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.
**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.

**COVID Information:**

**COVID-19 Impact on Attendance**
Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community. If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID, please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

**Statement on Face Covering**
Consistent with CDC Guidelines and state policy, individuals are not required to wear face coverings on UNT’s campuses. While non-vaccinated individuals are encouraged to wear a face covering, all students and faculty are welcome to wear one in class or on campus if they desire.

**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 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

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.

**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 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.

**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**

**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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (5 x 72 pts = 360)</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation/Discussion Board (5 x 60 pts = 300)</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Assignment 1: Research Methods &amp; Design Quiz</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Assignment 2A: Worksheet</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Assignment 2B: Paper</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Exams: Please see the course calendar for when these are scheduled. Students will be given five (5) exams during the semester. Each will consist of 24 multiple-choice, fill in the blank, short answer 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 45 minutes to take the exam via Canvas. The exam will open on Canvas at 2 pm on the day noted on the calendar, and close at 11:59 pm that same day. You need to plan your time accordingly. You will need to download Lockdown Browser to take the exam.

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 creating a plan for assisting a fictional person. You will identify four (4) needs of the fictional person and describe four (4) suggestions for supporting their psychological, socioemotional, and/or physical development. The instructions and rubric for both parts of this assignment are posted on Canvas.

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. To allow your classmates ample time to read and reply to discussion board postings, initial responses must be posted by Friday at 11:59 pm and replies must be posted by Sunday at 11:59 pm (with the exception of Discussion Board #5—initial post due Wednesday). 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 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/

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.
See Canvas Page