Instructor: Anondah Saide, PhD
Office Hours: (see information on Canvas)

Course Description
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

Course Learning Objectives
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

Email. If you need to contact me, please email (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.

Instructor’s Office Hours. (See announcement on Canvas)

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.

HDFS 1013, Professor Saide, Spring 2021
**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. In order for the absence to be excused so that you can make-up an exam, you have to provide verifiable documentation. 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 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](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/](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.**

**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 during exams 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.

**Netiquette (online):** The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. 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://uaf.edu/csrr/
Please remember to remain respectful of your instructor and fellow classmates.

**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](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**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 90 to 100%</td>
<td>Exams (4 x 100 points each)</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B = 80 to 89%</td>
<td>Participation/Discussion Board (5 x 50 points each)</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C = 70 to 79%</td>
<td>Core Assignment 1: Research Methods &amp; Design Quiz</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D = 60 to 69%</td>
<td>Core Assignment 2A: Worksheet</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F = Below 60%</td>
<td>Core Assignment 2B: Paper</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Exams.** Please see the course calendar for when these are scheduled. Students will be given four (4) exams during the semester. Each will consist of 50 multiple-choice, fill in the blank, and/or, true/false type questions. The exams will be based on material from: (a) the readings, (b) supplemental material provided in the lectures, and (c) participation activities. Each exam is time-limited: you will have 100 minutes to take the exam via Canvas. The exam will open on Canvas at 5 pm on the Thursday of the week noted on the syllabus, and close at 8:00 am Friday. You need to plan your time accordingly. You will need to download LockDown Browser to take the exam.

**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 asked to envision yourself as the Dean of Students at UNT and tasked with creating a plan for assisting students who come to your office seeking help. You will identify and describe four (4) resources that a student may utilize to assist them through their specific personal and/or academic challenges. The instructions and rubric for both parts of this assignment are posted on Canvas.

**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.

**Discussions.** Five (5) discussion board topics will be assigned throughout the semester and specific questions and directions for each discussion board assignment will be posted under the
“Discussions” tab). For each discussion board assignment, you will first post your response to the specific assignment questions and then respond to at least two classmates’ postings. In order to allow your classmates ample time to read and reply to discussion board postings, initial responses must be posted by *Wednesday 11:59 pm* and replies must be posted by *Sunday* at 11:59 pm. Since late submissions will not be accepted, do not wait until the last minute to submit your postings in case you have any questions or issues with technology. The discussion climate must be civil, sensitive, and mutually respectful.

**Writing Center.** Writing assignments constitute a significant portion of your grade, I encourage you to seek out assistance from the Writing Center: [https://writingcenter.unt.edu/](https://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

**Canvas.** We will be using Canvas in this course. Your grades, the syllabus, course announcements, and assignment rubrics will all be posted on our course Canvas page. As a student, it is your responsibility to check Canvas on a regular basis (i.e., at least once per week) for course updates.

**Course Calendar***

See Canvas Annoucement

*This schedule is subject to change as needed to adapt to new knowledge or unanticipated events. Updates will remain focused on achieving the course objectives and students will receive notification of changes.*