HRD 668 Human Development

Course Description: This course examines the processes 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 stages of life. This course includes a field experience.

Prerequisite: None
Credit Hours: 3
Course Type: Seminar (with Field Experience)
Ideal Class Size: 20

Relationship to CEHD Core Values
Democracy - Inclusive dialogue, freedom of expression, and participatory decision-making that includes respect for and consideration of multiple views and perspectives are expected.
Civility & Caring - Instructor and students will attend to the health of the learning community through maintaining constructive communication, protecting individual dignity, and exhibiting empathy, compassion, and openness.
Equity & Diversity - Course is designed to seek understanding about, engage inclusively with, and foster the voice and visibility of individuals of all identity groups and perspectives.
Social Justice - Instructor will model and students will be encouraged to speak for and empower people who are disenfranchised and work towards a more just society.
Ethical Practice - Instructor will model and expect students to engage in the highest level of professional practice.
Scholarship - Students will create and apply knowledge and skills using methods of research and inquiry that reflect a diverse range of accepted practices within the academic and professional discipline.
Professional Learning & Continuous Improvement - Instructor and students will engage themselves as lifelong learners in their field, use feedback, and adjust their practices for continuing professional growth.

Course 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:
Students will be able to:
1. demonstrate knowledge and application of theoretical perspectives of human development;
2. describe the interaction of biological, cultural, and environmental factors in physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development;
3. identify research strategies for the observation of developmental phenomena;
4. demonstrate knowledge of the methodological and conceptual challenges in the assessment of human behavior;
5. develop personally as a life-long observer of human growth and development in order to identify and communicate the needs of individuals in their process of development; and,
6. demonstrate knowledge of the social and cultural influences on human development; including knowledge of diverse populations, changing gender roles, sexism, urban and rural issues, developmental crises as well as traditional and contemporary life patterns.

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