EPSY 5123: Human Development Across the Lifespan

Course Description
3 hrs. Processes and stages that individuals undergo as they progress from birth through old age and death are studied from a human ecological perspective. Developmental tasks and concepts are explored.

Pre-requisites
None.

Course Objectives
Students will be able to:
1. Articulate the core concepts and issues in human developmental science.
2. Understand and evaluate different theoretical explanations of human development.
3. Explain the latest research regarding physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development.
4. Find and synthesize current and salient research on a particular developmental topic.
5. Evaluate the strength of evidentiary claims and identify gaps in the corpus of human development knowledge.

Required Materials

Other supplemental readings will also be required but will be available online at no cost.

Please NOTE:
If you are a doctoral student in any PhD program in the Dept. of Educational Psychology, you will be required to take and pass the EPSY Core exam after completing 24 hours of coursework. Human Development/Life Span is one of the four competency areas on the Core exam. You might want to have the text to reference as you prepare for the Core exam.

Technology Requirements
- Microsoft Word will be used for all word processing. You can access Office 365 on the course home page.
Course Requirements
Each Module runs one full week, ending at 8:00 am on Sunday, with the exception of Module 8 which ends 11:59 pm on Friday of the last week of class. Module 1 begins at midnight the morning of the first day of classes.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Reading and Study Requirements</th>
<th>Assignments &amp; Assessments*</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One (Mon, Aug 21 - Sun, Aug 27)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 1</td>
<td>Module 1: Assignment (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture</td>
<td>Quiz 1 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two (Mon, Aug 28 - Sun, Sept 3)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Module 2: Discussion (post due Fri at 11:59 pm, replies due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture</td>
<td>Quiz 2 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three (Mon, Sept 4 - Sun, Sept 10)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Module 3: Assignment (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture and 1 video</td>
<td>Quiz 3 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four (Mon, Sept 11 - Sun, Sept 17)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 6 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Module 4: Discussion (post due Fri at 11:59 pm, replies due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture and 1 video</td>
<td>Quiz 4 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td>Five (Mon, Sept 18 - Sun, Sept 24)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Module 5: Assignment (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
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<td>1 written lecture and 2 videos</td>
<td>Quiz 5 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Six (Mon, Sept 25 - Sun, Oct 1)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Module 6: Discussion (post due Fri at 11:59 pm, replies due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture and 1 video</td>
<td>Quiz 6 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seven (Mon, Oct 2 - Sun, Oct 8)</td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 15 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Module 7: Final Research Paper (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>174</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture and 1 video</td>
<td>Quiz 7 (due Sun at 11:59 am)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eight (Mon, Oct 9 - Fri, Oct 13) <strong>This is a short week!</strong></td>
<td>Sigelman &amp; Rider: Ch. 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Module 8: Discussion (post due Wed at 11:59 pm, replies due Fri at 11:59 pm)</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 written lecture</td>
<td>Quiz 8 (due Fri at 11:59 pm)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Points Possible</td>
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<td>1000</td>
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*Note: All requirements for a Module are due by the end of the Module week. For specific due dates for each Assignment and Assessment, please refer to Module Assignment/Assessment details.

Late Work and Make-Ups
No late work will be accepted, and no make-up discussions or other assignments will be given.

Grading
Final course grades will be based on the following scale:

- A = 900 – 1000 pts.
- B = 800 – 899 pts.
- C = 700 – 799 pts.
- D = 600 – 699 pts.
- F = less than 600 pts.

Course Expectations
As the instructor in this course, I am responsible for
- providing course materials that will assist and enhance your achievement of the stated course goals, guidance,
- providing timely and helpful feedback within the stated guidelines, and
- assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone.

As a student in this course, you are responsible for
- reading and completing all requirements of the course in a timely manner,
- working to remain attentive and engaged in the course and interact with your fellow students, and
- assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone.

Assignments
Discussion Posts
Students will respond to 4 discussion prompts throughout the semester. Each discussion requires 1 original post and at least 2 response posts. Discussions will be graded on depth of explanation, efforts to support arguments with logical points and external sources, and clarity and mechanics. Note that you will NOT be able to see other students’ posts until you have posted yourself.

Module Quizzes
Each Module includes a 45-item quiz over the assigned readings. Each quiz item is valued at 1 point, for a total of 360 pts. Once you begin a quiz, you will have 90 minutes in which to complete it.

Module Assignments
The main assignment for this course is a 10-12 page research paper over a developmental topic. The
bulk of the paper will come from three prior assignments. Details for each assignment can be found in the modules on Canvas.

- Topic and Research Questions to Guide Literature Review
- Problem Statement
- Literature Review Draft
- Final Research Paper (including Conclusions and Suggestions for Further Research)

Technology
Technical Support
It is unlikely I will be able to help with issues related to technical support. Ultimately, you are responsible for technical issues on your end, but please contact the Student Helpdesk for assistance when technical issues arise:
UNT Helpdesk
Sage Hall 130
940-565-2324
helpdesk@unt.edu

Technical Skill Requirements
To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:
- Sending and receiving email
- Creating, sending, and receiving Microsoft Word documents
- Posting to discussion boards
- Printing Word documents OR opening and printing pdf files
- Navigating Canvas

University Policies
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 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 to the Dean of Students’ Office.

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.
   a. 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.

*A link to the UNT Academic Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity is available on the “Academic Integrity and Netiquette” page in the Start Here Module for this class.*

**Netiquette**

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and your instructor. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be referred to the UNT 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. Please remember to remain respectful of your instructor and fellow classmates. *Links to information re: netiquette and the UNT Code of Student Conduct can be found on the “Academic Integrity and Netiquette” page in the Start Here Module for this class.*

**ADA Policy**
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable 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 a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and make arrangement with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Please communicate directly via email or phone with your instructor regarding your accommodations. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access website. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation
To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at "Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)" and can be found buried within this document.

The paragraph reads:
(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student’s full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance
To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component
within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.