will examine the relationship between childhood, youth and society. Specifically, we examine socio-cultural theories of child and youth development and the argument that childhood and adolescence are social categories that are created and reproduced through social relations and social structures. Using historical and socio-cultural perspectives, students will see the various ways in which life stages and childhood are created over time and across cultures. To this end, we consider the dynamic and intersecting construction of childhood, race, class, sexuality, and gender by looking at the conditioning effects of education and schooling, the media, literature and popular culture, as well as and capitalism and the market.

**Course Objectives:**

- To introduce students to historical and socio-cultural theories and explanations of childhood, children and youth
- To grasp and weigh the argument that childhood and youth are contextual, social categories
- To explain and apply the concept of discourse when examining representations of childhood/youth
- To recognize and illustrate childhood and youth as diverse and complicated by other identifications and associated inequalities
- To identify and weigh the value of children and youth as active social participants

**Course Evaluation:** Not available at this time.

**Additional Information:** None.