

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COURSE SYLLABUS</b> <b>FCS 5962- Special Topics: Attachment Across the Lifespan</b> SPRING, 2006      Tuesdays 2:00 - 4:30      AEB 220</p>
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**Instructor:** Dr. Russell Isabella **Office Hours:** Tues/Thurs 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., and by appt.  
**Office:** 212 Alfred Emery Building **Phone:** 581-5459 **email:** [russ.isabella@fcs.utah.edu](mailto:russ.isabella@fcs.utah.edu)  
**website:** [www.fcs.utah.edu/~isabella](http://www.fcs.utah.edu/~isabella)

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is directed toward an examination of Attachment Theory, with the assumption that students in the class already have a basic understanding of this theory. Our purpose will be to consider what attachment theory has to say about the role of attachment in our development throughout life. Additionally, we will consider research that has informed this theoretical perspective in order so that we may gain a better understanding of the empirical basis for the theory.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Texts:** Two textbooks are required:

1. Karen, R. (1998). Becoming Attached: First Relationships and How They Shape Our Capacity to Love. New York: Oxford University Press
2. Grossmann, K.E., Grossmann, K., & Waters, E. (Eds) (2005). Attachment from Infancy to Adulthood: The Major Longitudinal Studies. New York: The Guilford Press.

**Attendance:** It is expected that all students will attend and be prepared for every class period.

**Exams:** There will be **no** exams for this class.

**Term Project:** There will be a term project for this course, the nature of which I am still considering. We will discuss various options and student input will help me decide how to handle the term project.

### GRADING

Grades will be based on student preparedness for and participation in class discussion, and performance on the term project.

### COURSE OUTLINE -- DATES TO BE AWARE OF

Following is a **tentative** outline for the semester. Any changes will be noted in class. Students are responsible for reading the assigned materials prior to class.

#### PART I: CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW

JAN 10	Course Introduction
JAN 17	"What do we need and how do we become who we are?" Karen Part I (pp 1 - 125)
JAN 24	"Measurement Breakthrough" Karen Part II (pp 129 - 173) Ainsworth article (to be provided) Bretherton article (on web: <a href="http://www.psychology.sunysb.edu/attachment/online/inge_origins.pdf">http://www.psychology.sunysb.edu/attachment/online/inge_origins.pdf</a> )
JAN 31	"Where do we go from here? The fate of early attachments" Karen Part III (pp 177 - 247)
FEB 7	"What will I be when I grow up?" Adulthood: Karen Part V (pp 361 - 408)
FEB 14	Guest: Kelly Lundberg, clinical psychologist
FEB 21	Contention: Debate regarding the meaning of attachment: Karen Chapter 19 and Part IV (pp 248 - 357)

#### PART II: RESEARCH

FEB 28	Research: The study of early attachment: Edited volume, Chapters 3 (Sroufe et al.) and 4 (Belsky)
MAR 7	Research: Internal Working Models: Edited volume, Chapters 2 (Bretherton) and 10 (Main, et al.)
MAR 14	Holiday: Spring Break
MAR 21	Research: Adult Attachment: Edited Volume, Chapters 9 (Crowell & Waters) and 10 (Main et al.)
MAR 28 - APR 25	Student projects/to be determined