

# UNIVERSITY<sup>of</sup> NORTH TEXAS

Department of Educational Psychology  
HDFS 1013: Human Development  
Tuesday/Thursday 11:10 am to 12:30 am  
Wooten Hall 316

## Instructor Information

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Instructor: **Anondah Saide, PhD**

Physical Office Location: MH 316-J

Email: Anondah.Saide@unt.edu

Virtual Office: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/6476596062>

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursday from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Teaching Assistant: **Charlotte Sika**

Physical Office Location: TBA

Email: CharlotteSika@my.unt.edu

Virtual Office: TBA

Office Hours: Mondays 1:30 pm – 5 pm/ Tuesdays 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm/ Wednesday 9 am – 10 am

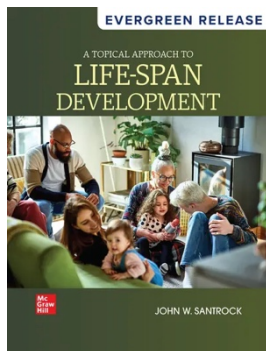
## Course Description

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Human Development (3 hours). Introduction to the theories and processes of physical, cognitive, and social development of the individual from conception until death. Suitable for non-majors. Satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum. Prerequisite(s): none

## Required Textbook

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Santrock, J. W. (2025). A topical approach to life-span development (12th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

**\*\* The 10<sup>th</sup> edition (2020) and 11<sup>th</sup> edition (2022) of the book is also fine \*\***

In addition to the textbook readings, the instructor will occasionally email out videos to watch (max 20 minutes) prior to attending class.

## Course Learning Objectives

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Student will be able to:

1. Identify important physical, cognitive, and social changes throughout the lifespan.
2. Understand the major theories guiding research in human development.
3. Articulate the impact of sociocultural influences on human development.
4. Utilize your newfound knowledge on human development to identify challenges individuals face and develop a plan with suggestions for where they could go to seek assistance.
5. Investigate topics of your own interest in the area of child development.
6. Apply concepts in the area of development to help you understand your own life history.

## Class Rules & Guidelines

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**Email:** If you need to contact me, please email ([anondah.saide@unt.edu](mailto:anondah.saide@unt.edu)) with the following subject header, “UNT 1013 Question”. I will email you back within two (2) business days. Reminder: this is a professional environment. Do not write an email to me with the same tone you would use in a social media post or text message.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes regularly and punctually. If you no longer wish to be in the class, YOU have to drop the class via the UNT portal or by contacting the Registrar’s Office for guidance. The instructor does not drop or withdraw students from the course.

Attendance will be taken every day using iClicker:

[https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/approved\\_and\\_supported\\_technologies/iclicker.html](https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/approved_and_supported_technologies/iclicker.html)



**Coursework Make-up policy:** There are “acceptable” (i.e., unforeseeable, out-of-your-control) reasons for missing class or an assignment, including: (a) ill health, (b) jury duty or mandatory court appearances, or (c) religious holidays. For the absence to be excused so that you can make-up an assignment, you have to provide verifiable documentation. First, contact the instructor within 48 hours (or 2 business days) of missing the assignment to inform them. Then immediately email the Dean of Students with documentation for their office to verify ([deanofstudents@unt.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@unt.edu)). The Dean of Students will send a notice to the professor letting them know that the reason for missing class was verified and fell under an “acceptable” reason. After that, it is your responsibility to follow up with the professor about making up the work. Note that it is still at the discretion of the professor whether making up the work is feasible.

Absences in observance of religious holidays are authorized only if you have notified your instructor in writing within the first 2 weeks of the semester per university policy. If the absence is due to a medical/health-related concern, you must provide a note (for the Dean of Students, not the professor) from a doctor or medical institution confirming you were sick. The instructor does not need to know what your ailment is (that is your own private information), just confirmation that you were unable to attend class or do schoolwork.

If you miss an exam or assignment for one of the reasons described above, you must contact the instructor within two (2) business days from the time the exam or assignment was due. It is your responsibility to communicate with the instructor about make-up work.

**Academic Integrity:** It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with UNT's Policy on Academic Integrity. Plagiarism, copying, cheating, or giving assistance to other students during examinations is a violation of academic integrity. Cases of suspected cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students office. Any and all work submitted in order to meet the requirements of this course must be originally created for this course. You may not turn in anything submitted for another course and/or section of this course you have previously taken.

University Policy 06.003 states, "UNT promotes the integrity of learning processed and embraces the core values of trust and honesty. Academic integrity is based on educational principles and procedures that protect the rights of all participants in the educational process and validate the legitimacy of degrees awarded by the university. In the investigation and resolution of allegations of student academic dishonesty, the university's actions are intended to be corrective, educationally sound, fundamentally fair, and based on reliable evidence." Here is the link to additional information on this policy: <https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.pdf>

For more information on what constitutes plagiarism, as well as tips on citing your resources, visit [www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org) and check out this article: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5122250/>

**\*\*If you require clarification on what counts as academic dishonesty, it is your responsibility to ask the instructor of the course. Ignorance is not an excuse for academic dishonesty.**

**Artificial Intelligence:** Understanding how artificial intelligence (e.g., Grammarly, ChatGPT) works is important for your educational journey and future occupational success. However, the assignments in this class are meant to challenge you, to inspire critical and creative thinking, and to produce original work. As a result, you need to use AI responsibly. I have provided guidelines/tips below for how to do that; failure to follow these will result in the filing of a report of academic misconduct.

1. While students are encouraged to utilize AI tools for studying, homework, and researching, any work submitted must reflect the student's own understanding and knowledge. Students should not represent AI-generated content as their own original work. All submitted work should be a result of the student's own intellectual efforts. Do not submit AI-created essays or solutions to problems. Warning: Generative AI programs often produce text that is plagiarized and/or interpreted incorrectly. When reading AI generated content, make sure that you still consider that information through a critical lens.
2. Students should not allow other students to copy or use work that was generated with the help of AI technology/ programs. Sharing AI-generated answers or enabling others to pass off AI generated work as solely their own is also academic misconduct.

**Technology Use (in the classroom):** Using electronic recording or any other communications devices (such as MP3 players, cell phones, pagers, recording devices, etc.) in the classroom to record lectures or take notes via artificial intelligence software without the explicit permission of the instructor is strictly prohibited. If you are caught doing so, you will be asked to leave the classroom and will not be granted points for any assignments or exams that are associated with that day. Exceptions will be made for students that have a note from the Office of Disability Access and consult with the instructor ahead of time. If this policy is violated by more than one student, the use of computers and phones will be prohibited in the classroom altogether.

**Netiquette (online):** The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment (including your discussion posts and replies on Canvas). Please use proper netiquette (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) when interacting with class members and your instructor. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. UNT's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-012#>

**Academic Accommodations:** The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information go to the Office of Disability Access website (<http://disability.unt.edu>) or contact them by phone (940) 565-4323.

**Emergency Notification and Procedures:** UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at <http://www.my.unt.edu>. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include (1) knowing the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas in the buildings where your classes are held, (2) determining how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and (3) identifying where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Retention of Student Records:** Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates at the following link: <http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/ferpa.html>

**Grade Disputes:** If you have a grade-related concern, you are encouraged to contact the instructor. Students must submit a typed request explaining the rationale for any grade change. Students must dispute their grade within five (5) business days of receiving the grade (i.e., it being posted) or the instructor will not consider the dispute. Decisions regarding grade disputes are made at the discretion of the instructor.

**Additional Information on Meeting Basic Needs:** Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this

may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify me if you are comfortable doing so. This will enable me to provide any resources that I may possess. Information on the UNT food pantry can be found at <http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>

How to contact Dean of Students Office:  
University Union, Suite 409  
(940) 565-2648 | deanofstudents@unt.edu

## Course Structure

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**Grading Scale:** A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = Below 60%

The final grade students receive in this class will be based upon the following:

| Grade Component                                        | Points | %   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Assessments                                            |        |     |
| Short Quizzes (5 x 60 pts = 300)                       | 300    | 30  |
| Participation                                          |        |     |
| Classroom Activities (7 x 50 pts = 350)                | 350    | 35  |
| Core Assignments                                       |        |     |
| 1: Research Methods & Design Quiz                      | 75     | 10  |
| 2A: Worksheet                                          | 50     | 5   |
| Core Assignment 2B: Paper                              | 150    | 15  |
| Syllabus Confirmation Quiz                             | 25     | 2.5 |
| AI Usage Quiz                                          | 25     | 2.5 |
| **These are required for your other work to be graded. |        |     |
| Total                                                  | 1000   | 100 |

**Quizzes:** These are short quizzes taken in class after each section of the course; each section is outlined below. Students will be given five (5) during the semester. Each will consist of 12 multiple-choice, fill in the blank, short answer or true/false type questions. The quizzes will be based on material from: (a) the readings, (b) supplemental material provided in the lectures, and (c) participation activities. Each quiz is time-limited: you will have 25 minutes to take the quiz.

Section 1: Chapters 1 to 3  
Section 2: Chapters 4 to 6  
Section 3: Chapters 7 to 9  
Section 4: Chapters 10 to 12  
Section 5: Chapters 13, 14, & 17

**Research Design and Methods Quiz:** The scientific study of growth and change across the lifespan has yielded findings based on decades of research. In order to better understand these research findings, it is also important that you comprehend basic aspects of research methodology employed by science. These topics are addressed directly in chapter 1 of the textbook and reappear throughout the course. This assignment is designed to improve your understanding of the scientific method generally as well as aspects of research design and methods that are more specifically utilized in developmental research.

**Case Study Core Assignment:** Knowledge of human growth and development provides us with valuable information that can help us meet the needs of others in varied contexts (e.g., personal, professional). In this assignment, you are tasked with (1) applying five (5) human development concepts to your life and (2) providing two (2) suggestions for improving the cognitive, socioemotional, and/or physical development of a friend or family member. The instructions and rubric for both parts of this assignment are posted on Canvas.

**Participation Activities:** Even though this is a large class (~70 students), we will still have in-class activities. These activities are meant to be thought-provoking and to provide opportunities to practice using course concepts. They should also be fun. We will have seven throughout the semester—they will not be announced ahead of time. You need to come to class to participate. They will be graded based on effort.

### Additional Notes:

1. **Writing Quality:** I recommend you compose your response in a word processing program before submitting it on Canvas so that you can check for writing errors. Writing assignments constitute a significant portion of your grade, I also encourage you to seek out assistance from the Writing Center: <https://writingcenter.unt.edu/>
2. **Canvas:** We will be using Canvas in this course. Your grades, the syllabus, course announcements, and assignment rubrics will all be posted on our Canvas page. As a student, it is your responsibility to check Canvas frequently for course updates.

### Course Calendar\*

| Week |         | Topic(s)                                                    | Assignments Due                           | Reading/<br>Videos |
|------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1    | 17-Aug  | Introduction to Human Development and Philosophy of Science |                                           | Ch 1               |
| 2    | 24-Aug  | Introduction Continued                                      |                                           |                    |
| 3    | 31-Aug  | Biological Beginnings                                       |                                           | Ch 2               |
| 4    | 7-Sept  | Physical Development & Biological Aging                     | Research Design Assignment (due Thursday) | Ch 3               |
| 5    | 14-Sept | Health                                                      | Quiz #1 on Chapters 1 – 3 (on Thursday)   | Ch 4               |
| 6    | 21-Sept | Motor, Sensory, & Perceptual Development                    |                                           | Ch 5               |
| 7    | 28-Sept | Cognitive Development                                       |                                           | Ch 6               |
| 8    | 5-Oct   | Information Processing                                      | Quiz #2 on Chapters 4 – 6 (on Thursday)   | Ch 7               |
| 9    | 12-Oct  | Intelligence                                                | Case Study Worksheet 2A (due Friday)      | Ch 8               |

|             |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                           |                |
|-------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 10          | 19-Oct | Language Development                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                           | Ch 9           |
| 11          | 26-Oct | Emotional Development & Attachment                                                                                                                                                                                     | Quiz #3 on Chapters 7 – 9 (on Thursday)   | Ch 10          |
| 12          | 2-Nov  | The Self, Identity, & Personality                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                           | Ch 11<br>Ch 12 |
| 13          | 9-Nov  | Moral Development                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                           | Ch 13          |
| 14          | 16-Nov | Families, Lifestyles, & Parenting                                                                                                                                                                                      | Quiz #4 on Chapters 10 – 12 (on Thursday) | Ch 14          |
|             | 23-Nov | <i>[Thanksgiving Holiday]</i>                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                           |                |
| 15          | 30-Nov | Death, Dying, & Grieving                                                                                                                                                                                               | Case Study Paper 2B (due Tuesday)         | Ch 17          |
| Finals Week |        | Final Quiz (#5) is TBD ( <a href="https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall.html">https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall.html</a> )<br>The final exam will cover chapters 13 – 14, 17 |                                           |                |

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** This schedule is subject to change, as needed, to adapt to unanticipated events. Updates will remain focused on achieving the course objectives and students will be notified of changes via Canvas and in-class announcements.