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Educational Learning Theories

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Faculty Member Name: **Heather Stefanski**
Department: **Teaching and Educational Leadership**

What OER Book are you reviewing (Title): **Educational Learning Theories**
Location/ Link where it can be found: **<https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/education-textbooks/1/>**

Does the author have appropriate authority of standing to release a book? (Professor associated with a university etc..)

Molly Zhou Dalton State College, mzhou@daltonstate.edu
David Brown Dalton State College, dobrown@daltonstate.edu

For what course are you reviewing this book:
MLED 2023, Psychological Foundations for the Nature and Needs of the Middle Level Student

What is this course's average enrollment:

Fall **10-15**

Spring

Summer

What are the current resources used for this class and how much does it generally cost?
 Eggen, P. & Kauchak, D. (2020). *Using Educational Psychology in Teaching* (11th ed.). Columbus, OH: Prentice-Hall.

\$79.99 Amazon

What are your course objectives for this course? (copy and paste)

- 1. Define educational psychology, relate these theories and principles to the nature and needs of middle level learners, and use these theories to improve teaching and learning in the middle grades.**
- 2. Explain how the theories and principles of educational psychology can be used in the field to improve teaching and learning in the middle school setting.**
- 3. Analyze and assess the role of appropriate educational research as a resource and a process for improving teaching and learning for students in the middle grades.**
- 4. Define and discuss the roles of heredity and environment in creating differences among middle level learners.**
- 5. Compare and contrast behavioral, cognitive, and observational theories of learning and apply them to middle level classroom situations.**
- 6. Define the concept of motivation from the behaviorist, cognitive, and humanistic points of view; design and implement appropriate motivational techniques in the middle school setting.**

7. **Determine the characteristics of effective middle level teachers and explain how these characteristics promote effective learning.**
8. **Selecting from a variety of management models, design a management system appropriate to the needs of middle level students.**
9. **Describe the intellectual, physical, social, emotional and moral development of middle grade students.**
10. **Explain how adolescents learn and how developmental and socio-cultural factors shape this learning.**
11. **Discuss the nature and needs of the special needs middle level student.**
12. **Describe the concept of health, and wellness for the middle level student and the corresponding implications for curriculum design and instructional strategies.**

Which chapters or sections align to each course objective.

Course Objective	Section or Chapter that addresses it.
Define educational psychology, relate these theories and principles to the nature and needs of middle level learners, and use these theories to improve teaching and learning in the middle grades.	All chapters have a section on implications for education
Explain how the theories and principles of educational psychology can be used in the field to improve teaching and learning in the middle school setting.	All chapters have a section on implications for education
Define and discuss the roles of heredity and environment in creating differences among middle level learners.	Chp 7 Bioecological Model of Human Development
Compare and contrast behavioral, cognitive, and observational theories of learning and apply them to middle level classroom situations	Chp 1. Behaviorism Chp 3 Social Cognitive Theory Chp 4 Sociocultural Theory Chp 6 The Experiential Learning Theory Chp 12 Information Processing Theory
Define the concept of motivation from the behaviorist, cognitive, and humanistic points of view; design and implement appropriate motivational techniques in the middle school setting.	Chp 11 Theory of Human Motivation
Describe the intellectual, physical, social, emotional and moral development of middle grade students.	Chp 2 Stages of Cognitive Development Chp 5 Theory of Moral Development Chp 8 Psychosocial Theory of Identity Development

Explain how adolescents learn and how developmental and socio-cultural factors shape this learning.	Chp 4 Sociocultural Theory Chp 8 Psychosocial Theory of Identity Development
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Which Course objectives are not covered in the book.

Course Objective
Analyze and assess the role of appropriate educational research as a resource and a process for improving teaching and learning for students in the middle grades.
Determine the characteristics of effective middle level teachers and explain how these characteristics promote effective learning.
Selecting from a variety of management models, design a management system appropriate to the needs of middle level students.
Discuss the nature and needs of the special needs middle level student.
Describe the concept of health, and wellness for the middle level student and the corresponding implications for curriculum design and instructional strategies.

If you were to use this book, what would be your plan to find material to meet the uncovered objectives? (One option is to find another OER to meet it. Multiple Open Educational Resources can be used for a course)

I often pair the text for this class with Knowles, T. & Brown, D. (2000). *What every middle school teacher should know*. Westerville, OH: AMLE and Bishop, D. & Harrison, L. (2021). *The Successful Middle School: This We Believe*. Westerville, Ohio: AMLE Knowles. These additional texts are used throughout the middle level program and ground our coursework in the AMLE standards. I would need to use additional articles, podcasts, and blogs to teach about educational research and management models. I often use Cult of Pedagogy for current best practices.

Are there additional materials available (power points, test questions etc..)

At the end of each chapter, there is a reference list, a list of additional reading, videos, and tutorials.

Is the author contact information available to contact if there are more materials?

Email addresses are provided as well as biographical information.

What are the strengths of this book? (Think: writing style, citations, currency, diagrams etc..)

The list of additional readings, videos, and tutorials is a nice addition. The book does a great job at explaining the Bioecological Model of Human Development, which our current text does not do well.

What are the weaknesses of this book?

The way it breaks up some of the educational theories can make it a bit difficult to compare and contrast. The text is also very text-heavy and dense. It may be a challenge to get students to actually read it.

To be able to use this book – what will you have to supplement?

I would need to supplement the way the material relates to young adolescents--but I have to do that anyway.

Compared to your previous purchased book – is the effort required to use this OER worth it _ why or why not?

No. I just think the density of the book in terms of text and visuals would not appeal to our current undergraduate students. I do think I will capitalize on the lists of videos and tutorials, but I do not think the students would enjoy the format.

If you were to use this book, would you also use a homework system? If yes, which one would you use (LibreTexts and Lumen learning are some examples)

We use Blackboard as our learning management system and I already post assignments there. Most assignments are application based within their field experience. That would not change no matter which text we use.

Please submit the completed review to: oyer@atu.edu