

HDFS 3123.420: Child Development for Non-Majors

Fall 2026

Instructor Contact

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Communication Expectations: You may email me, message me via Canvas, or post a question to the “Course Questions” discussion board. Students can expect to hear back from the instructor within 48 hours (*excluding weekends*) of sending an email/message/discussion post.

Course Meets: 100% online; asynchronous

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Required Textbook

Santrock, J. W., Lansford, J. E., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2024). *Children* (2024 release). McGraw Hill.

ISBN13: 9781266606342

Course Description

Basic principles of development and learning; physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional development in childhood and adolescence (ages 3-18). 3 hours.

Course Structure

The course will be 100% online, asynchronous, and administered through the Canvas Learn system at UNT. Content will primarily be communicated through textbook readings, book readings, and other online materials. The online content provides students with considerable flexibility in how they approach and process the material.

Course Prerequisites

This course has no prerequisites.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the learner will be able to...

1. **Describe** the physical, cognitive, and socioemotional development of children from ages 3 to 18 and the key factors that influence these developmental domains.
2. **Explain** the significance of studying child development and its relevance to personal, professional, and societal contexts.

3. **Apply** theories of development and empirical research to analyze and interpret real-world examples of child development.
4. **Evaluate** how cultural beliefs, family dynamics, and child-rearing practices shape children's developmental experiences.
5. **Develop** critical thinking skills by reflecting on personal assumptions and engaging with research to become an informed consumer of child development knowledge.

Course Technology & Skills

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

Students should be able to comfortably implement basic computer operations, including using email, navigating an internet browser, and attaching and downloading files. Students who cannot comfortably do these things should not take this course, or their final grade will likely suffer. Students are specifically referred to [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://lms.unt.edu/resources/canvas-requirements.html) (<https://lms.unt.edu/resources/canvas-requirements.html>).

Do not anticipate an extension for computer problems (e.g., hard drive crashes, Internet outages, printer problems, etc.). Be sure to leave yourself extra time in the event you experience computer problems. Ample time to complete assignments has been provided. Begin today. Do not wait until the night before, encounter an unexpected problem, and expect more time to be provided.

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UNT IT HelpDesk: [UNT IT HelpDesk site](https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.html) (<https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.html>)

Email: ithelp@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 330

See HelpDesk site for information about hours for walk-ins and phone/chat support.

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.instructure.com/en/kb/articles/661192-student-getting-started-resources) (<https://community.instructure.com/en/kb/articles/661192-student-getting-started-resources>)

Course Requirements

1. **Introduce Yourself Discussion Board (25 points):** Introduce yourself to your peers by telling us a little bit about your background and what interests you about the class. Share a picture (or two) by clicking on the picture icon/embed image or share a link. Please tell us a little bit about yourself:

- Where are you from/where did you grow up?
- What's your major?
- Two reasons why you enrolled in this course [it's okay to admit that it's a requirement for your degree!].
- Two things you would like to get out of the course.

The Introduce Yourself Discussion Board initial post is due Thursday 8/20 by 11:59 PM, and 2 responses to your peers are due Saturday 8/22 by 11:59 PM. To get full credit you must complete all requirements.

2. **American Psychological Association (APA) Format & APA Quiz (25 points):** The APA module on Canvas has links to resources on how to set up your assignments and cite references in APA format. Please review these resources and take the APA Quiz. All assignments for this course must be written in APA 7th edition format. This includes (but is not limited to):

- APA Font (12-point Times New Roman, 11-point Calibri, 11-point Arial 11, or 10-point Lucida Sans Unicode),
- Double-spaced body of text,

- Title page when applicable (centered – the title of the assignment, full name, and university),
- Headings (when appropriate - there are five levels),
- In-text citations (Jensen & Arnett, 2020),
- Reference page (including the textbook when cited).

Your ability to think critically and apply course materials is assessed in this course. **You will need to cite information from the textbook and empirical (research-based) articles in your own words and relate it to the content of the assignment.** APA formatting is assessed for all assignments (see rubrics). APA is not “required” for all Discussion Boards, but critical thinking and demonstration of knowledge is (**hint: you must provide in-text citations to support/provide evidence for your statements**). Some Discussion Boards may call for a specific APA citation as reflected in the instructions. **The APA Quiz is due Sunday 8/23 by 11:59 PM.**

3. **Course Assignments (4 x 25 points = 100 points):** Course assignments require you to apply, synthesize, and evaluate key aspects of child development. Some of these assignments may be reflection papers, discussion boards, or critical thinking activities, designed for you to center your own experiences or apply course content to scenarios. Each assignment is related to the course and/or the content in Modules 1-4 and details about each assignment (including grading rubrics) are provided for you on Canvas. **Module Assignments are due on Sundays.**
Module 1 Assignment: *Applying Theories of Development* is due 9/6 by 11:59 PM
Module 2 Assignment: *Emotional Literacy* is due 10/4 by 11:59 PM
Module 3 Assignment: *Popular and Unpopular Children* is due 10/25 by 11:59 PM
Module 4 Assignment: *The Teen Brain and Crime* is due 11/15 by 11:59 PM
4. **Discussion Boards (4 x 25 points = 100 points):** Each module will consist of one discussion board that will require students to apply and evaluate the content from the module. You will need to post your own response before you can read the responses of others. **For all discussion boards, your initial post is due by Thursday at 11:59 PM and peer responses to a minimum of two other posts are due by Saturday at 11:59 PM.** Late postings for discussions will not earn any credit (i.e. posting after the assigned dates; for example, initial post after 8/27 or peer reply after 8/29 for Module 1 Discussion). The bottom line is that discussions cannot be made up later! Please read the Discussion Board Rubric before posting to ensure your posts meet all requirements. **Discussions cannot be made up after closing date.**
Module 1 Discussion – initial post due 8/27 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 8/29 by 11:59 PM
Module 2 Discussion – initial post due 9/17 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 9/19 by 11:59 PM
Module 3 Discussion – initial post due 10/15 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 10/17 by 11:59 PM
Module 4 Discussion – initial post due 11/5 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 11/7 by 11:59 PM
5. **Chapter Quizzes (10 x 25 points = 250 points):** Students must complete quizzes for each chapter within Modules 1-4. Each quiz will be 25 questions, untimed, with one attempt since the examination is an open book (use your time wisely and do not rush through). **Quizzes are due on Fridays and will close after they are due. Quizzes cannot be made up after their due date.**

Chapter Quiz	Due Date (by 11:59 PM)	Chapter Quiz	Due Date (by 11:59 PM)
Chapter 1	8/28	Chapter 12	10/16
Chapter 8	9/11	Chapter 13	10/23
Chapter 9	9/18	Chapter 14	10/30
Chapter 10	9/25	Chapter 15	11/6
Chapter 11	10/9	Chapter 16	11/13

6. **Research Video Project (200 points):** Each student is responsible for submitting a video presenting their chosen research topic for the semester. You can select any topic that is covered in the class as it relates to children between the ages of 3 and 18. Throughout the semester you will research your selected topic in order to compile a 5–7-minute video presentation of your research. Detailed instructions and a rubric are provided on Canvas.
- a. **Topic Selection (5 points): due 9/6 by 11:59 PM**
 - b. **APA Reference Page w/ Abstracts (75 points): due 10/11 by 11:59 PM**
 - c. **Video Presentation (5-7 min) (100 points): due 11/22 by 11:59 PM**
 - d. **Peer Review Sheet (20 points): due 12/4 by 11:59 PM**

Summary of Course Requirements:

Introduce Yourself Discussion Board	25 points
APA Format & APA Quiz	25 points
Course Assignments (4x25)	100 points
Discussion Boards (4x25)	100 points
Chapter Quizzes (10x25)	250 points
Research Video Project	200 points
<u>Total Possible Points:</u>	700 points

Grading:

The following grading scale will be used:

A =	630-700 points
B =	560-629 points
C =	490-559 points
D =	420-489 points
F =	Below 420 points

Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. **SPOT Evaluations will be open from November 17th-December 3rd.**

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to log in to the course and engage with content on Canvas throughout each week. Average/good attendance and participation will require checking Canvas and working on course materials at least 4-5 times a week.

Class Participation

Students are expected to fully participate in the course. Appropriate participation consists of keeping up with readings, engaging in class discussions and activities, and always exhibiting respectful behavior.

Respect for Others in Class

The University of North Texas values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution, responsive leadership and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, the University of North Texas is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success.

It is expected that students will work in a collegial manner. Any problems or difficulties should be brought to the course instructor for resolution.

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.
- See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

Communications Policy

- **Check for announcements often**
- Contact your instructor (by email at payton.birlew@unt.edu or via message on Canvas) for questions about the course that cannot be answered by reading the syllabus or Canvas (i.e., requirements, assignments, exams, or grades).
- During the week you will receive a response to questions within 48 hours. On the weekends, expect to wait 48-72 hours for a response.
- Email me a picture of a place you want to visit for 5 bonus points on your overall points total.

Late Work Policy

Late work is not acceptable. You must keep up with your work and turn it in on time. If you need to submit an assignment late and wish to avoid a late work penalty, you **MUST** communicate with the instructor *BEFORE the assignment is due* to request an extension. The instructor reserves the right to reject your request for an extension on assignments. There will be a point penalty for any late submitted work that has not been granted an extension:

Late Work Point Penalties:

Immediately after due time – 24 hours late: 20% point deduction

24 hours – 48 hours late: 40% point deduction

48 hours – 72 hours late: 60% point deduction

72 hours – 96 hours late: 80% point deduction

More than 96 hours late: assignment will not be accepted; automatic zero.

Examination Policy

DO NOT under any circumstances copy test items, even if you want to ask me about them later (just write down the question number) -- this is an honor code violation and can result in course- and university-level consequences.

You will take 10 Chapter Quizzes on Canvas (see the dates on the course calendar). Each quiz is worth 25 points. Quizzes may include a variety of question types including all or some of the following: multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blanks, and short answer/essay. Legitimate reasons for missing a quiz include medical, judicial, or serious personal events that truly do not allow you to take the exam. If you miss a quiz, you will be asked to provide documentation to support the reason for your absence. The makeup quiz may be different from the original quiz given and may include different question types.

Assignment Policy

All assignments will be submitted to Canvas. Assignments should be submitted prior to the due date to avoid any technical issues that may arise. Employment, time management, and computer problems are examples of excuses that are not valid. Follow instructions on Canvas and/or call the student IT help line if a technical problem arises.

All written assignments should be professional in appearance and in APA formatting. Your work is expected to be written at the level of a professional in the field and well-edited. Written work should be spelling, grammar, and typographical error-free. Points will be deducted for any assignment not meeting these expectations. Be sure to follow the formatting guidelines provided for each assignment in this course.

Assignments must be submitted in Word (.doc/.docx) or PDF (.pdf) format, unless specifically otherwise noted in assignment instructions. Do not submit assignments in Pages (.pages) format. Do not submit assignments by providing a Google Doc or other link. Assignments submitted in an incorrect file format will be considered late until the proper file type is submitted.

Course Policy about Artificial Intelligence

Recent advances in artificial intelligence have provided a number of tools that can be used (or misused) for many purposes. However, much of the writing we do in this class requires **personal reflection** – no matter how sophisticated a computer is, **it can't read your mind** to recount your experiences as a developing human, examine your future plans for professional practice, or elaborate on your own convictions on important issues.

- 1. AI-Assisted Original Work:** AI (e.g., ChatGPT) may be helpful for initial research on a topic, understanding elements of the genre in which you will be writing, and grammar/language guidance. However, it is unacceptable to submit an assignment entirely completed with or by AI. **Any work submitted must reflect your own understanding and knowledge. You should not use AI-generated content as your own without appropriate understanding and processing of the information.** This includes AI-created essays, solutions to problems, or any other assignments that are not the result of your own intellectual efforts.
- 2. AI and Plagiarism:** Your credibility as a writer and student relies on both generating your own ideas in your own words and giving attribution (credit) to sources. AI is increasingly available and will undoubtedly be part of your career. Therefore, understanding its uses without depending on it is an essential skill. That distinction, and strong writing itself, relies on critical thinking and employing strategies to develop ideas and assess arguments. That's what this course is about. So, while some assignments may invite the use of online tools, the core expectation for our class is that the work you submit is your own original writing. **Using the work of someone else including AI and without citing it is a form of cheating/plagiarism.** Just as copying information from websites or other resources without giving proper credit is plagiarism, using AI-generated content without due acknowledgement or understanding is also plagiarism. **You should not represent AI-generated content as your own original work.**

Cases involving academic dishonesty, including misuse of AI, may be handled by the instructor or may be referred to the administration. **Consequences may include but are not limited to:** receiving a zero for an assignment where AI has been misused, receiving an alternate assignment that must be handwritten in person, completion of a training on appropriate

and inappropriate uses of AI before any more assignments may be attempted, additional monitoring of student work, or automatic failure of the course (please see course Academic Integrity policy for additional details).

Syllabus Change Policy

All dates/assignments are subject to change at discretion of instructor. Changes will be announced in class and on Canvas.

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Subsequent academic integrity violations will result in harsher penalties, up to and including automatic failure of the course. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students/Office of Academic Integrity, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "**cheating**" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or **resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s)**; or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. **If you have taken this class before, you may not resubmit work from a previous semester.**

The term "**plagiarism**" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

ADA Policy

UNT 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 a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students 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. Note that 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 see the [ODA website \(https://disability.unt.edu/\)](https://disability.unt.edu/).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students 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). In

the event of a university closure, please refer to the UNT Learning Management System (LMS) 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. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail: [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect) (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 14, 15, and 16 [November 17-December 3, 2026] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email spot@unt.edu.

Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at 940-565-2759.

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Academic Support & Student Services

Student Support Services

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/care-team/index.html) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/care-team/index.html>)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/clinic-services/psychiatry.html) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/clinic-services/psychiatry.html>)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/student-counseling/services/individual-counseling.html) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/student-counseling/services/individual-counseling.html>)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

**UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

Additional Student Support Services

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- [Career Center](https://careercenter.unt.edu/index.html) (<https://careercenter.unt.edu/index.html>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry/index.html) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry/index.html>)

Academic Support Services

- [Online Student Resources](https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/student-resources.html) (<https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/clear/student-resources.html>)
- [Academic Success Center](https://www.unt.edu/success/asc.html) (<https://www.unt.edu/success/asc.html>)
- [The Learning Center](https://learningcenter.unt.edu/index.html) (<https://learningcenter.unt.edu/index.html>)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- [Writing Center](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

HDFS 3123 Online - Course Calendar – Fall 2026			
Week	Module	Required Reading(s)	Quizzes, Discussions, and Assignments
1 (8/17-8/23)	Introduction to HDFS 3123	- Start Here Module - Introduction to the Course Module - APA Module	Quizzes - APA Quiz due 8/23 by 11:59 PM - Syllabus Quiz due 8/23 by 11:59 PM Discussion Introduce Yourself! – initial post due 8/20 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 8/22 by 11:59 PM
2 (8/24-8/30)	Module 1: The Nature of Children's Development	Chapter 1 – <i>Introduction</i>	Quiz Chapter 1 Quiz due 8/28 by 11:59 PM Discussion Module 1 Discussion – initial post due 8/27 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 8/29 by 11:59 PM
3 (8/31-9/6)			Assignments - Module 1 Assignment: <i>Applying Theories of Development</i> due 9/6 by 11:59 PM - Research Video Project Topic Selection due 9/6 by 11:59 PM
4 (9/7-9/13)	Module 2: Early Childhood	Chapter 8 – <i>Physical Development in Early Childhood</i>	Quiz Chapter 8 Quiz due 9/11 by 11:59 PM
5 (9/14-9/20)		Chapter 9 – <i>Cognitive Development in Early Childhood</i>	Quiz Chapter 9 Quiz due 9/18 by 11:59 PM Discussion Module 2 Discussion – initial post due 9/17 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 9/19 by 11:59 PM
6 (9/21-9/27)		Chapter 10 – <i>Socioemotional Development in Early Childhood</i>	Quiz Chapter 10 Quiz due 9/25 by 11:59 PM
7 (9/28-10/4)			Assignment Module 2 Assignment: <i>Emotional Literacy</i> due 10/4 by 11:59 PM
8 (10/5-10/11)	Module 3: Middle and Late Childhood	Chapter 11 – <i>Physical Development in Middle and Late Childhood</i>	Quiz Chapter 11 Quiz due 10/9 by 11:59 PM Assignment Research Video Project APA Reference Page with Abstracts due 10/11 by 11:59 PM
9 (10/12-10/18)		Chapter 12 – <i>Cognitive Development in Middle and Late Childhood</i>	Quiz Chapter 12 Quiz due 10/16 by 11:59 PM Discussion Module 3 Discussion – initial post due 10/15 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 10/17 by 11:59 PM
10 (10/19-10/25)		Chapter 13 – <i>Socioemotional Development in Middle and Late Childhood</i>	Quiz Chapter 13 Quiz due 10/23 by 11:59 PM Assignment Module 3 Assignment: <i>Popular and Unpopular Children</i> due 10/25 by 11:59 PM
11 (10/26-11/1)	Module 4: Adolescence	Chapter 14 – <i>Physical Development in Adolescence</i>	Quiz Chapter 14 Quiz due 10/30 by 11:59 PM
12		Chapter 15 – <i>Cognitive Development in Adolescence</i>	Quiz Chapter 15 Quiz due 11/6 by 11:59 PM

(11/2-11/8)			Discussion Module 4 Discussion – initial post due 11/5 by 11:59 PM; peer responses due 11/7 by 11:59 PM
13 (11/9-11/15)		Chapter 16 – <i>Socioemotional Development in Adolescence</i>	Quiz Chapter 16 Quiz due 11/13 by 11:59 PM Assignment Module 4 Assignment: <i>The Teen Brain and Crime</i> due 11/15 by 11:59 PM
14 (11/16-11/22)			Assignment Research Video Project Presentation Video Upload due 11/22 by 11:59 PM
15 (11/23-11/29)	Thanksgiving Break – No Classes		
16 (11/30-12/6)			Assignment Research Video Project Peer Review Form due 12/4 by 11:59 PM
17 (12/7-12/11)	No Final Exam		

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make any changes in the syllabus that are deemed necessary at any time throughout the semester. Changes will be communicated via Canvas announcements.

KEY SEMESTER DATES:

Last day to add a class or swap sections	Aug 21
Last day to drop a course to no longer appear on the official transcript	Aug 28
Drop with a Grade of W begins	Aug 29
Last day to change to pass/no pass grade option	Sept 25
Last day for a student to drop a course or all courses with a grade of W	Nov 6
First day to request a grade of Incomplete	Nov 7
Reading Day – No Classes	Dec 4