

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT HRD 668
SYLLABUS
Spring 2009

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Appointment by request



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the process underlying growth and development, across the life span from conception through childhood, adolescence, adulthood and aging to death. The interaction of biological, cultural, and environmental factors will be considered in studying physical, cognitive, and psychosocial changes throughout the life cycle. Prerequisite: None. 3 credit hours.

GOAL

This course will provide students with an understanding of the theories, perspectives, and issues that have shaped the study of human development, an appreciation of development as an on-going lifelong process, and a greater awareness of the individual variations and universal aspects of the human life cycle.

COURSE OUTCOMES

- Understand and apply theoretical perspectives of human development.
- Describe the interaction of biological and environmental factors in physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development.
- Identify research strategies for the observation of developmental phenomena.
- Understand the social and cultural influences on human development, including knowledge of diverse populations, changing gender roles, sexism, urban, and rural issues, developmental crises, and traditional and contemporary life patterns.
- Become a life-long observer of human growth and development in order to identify and communicate the needs of individuals in their process of development.
- Understand the methods and conceptual challenges in the assessment of human behavior.

COURSE FORMAT

The blended online and on-campus format of the course consists of written threaded discussions of the readings and topics for each week and periodic class lecture using the Virtual Second Life World. See the separate Expectations and Guidelines for the online discussions. Open and frank discussion is encouraged, and respect of all viewpoints is expected. Self-reflection is also encouraged, especially in regard to one's own experience of human growth and development.

GENERAL POLICIES

1. Online discussion and class participation are the heart and soul of a blended course; everyone is required to participate fully in all online and in class discussions, based on the separate Guidelines provided.
2. All assignments are expected to be completed on time, and will be considered late if not submitted by the end of the week in which it is due.
3. Incompletes will only be allowed in extreme circumstances, and must be approved in advance.

REQUIRED TEXTS

CLASS PACK – MATERIALS FOUND IN BLACKBOARD YOU WILL NEED A BINDER TO KEEP THE MATERIALS IN.

Academic support: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

At any point in the semester, if you encounter difficulty with the course or feel you could be performing at a higher level, consult with me. Students experience difficulty in courses for a variety of reasons. For problems with writing skills or time management, make an appointment to see a student tutor at the Learning Center, Luther Bonney, 2nd floor (780-4228). Help is also available through the Counseling Center, 106 Payson Smith (780-4050) and the Office of Academic Support for Students with Disabilities, Luther Bonney, 2nd floor (780-4706). The USM TTY number is 780-4395.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Regular, substantive participation in online discussions. **50%**
2. A four part autobiographical exercise, focusing on (1) birth, (2) childhood,(3) adolescent and adult experiences, as well as a(4) preview of your pre-retirement years. **20%**
3. A self-designed learning project on identity development based on the development of your Avatar for Second Life and your experiences navigating this new identity over the course of the semester. . **30%**

Tentative weekly schedule

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>TOPICS</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS</u>
<u>January 20</u>	<u>The Human Life Cycle</u>	On Campus meeting in computer lab
<u>Introductions/Individual Profiles</u>		
	Introduction & Overview	
	Issues & Approach	
	Expectations & Guidelines	
	Getting Started in Second Life	
<u>January 27</u>	<u>Theories of Human Development</u>	<u>On Campus meeting</u>
	Freud – psychosexual development	Bailey 207
	Piaget – cognitive development	
	Erikson – psychosocial development	
	Loevinger – ego development	
	Gilligan – women’s development	
	Seligman – positive psychology	
	Maslow – self actualization	
<u>February 3</u>	<u>Cross-Cultural Human Development</u>	<u>Online Discussion Topics</u>
	Themes and applications	
	Theories and methodology	
	Culture & socialization	
	Culture & physical development	
	The family in cultural context	
<u>February 10</u>	<u>Infancy, Toddlerhood, and Early Childhood</u>	<u>1st Autobiography Due</u>
	Genes and Environmental Influence	<u>On Campus Meeting</u>
	Anastasi – environment vs. heredity	Bailey 207
	Cognitive development	

Piaget – the sensorimotor stage

Piaget – egocentrism & perspective taking

Vygotsky – inner speech

February 17 Winter break NO CLASS

February 24 Social and personality development

On Campus Meeting

Ainsworth – patterns of attachment

Bailey 207

Parten – stages of play

Bandura – observational learning

Baumrind – parenting styles

Culture, Language, and Cognition

March 3 Middle Childhood

2nd Autobiography Due

Cognitive development

Second Life lecture

Skinner – verbal behavior

Chomsky – language development

Piaget – conservation

Social and personality development

Selman – stages of friendship

Piaget – stages of moral judgement

Culture & Social Behavior

March 10 Adolescence

Online Discussion Topics

Physical and cognitive development

Jones – somatic development

Piaget – formal operations

Gardner - multiple intelligences

Perry – intellectual development

March 17**Social & personality development****On Camus Meeting**

Marcia – identity statuses

Bailey 207

Penn & Witkin – appropriate self-focus

Kohlberg – moral reasoning

The Teenage World

Identity & the Inner Life – Who Am I?**March 24 Spring Break NO CLASS****3rd Autobiography Due****March 31****Cognitive Development****Second Life Lecture**

Belinky – Women’s Ways of Knowing

Social & Personality Development

Levinson – the adult life cycle

Intimacy, Love & the Inner Life -

What do I Love?

The Forms of Love

April 7**Psychosocial Development**

On Campus Meeting

Bailey 207

4th Autobiography Due

Gould – adult life stages

Psychospirital Development

Barry – Christian spiritual development

Fowler – stages of faith

Developmental Tasks of Midlife

Cognitive Development

Baltes & Schaie – Aging and IQ

Generativity, Integrity and the Inner Life

Erikson – integrity vs. despair

How shall I live, knowing I will die?

What is my Gift?

April 14 - Culture & Issues of Sex & Gender

On –Line discussion

Culture, Self & Personality

Culture & Health

A Review of the Major Themes & Theories

Confucius – the great learning

April 21 **Guest Lecture in Second Life**

April 28 **Looking Back and Looking Ahead and Wrapping up the Semester**

On Campus Meeting
Bailey 207

The Role of Death in Life
Kubler-Ross - stages of dying

On Life and Living, Kubler-Ross

Wordsworth – intimations of immortality

May 5 **Final Class meeting on campus Bailey 207**

Developmental stages, identity and ME!