



PSY543 Developmental Psychology (3 credit hours) Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course takes a life span approach in studying human development from conception through death. Students will examine the physical, cognitive, social and emotional growth in the human being. Emphasis will be on exploring and describing human growth and development in terms of cultural and ecological systems as supported by relevant peer reviewed data.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the models of development.
2. Examine the roles of nature and nurture in development.
3. Analyze the theoretical foundations of cognition and behavior.
4. Apply multicultural theories of development.
5. Analyze grief and loss issues in development.
6. Determine the role of self (personality) and family in development.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Santrock, J. W. (2024). *Life-span development (19th ed.)*. McGraw-Hill Education.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#).

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each**

week. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week.**

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays.**
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays.**

Learning Activities

In this course, you will demonstrate an internalization and application of the core concepts learned through several learning activities. These include discussion forums, research papers, a case study, and observational exercises. Key learning activities include an immersive activity which will allow you to take on the role of a researcher and observe subjects in real time, you will then use your findings to write a paper analyzing and interpreting your observations in relation to theory. You will also create a magazine article guiding parents on parenting practices that will help to influence their children's growth and development. Finally, you will conduct a movie analysis, where you will have an opportunity to observe and evaluate a character in a film and prepare a character analysis based on theories learned in the course.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (50)	Discussions Activity 2.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 3.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 4.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 5.1 (50)	Discussions Activity 6.1 (50) Activity 6.2 (50)	Discussions Activity 7.1 (50)	400
Assignments Activity 1.3 (50)	Assignments Activity 2.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 3.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 4.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 5.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 6.3 (100)	Assignments Activity 7.2 (100)	600
100	100	150	150	150	200	150	1000

Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Driving Force - Initial Post

Week 1

☐ WED: Activity 1.1: Driving Force - Optional Secondary Posts

☐ WED: Activity 1.2: The Interaction of Heredity and Environment - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 1.2: The Interaction of Heredity and Environment - Secondary Posts

☐ SUN: Activity 1.3: Topic Paper: Developmental Theories

Week 2

☐ WED: Activity 2.1: Sleep and Nutrition Guidelines - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 2.1: Sleep and Nutrition Guidelines - Secondary Posts

☐ SUN: Activity 2.2: Magazine Article

Week 3

- ☐ WED: Activity 3.1: Cognitive Changes in Early Childhood - Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 3.1: Cognitive Changes in Early Childhood - Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 3.2: Observation Activity

Week 4

- ☐ WED: Activity 4.1: Attachment Relationships - Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 4.1: Attachment Relationships - Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 4.2: Peer Status Groups

Week 5

- ☐ WED: Activity 5.1: Presentation: Adolescent Development - Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 5.1: Presentation: Adolescent Development - Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 5.2: Topic Paper: Literature Review

Week 6

- ☐ WED: Activity 6.1: Adult Stage vs. Life Events - Initial Post
- ☐ WED: Activity 6.2: Reflection Post - Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 6.1: Adult Stage vs. Life Events - Secondary Posts
- ☐ SAT: Activity 6.2: Reflection Post - Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 6.3: Movie Analysis

Week 7

- ☐ WED: Activity 7.1: Our Healthcare System and End of Life Care - Initial Post
- ☐ THU: Activity 7.2: Final Paper
- ☐ SAT: Activity 7.1: Our Healthcare System and End of Life Care - Secondary Posts

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the [Support, Policies, and Procedures](#) addendum.