Welcome to Human Development Online

Instructor: Karen Ippolito

(3 units)

Prerequisites: Level II reading, or concurrent enrollment in reading.

This course is an integration of the biological, cognitive and psychological aspects of human development throughout the lifespan. It addresses the study of the developmental tasks facing individuals at various points in the life cycle and the ways social interaction and cultural institutions shape the development of the individual. The course is designed as a foundation course for careers in education, social service, psychology and health-related fields.

General Goal

This course will address

1. The historical and theoretical background of human development;
2. The dynamic processes of the following life span stages: prenatal beginnings and infancy, early and middle childhood; adolescence; and early, middle and late adulthood;
3. The biological basis of human development;
4. Cognitive functioning across the life span;
5. The psychological tasks of development;
6. Moral development;
7. Conditions that may enhance wellness or jeopardize physical, intellectual or psychological development;
8. Mental health issues such as stress, gender roles, divorce, substance abuse, delinquency, suicide, dying and spirituality.

Objectives

1. Compare and contrast the basic theories of human development, the history of the life span studies and the issues of developmental research.
2. Describe the physical development changes that occur in specific periods of life span stages.
3. Analyze cognitive growth at each stage including the process of language development, thinking and problem solving, intelligence and creativity.
4. Evaluate the psychosocial tasks of each of the stages of life including the impact of the family, siblings and peers, schools, media, work, sexuality, and culture.
5. Describe examples of development and morality.
6. Describe disease processes and modes of enhancing wellness.
Required Text

*Human Development. Across the Lifespan (5th ed.)* -- Dacey, J. & Travers, J.

Taking This Online Course

Online Human Development has a specific focus of presenting the content associated with human development through the lifespan. It is fully the student's responsibility to prepare himself for online instruction and not the instructor's responsibility to teach students how to use the internet or how to take an eCollege course. eCollege offers a course titled *Student Orientation Tutorial* which a student may access by logging onto his individual home page. Another means of getting help with online learning is to email helpdesk@deltaonline.org.

Technical Problems

It is the student's responsibility to have access to a reliable, properly-configured computer that has dependable and compatible internet access. It is not the responsibility of the instructor, college or eCollege to accommodate the student's personnel computer needs or to resolve the student's computer problems or difficulties. Individual computer failures of any nature do not relieve the student of the responsibility for submitting assignments or taking tests. If a student does not have dependable and reliable computer and internet access, this is not a appropriate course choice for that student. If there are San Joaquin Delta College or eCollege technical problems that prevent students from submitting assignments or completing tests, these will be dealt with on an individual basis in a way that is fair to all students.

Reporting technical problems.

When a student has a technical problem that thwarts a student's ability to complete an assignment, it is the student's responsibility to report the problem to eCollege by emailing eCollege at helpdesk@deltaonline.org. eCollege will then contact the instructor if the instructor needs to be involved. The student may email the instructor but is still required to email the helpdesk. Phone calls to eCollege or the instructor are not permitted.

Attendance

As is true in on-campus classes, attendance is required. Attendance is determined in this online course by students' completion of tests and journal assignments by their
deadlines. **In order for a student to be counted as present each week, that student must (1) have a working email address registered at the course web site, and (2) complete any assignment and/or examinations offered that week.** Students who exceed allowable absences in this course will be dropped or will receive an "F" in the class.

An "absence" will be defined as missing all assignments in one unit. The number of allowable absences for Fall Term is three (3). If the student misses three units (three weeks of work), the student will be dropped from the course.

**Being Dropped From The Course**

The definition of an assignment in this class is any activity in the course that requires enrolled students to make any kind of submission such as a journal entry, threaded discussion entry or an examination completion.

Any student who does not complete any assignments by the second week of the semester will be dropped as a no-show.

Any student who does not have a working email address by the end of the first week of the semester will be dropped as a no-show in the course. A home page announcement will be made listing all undeliverable email addresses from students enrolled in the class. **It is each student's responsibility to open the announcement and ensure his or her email address is not listed in the announcement.** If a student's email address is listed as an undeliverable, it is the student's responsibility to correct the problem by the deadline of the end of the first week of the semester. If the student does not correct the problem, that student will be dropped as a no-show.

According to the Delta College Policy 5150, "any student who fails to attend any class session during the first three sessions of the class at the beginning of the term may be dropped from that class unless the student has advised and obtained an absence approval from the faculty member." Because this is an online class that is open to students at all times, I do not approve absences. I will drop any student who misses any of the first three weeks of the class

**Communication With The Instructor**

In this course, all communication with the instructor will take place electronically, typically by email or home page announcement. It is the student's responsibility to routinely check for email from the instructor and monitor the course home page for announcements. Office hours for this online course are managed electronically. I do not meet with my online students in my campus office.

Your email address.
San Joaquin Delta College

This course requires that you use the San Joaquin Delta College student email address which is assigned after you are accepted for admission to the college. Each student has a unique student email address consisting of the student’s first initial, last name, and a randomly assigned three-digit number followed by @students.deltacollege.edu. It is important that you remember (and write down) your student email address.

Example of a student email address: jsmith123@students.deltacollege.edu

If you forget your student email address or personal identification number (PIN), bring a photo identification to the Admissions & Records Office, Holt 101 to request assistance. For further information or assistance, go to www.deltacollege.edu.

Emailing your instructor.

When you send any email to your instructor, you must place your first and last names in the email subject line in order for it to be answered. This course has many students and it is nearly impossible to identify a student by an email address only.

It is highly recommended that when you email your instructor, you send the same email to yourself. You can do this using the "CC" blank on your email window. The reason for this is that if your email is not delivered, you have a record that it was sent.

Inappropriate emails. An inappropriate email is one that shows disrespect, threatens, insults, demeans or demonstrates hostility from the sender to the recipient. The instructor reserves the right to drop a student from the course if such an email is received from the student.

Office hours

Office hours for this online class are conducted electronically. Any requests or needs are to be communicated by way of email. If a student needs a real time meeting with the instructor, a chat room for that purpose can be opened at the course home page. Such a meeting will need to be scheduled in advance by emailing the instructor and making the request.

General Recommendation for Online Course Students

Life is full of tradeoffs and taking an online course is no exception to the trade-off rule. Many students prefer online courses because of the advantages which include staying at home and participating in course work on his/her own schedule. Some students thrive in a self-paced environment, and some have problems staying on task. One of the main problems that I see is that some students miss assignments just because time passes and they did not realize that a whole week had passed. The course has an assignment and test with points attached that are due each week. Missing assignments means the student missed class as well as lost points.
The first action to take for success in an online environment is to print out several copies of the Course Schedule which displays the assignment and test deadlines. Post this schedule where you can view it daily (bathroom mirror, car, above kitchen sink, by computer, etc.) as a reminder of assignment and test deadlines.

A student should plan at least **three blocks of time per week** that are devoted to being on the computer and participating in this course. The student should write this time down and post it for everyone in his household to see e.g.

"**I will be on the computer every Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00 working on my Human Development class. Please help me by not disturbing me during this time.**"

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**Journal Assignments**

There will be **14 Journal Assignments in the course. Each assignment is worth 30 points for a total of 420 points or approximately 41% of your final grade.** In order to receive all **30 points**, assignments must:

1. **Fully** answer the objectives or questions asked
2. Free from spelling and grammatical errors
3. Free from coarse or obscene language (these entries will be removed by the instructor and graded "0" and the student will be subject to dismissal from the course.
4. Be at least 200 words in length

It is best to complete the journal assignment in a word processing program such as MS Word before cutting and pasting it into your Journal. This will enable the student to run a spelling and grammar check as well as perform a word count. Points will be deducted from assignments with excessive spelling, typographical and grammar errors as well as those that are shorter than the assigned length.

Only assignments that are submitted by the deadlines will earn points. Submitting assignments is also a record of your class attendance. Missing all of the assignments for any given unit will count as an absence.

**Plagiarism**

Your Journal assignments will consist of responses to questions. Often these questions ask for the student’s opinion and also that he or she back up that opinion with the material that has been read in the book, course lectures, or web sites that have been referenced. It is important for the student to only submit original work and to cite sources properly. Original work means ideas, sayings, words that came out of your head. To further educate yourself regarding what is and is not plagiarism, please visit the following website:

[http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html)
Weekly Examinations

There are 11 unit exams worth 20 points and one unit exam (unit 15) worth 60 points for a total of 280 points or approximately 27% of the final grade.

**Nature of the exams.** Online courses by nature are open-note, open-book. The instructor cannot supervise testing. This is why no two students in this course will receive the same exam. Each student will receive an exam with questions drawn from a test bank so the group of questions received will vary from one student to the next.

**Time limitations on exams.** Each exam will be assigned a time limitation. Once a student has logged on to take the exam, a timer viewable by the student will begin clocking the student's log-on time. Exams are programmed to close at the end of the designated time. Once the time has expired and the exam has closed, the student will not be able to re-enter the exam. It is fully the student’s responsibility to know the time limit on each exam and to remain within the time limits when completing the exam.

**IMPORTANT - NOTE WELL:**
San Joaquin Delta College

eCollege system runs on Mountain Standard Time, so they are one hour ahead of us here in California. For example, if an exam has a closing date of July 30, the system will close at 11:00 PM Pacific Time (which is 12 midnight Mountain Standard Time). All dates and times in the course are based on Mountain Standard Time.

Testing Periods. Students are advised to complete the exams well ahead of the exam deadlines. The instructor will not address or respond to technical problems during the final 6 hours of the testing period. If a student elects to complete an exam during the final 6 hours of the testing period, that student cannot expect or anticipate technical assistance from the instructor because it will not be available. Taking the exams at any time during the final 6 hours of a testing period is the individual student's expression of not wanting or needing technical help during that particular test. Students who elect to take any exam during the final 6 hours of a testing period have full responsibility for the exam results even if the results are affected by a computer, ISP or eCollege technical problem.

Final Examination

A 100-point comprehensive final examination which is approximately 10% of your final grade, will be available to be taken during the final week of class. The final exam must be taken regardless of the cumulative grade percentage attained prior to the final exam.

Threaded Discussions

Students will participate in threaded discussions when topics are generated by the instructor. There are a total of 15 Threaded Discussions that are worth 15 points each for a total of 225 points or approximately 22% of your final grade. At least one posted response per student will be required for each discussion. Students are encouraged to respond and comment to one another's posts in a respectful manner.

Course Paper

There is no formal course paper. The weekly Journal Assignments will serve as the writing component of this course.

Extra Credit

Extra Credit Opportunities will arise during this course. This allows students to boost their learning as well as their grade by doing extra work. Please follow the assignment instructions carefully and note deadlines.

Deadlines

All units in the course are open and it is possible to work ahead of schedule. However, it is not possible to fall behind schedule. We will progress through one unit per week. At the end of each week (Sundays at 11 pm) the test for that unit will close and the journal and threaded discussion assignments will be graded. No late or make up work will be
accepted and no tests will be reopened. Remember, all unit tests (with the exception of Unit 1 practice exam) can only be entered one time. If you enter a test, you must complete it during the allotted time. When you submit your answers, you will not be able to reenter a test.

Assignments must be done in numerical order, for example, you must complete Unit 1 before you can go on to Unit 2 and so forth.

Grading

In order to receive a passing grade in this course, the student is required to

1. Achieve no less than a 70% of the total points possible by the end of the course; (718 points is 70% of the 1025 total possible points).
2. Submit ALL class assignments no later than the course deadline.
3. Complete Unit assignments in order e.g. Unit 3 work must be done before Unit 4 work.
4. Meet course attendance requirements (failure to complete all work within any given unit is considered an absence. You will be dropped from the course if you accumulate three (3) absences).

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<tr>
<th>Total Possible Points</th>
<th>Final Exam</th>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>420</td>
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<td>280</td>
<td>Unit Exams</td>
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<td>225</td>
<td>Unit Threaded Discussions</td>
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A 90 - 100% (923 - 1025+ points)  
B 80 - 89% (820 - 922 points)  
C 70 - 79% (718 - 819 points)  
D 60 - 69% (615 - 717 points)  
F less than 60% (less than 615 points)

Course Schedule Fall 2004

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<th>Date</th>
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