DEP3053: Developmental Psychology
3 Credit Hours

Instructor

Jeff Farrar, Ph.D.
Email: farrar@ufl.edu
Office: (352) 273-2140

Course Website

elearning.ufl.edu

Purpose

The purpose of this course is to review the major areas of developmental psychology across the life span. These topics will include biological, cognitive, social, and emotional development.

The specific objectives of the course are to:

1. Identify the different aspects of human psychological development.
2. Discuss major theories of developmental psychology.
3. Apply an understanding of theory to the analysis of research findings.
4. Correlate theory and research findings to real-world experiences of humans at different stages of development.

Course Materials

- **Textbook**: *Life Span Development: A Topical Approach*, 3rd edition by Robert S. Feldman
- **MyDevelopmentLab**: Course content is available in the Canvas website, which will provide links to the MyDevelopmentLab website. You are required to be able to access the MyDevelopmentLab website, which has material to assist you in mastering the material and chapter tests required for the course.

Course Organization

The course is organized in weekly modules (Note: These modules do not always match the chapter numbers). For each chapter there are supplemental assignments designed to elaborate on selected topics within each. They can include:

- Canvas video lectures (with accompanying PowerPoint slides) by the instructor;
- MyDevelopmentLab Chapter tests; and
- MyDevelopmentLab media activities, simulations, and videos.
- Discussion Topics

This material will be covered on the exams.

Course Requirements

1. **Chapter Tests (30% of grade):** There is a chapter test in MyDevelopmentLab for each chapter.

2. **Exams (35% of grade)**: There are three exams, proctored online using ProctorU, which consist of multiple choice and short answers:
   - Exam 1 covers Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 5.
   - Exam 2 covers Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
   - Exam 3 covers Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.
3. **MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments (5% of grade)**: Each chapter has assignments from MyDevelopmentLab consisting of videos and interactive exercises. Additional non-graded material from MyDevelopmentLab can also assist you in learning the material.
   - o NOTE: Each chapter in MyDevelopmentLab also has a Chapter Test that is REQUIRED.
4. **Discussion Activities (10% of grade)**: There are a series of short discussions activities assigned for selected chapters designed to foster understanding of important concepts. Each discussion topic will require a short written response (less than a page).
5. **Projects (20% of grade)**: There are four written projects designed to explore certain topics in more depth and/or designed to enhance your understanding of particular topics. Each Project should be about 2-4 pages (double space in length).
   - o **Papers must be submitted to Turnitin.com**. Plagiarism will be reported to the university and will become part of your academic record.

Course Grades

Final grades are assigned based on the standard scale:

Grade	Percent
A	91 – 100
A-	90
B+	88 – 89
B	81 – 87
B-	80
C+	78 – 79
C	71 – 77
C-	70
D+	68 – 69
D	61 – 67
D-	60
F	< 60

Performance Policy

This Flexible Learning course has been developed with the same rigorous standards of content as a campus course. Expectations for your performance as a Flexible Learning student are as high as they would be if you were taking this course in a classroom.

Assignment Policy

The course expires 16 weeks after your enrollment. Complete all modules in the order they are presented on the course website; do not skip modules. **All assignments must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the course expiration date.**

Course Technology

Students must use their GatorLink email account for this course. Students are recommended to check their email account DAILY for the duration of the course. Access to and on-going use of a computer with Internet access is required for all students. Competency in the basic use of a computer is required. At times, computers crash and Internet connections fail. It is in your best interest NOT to wait until the last minute to complete assignments.

For help with e-Learning, contact the Computing Help Desk at helpdesk.ufl.edu or (352) 392-HELP - select option 2.

Online Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations provided in the course modules (med-term and end-of-term evaluations).

Course Deadline and Extension Policy

Students are allowed *16 weeks, from their date of enrollment,* to complete and submit their coursework. If the student has not submitted at least 50% of their coursework and have an extenuating circumstance preventing them from submitting the coursework, a failing grade of "E", "E0" or "E1" will be issued and recorded to the UF Registrar.

If the student has made sufficient academic progress, which is defined as completing and submitting at least 50% of the coursework and have an extenuating circumstance, the student may petition the instructor for a course extension before the course expires. Each course extension request will be administratively evaluated. Instructors are not required to allow extensions. If a student does receive an extension, an incomplete grade of an "I" will be assigned as an interim grade. When the course is completed, the instructor will initiate the change of grade. After that, the "I" grade will be changed to the student's final course grade on their transcript.

Course Cancels and Course Drops

A Course Cancel:
A tuition refund may be granted after a student submits a written request within 30 days of enrollment to the Flexible Learning Office. This request must be in writing by learn@dce.ufl.edu or sent by fax, 352-392-6950. Refunds will be the amount of tuition, less $25.00 per course. If a credit card was used, the refund will be credited a back to the card. **No refunds are granted after 30 days.**

Course Drop:

Dropping a course: To drop a course, you need to email the Flexible Learning office at learn@dce.ufl.edu with a request to drop within 14 weeks of the date of enrollment. In addition to their own request by email, UF students must have advisor approval to drop a flexible learning course. An advisor can email learn@dce.ufl.edu with the student's name, the course that they want to drop, and confirmation of permission to do so. It is the student's responsibility to verify that all drop requests have been received by the Flexible Learning office within the allotted time. The course grade will appear as "W" on a UF transcript.

Students with disabilities who need to drop a course due to disability-related reasons are

permitted to petition for additional drops. Find more information by contacting the [Disability Resource Center.](#)

Full Term Withdrawals

All full-term withdrawals must follow University of Florida policies/ procedures. An approved withdrawal form must be submitted to the [Dean of Student's Office](#) for review and final approval. Students must also notify the Flexible Learning of this request by [learn@dce.ufl.edu.](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu)

It is the responsibility of the student to notify Flexible Learning of their approved medical or retroactive withdrawal so the students' record is updated. [Email t](#)o our office a copy of the approval.

Medical Withdrawals:
[Here is the link to start the Medical Withdrawal Process:](#)

Retroactive Withdrawals:
[Here is the link for retroactive withdrawal information:](#)

Disability Accommodations

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides students and faculty with information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. Staff at the Disability Resource Center will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation of a disability is required to determine eligibility for appropriate accommodations. The professional employees at the Disability Resource Center serve as full-time advocates for students with disabilities ensuring students have physical and programmatic access to all college programs. One of the services provided by the Disability Resource Center includes:

- Testing Accommodations - for further information visit [UF testing accommodations](#)

[Register here with the UF Disability Resource Center](#)

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states:

> "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'"

[The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Netiquette

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please read the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#).

Technical Help

If you have issues with **videos**, go to the [Mediasite Helpdesk](#).

For **other technical difficulties**, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk:

- [learning-support@ufl.edu](#)
- (352) 392-4357 - select option 2
- [lss.at.ufl.edu](#)

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the UF Computing Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. **You MUST email your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.**

Questions about Flexible Learning

If you have any questions about the course, please contact the instructor. If you have administrative concerns (e.g., paying for the course, receiving the textbook, etc.), please contact the Flexible Learning Office.

Email: [learn@dce.ufl.edu](#)
Phone: (352) 392-1711
Toll free: (800) 327-4218
Fax: (352) 392-6950
Website: [UF Flexible Learning](#)

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, except Holidays
8:00am-5:00pm EST

Other Resources

Other resources are available at the [UF Distance Learning website](#) for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please [email the Distance Learning office](#) or [visit the UF Distance Learning website to submit a complaint](#).

Disclaimer

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

Course Organization and Assignments

Module 1: An Orientation to Life-Span Development

- Assigned Reading:
  - Read Chapter 1
- Chapter 1.1: Determining the Nature-and Nurture-of Life Span Development
  - Lecture:
    - "Issues in Life Span Development"
- Chapter 1.2: Theoretical Perspectives on Life-Span Development
  - Lecture:
    - "Developmental Theories"
- Chapter 1.3: Research Methods
  - Lectures:
    - "Research Methods"
    - "Developmental Research Designs"
- Module 1 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Thinking Like a Psychologist: Evolutionary Psychology"
  - Video & Quiz: "The Basics 2: Operant Conditioning: Learning from the Consequences"
- Simulation & Quiz: "Simulate the Process: Distinguishing Independent and Dependent Variables"
  - Video & Quiz: "The Basics: Scientific Research Methods"
  - Video & Quiz: "The Big Picture: Genes, Evolution, and Human Behavior"
- Chapter 1 Test

Module 2: Genetics, Prenatal Development, and Birth

- Assigned Reading:
  - Read Chapter 2
- Chapter 2.1: Foundations of Genetics
- Chapter 2.2: Interaction of Heredity and Environment
  - Lecture:
    - "Behavioral Genetics"
- Chapter 2.3: Prenatal Growth and Birth
  - Lecture:
    - "Prenatal Development & Birth"
- Module 2 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Prenatal Ultrasound"
  - Quiz: "Explore the Concept: Building Blocks of Genetics"
  - Video & Quiz: "Special Topics: Epigenetics: A Revolutionary Science"
  - Video & Quiz: "Explore the Concept: The Embryonic Period: A Critical Period of Human Development"
  - Video & Quiz: "Premature Birth and the Neonatal intensive Care Unit"
  - Video & Quiz: "The Basics: Genetic Mechanisms and Behavioral Genetics"
  - Video & Quiz: "Pregnancy and Prenatal Care Across Cultures"
- Chapter 2 Test

Module 3: Physical Growth and Aging Across the Life Span

- Assigned Reading:
  - Read Chapter 3

- Chapter 3.1: Physical Growth and Change
- Chapter 3.2: Brain Growth and Motor Development
- Chapter 3.3: Perceptual Development
  - Lectures:
    - "Perceptual Development 1"
    - "Perceptual Development 2"
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Infant Perception"
  - Video & Quiz: "Reflexes: Moro"
  - Video & Quiz: "Gross Motor Development Across Cultures"
  - Video & Quiz: "Special topics: Risky Behavior and Brain Development"
  - Video & Quiz: "Successful Aging, Independent Lifestyle: Thelma, 81 Years Old"
- Chapter 3 Test

Module 4: Cognitive Growth: Piaget and Vygotsky

- Assigned Reading:
  - *Skip Chapter 4*
  - Read Chapter 5
- Chapter 5.1: Piaget's Approach to Cognitive Development
  - Lectures:
    - "Piaget's Approach to Cognitive Development (Part 1)"
    - "Piaget's Approach to Cognitive Development (Part 1)"
- Chapter 5.2: Appraising Piaget
- Chapter 5.3: Vygotsky
  - Lecture:
    - "Vygotsky's Sociocultural Perspective"
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Hidden Elephant (Object Permanence)"
  - Video & Quiz: "Conservation Tasks"
  - Video & Quiz: "Scaffolding"
  - Video & Quiz: "Thinking Like a Psychologist: Smart Babies by Design"
- Chapter 5 Test
- Project 1
- Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 5)

Module 5: Cognitive Growth: Information-Processing Approaches

- Assigned Reading:
  - Read Chapter 6
- Chapter 6.1: The Basics of Information-Processing
- Chapter 6.2: Attention and Memory
  - Lectures:
    - "Memory Development"
    - "Executive Function"
- Chapter 6.3: Applying Information-Processing Approaches
  - Lecture:
    - "Eyewitness Testimony"
- Module 5 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments

- o Simulation & Quiz: "Encoding, Storage, and Retrieval in Memory"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Elizabeth Loftus: Memory (APS Player)"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Thinking Like a Psychologist: Police Line-Up"
- Chapter 6 Test

Module 6: Language Development

- Assigned Reading:
  - o Read Chapter 7
- Chapter 7.1: The Course of Language Development
  - o Lecture:
    - "Language and Semantic Development"
- Chapter 7.2: The Origins of Language Development
  - o Lectures:
    - "Grammar Development "
    - "Critical Periods"
- Chapter 7.3: Children's Conversations
- Module 6 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - o Video & Quiz: "Language Development"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Bilingual Family"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Language Development Across Cultures
- Chapter 7 Test

Module 7: Intelligence

- Assigned Reading:
  - o Read Chapter 8
- Chapter 8.1: Intelligence: Determining Individual Strengths
  - o Lecture:
    - "Defining Intelligence"
- Chapter 8.2: Controversies Involving Intelligence
  - o Lectures:
    - "Genetic and Environmental Influences"
    - "Stability of intellectual Performance"
- Chapter 8.3: Intellectual Deficits and the Intellectually Gifted
- Module 7 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - o Video & Quiz: "Special Topics: Intelligence Testing, Then and Now"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Linda: Child Struggling With Reading (Part 1)"
  - o Video & Quiz: "In the Real World: Intelligence Tests and Stereotypes"
- Chapter 8 Test

Module 8: Social and Emotional Development

- Assigned Reading:
  - o Read Chapter 9
- Chapter 9.1: Forging Early Social Relationships
  - o Lecture:
    - "Attachment in Extreme Circumstance"
- Chapter 9.2: Emotional Development

- o Lectures:
  - ▪ "Theory of Mind Development 1"
  - ▪ "Theory of Mind Development 2"
- Module 8 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - o Video & Quiz: "Separation Anxiety Across Cultures"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Theory of Mind"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Temperament"
- Chapter 9 Test
- Project 2

Module 9: Development of the Self

- Assigned Reading:
  - o Read Chapter 10
- Chapter 10.1: The Development of the Self
  - o Lecture:
    - ▪ "Adolescent Self-Concept"
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - o Video & Quiz: "Self-Awareness Task"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Adolescence: Identity and Role Development"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Seniors Say No to Retirement"
- Chapter 10 Test
- Exam 2 (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10)

Module 10: Moral Development and Aggression

- Assigned Reading:
  - o Read Chapter 11
- Chapter 11.1: Developing Morality
  - o Lectures:
    - ▪ "Prosocial Behavior"
    - ▪ "Moral Reasoning"
- Chapter 11.2: Values, Religion, and Spirituality
- Chapter 11.3: Aggression and Violence
  - o Lectures:
    - ▪ "Aggression"
    - ▪ "High Levels of Aggression"
- Module 10 Discussion Activity 1
- Module 10 Discussion Activity 2
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - o Video & Quiz: "Julie: Parent of Young Boys (Part 1)"
  - o Video & Quiz: "Thinking Like a Psychologist: Physical Punishment - You Decide!"
- Chapter 11 Test

Module 11: Gender and Sexuality

- Assigned Reading:
  - o Read Chapter 12
- Chapter 12.1: Gender
  - o Lectures:

- ▪ "Explaining Gender Differences"
- ▪ "Explaining Sex-Typed Behavior"
- Chapter 12.2: Sexual Maturation and Sexuality
  - Lecture:
    - ▪ "Sexual Maturation"
- Chapter 12.3: Relationships
- Module 11 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Adolescence: Identity and Role Development and Sexual Orientation"
  - Video & Quiz: "Thinking Like a Psychologist: Sexual Orientation"
  - Video & Quiz: "Love Marriage: Scherazade and Roderick, Late 30s"
- Chapter 12 Test

Module 12: Friends and Family

- Assigned Reading:
  - Read Chapter 13
- Chapter 13.1: Social Relationships Across the Life-Span
  - Lecture:
    - ▪ "Peer Relationships"
- Chapter 13.2: Family Life
  - Lectures:
    - ▪ "Parental Style"
    - ▪ "Types of Families"
    - ▪ "Influence of Parents"
- Chapter 13.3: Family Ties in Middle and Late Adulthood
- Module 12 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Adolescent Cliques"
  - Video & Quiz: "Blended Families"
  - Video & Quiz: "Transitioning to Retirement: Mary and George"
- Chapter 13 Test
- Project 3

Module 13: Schooling, Culture, and Society: Living in a Multicultural World

- Assigned Reading:
  - Read Chapter 14
- Chapter 14.1: Schooling Throughout the Life-Span
  - Lecture:
    - ▪ "Effect of Schools"
- Chapter 14.2: Living in a Multicultural World
- Module 13 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Lisa: Adjusting to Day Care (Part 1)"
  - Video & Quiz: "Leo: High School Academic Challenges (Part 1)"
  - Video & Quiz: "In the Real World: Are Stereotypes and Prejudice Inevitable?"
- Chapter 14 Test
- Project 4

Module 14: Death and Dying

- Assigned Readings:
  - Read Chapter 15
- Chapter 15.1: Death and Dying Across the Life Span
  - Lecture:
    - "Death and Dying Across the Life Span"
- Chapter 15.2: Understanding the Process of Death
  - Lecture:
    - "Understanding Death"
- Chapter 15.3: Grief and Bereavement
- Course Conclusions
  - Lecture:
    - "Take Home Messages"
- Module 14 Discussion Activity
- MyDevelopmentLab Media Assignments:
  - Video & Quiz: "Hospice Care"
  - Video & Quiz: "Remembering and Honoring the Dead Across Cultures"
  - Video & Quiz: "Grieving a Loss (Part 1): Bob, 81 Years Old"
- Chapter 15 Test
- Exam 3 (Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15)