

**Goals of Course:**
This course should enhance your understanding of development throughout the life span in areas such as physical, perceptual, cognitive, language, personality, and social/emotional. Theoretical and methodological issues will be covered in addition to empirical research.

**Readings:**
The set of required readings is on reserve in the Johnson Center Library. Some of them are on Electronic Reserve. Many of the readings are also available in the stacks of Fenwick Library. The readings require some background in Child and Adult Development. If you have never had an undergraduate course in these areas, it is strongly recommended that you read an undergraduate text on each topic.

**Assignments:**

**Week 1 (8/30) Issues, Theories, & Methods in Life-Span Research**

**Week 2 (9/6) Motor Development; Development of Perception and Attention**

**Week 3 (9/13) Conceptual and Intellectual Development**

**Week 4 (9/20) Development of Memory and Language**

Week 5 (9/27) The Development of the Self (Personality)

Week 6 (10/4) Agents of Socialization: The Family, Peer Group, Media, & School

Week 7 (10/11) Targets of Socialization: Morality, Aggression, Prosocial Development, Sex-Role Development

Week 8 (10/18) Biological, Physiological, & Sensory Processes
Week 9  (10/25) **Cognitive and Intellectual Development**

Week 10  (11/1) **Personality**

Week 11  (11/8) **Participation in the Family and Social World**

Week 12  (11/15) **Lifestyles: Careers, Work, Leisure, Retirement**

Week 13  (11/29) **Mental Health and Successful Aging**


SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Week 14  (12/6) Summary and Conclusions

Grades:
Final grades will be computed as follows:
1. (35%) A take-home midterm exam that covers the section on child development. Due date is Wednesday, October 18, 2004, at 4:30pm.
2. (35%) A take-home final exam that covers the section on adult development and aging. Due date is Wednesday, December 13, 2004 at 4:30pm.
3. (30%) Class discussion.

Each class meeting will consist of lecture and discussion. Students are expected to have read the material assigned for a designated week before coming to class. Additionally, for each reading, all students are required to send the co-discussion leaders and the instructor a list of the three major points in the article, plus any questions that have arisen about the readings and one question for class discussion. This should be done no later than 5:00pm on Monday of each week. Each week, all students are expected to be able to call the class's attention to issues of applied interest in their area of concentration.

Each week a small group of students will act as discussion facilitators. They will be responsible for collating student summaries of the readings, for generating and disseminating class discussion questions (and distributing them via e-mail to class members no later than 8:00pm on Tuesday of each week,) and for co-leading the discussion of the week's topic. Assignments will be made at the first class meeting.

Important Dates:
Last day to drop with no tuition liability (September 12)
Last day to add classes (September 12)
Last day to drop (September 29)

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see the instructor and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Honor Code: You are expected to follow all aspects of the University Honor Code. Exams in this course must be your own work. Students are not to discuss their answers with other students.