Course Description:

This course is a graduate-level survey of human development across the lifespan. Human beings experience an enormous amount of transformations including physical, cognitive, affective/emotional, social, and personality changes. The ways in which developmental differences impact the work we do as professionals require careful consideration. Major theories and research that attempt to explain chronological constancy and change in human beings will be explored during the semester with an emphasis on practical applications and implications. This course is geared toward building the student’s foundational knowledge of human development for adaptation to the professional fields of education, counseling, and psychology. An important component of this course will be the exploration of universality and cultural variations in human development from conception to death. The importance of integrating culture into your professional conceptualizations cannot be overemphasized. The social/cultural context of development is very important to social justice issues we must consider as professionals, as is consistent with the School of Education’s Conceptual Framework—Social Action Through Education. Thus, factors which facilitate and impede healthy physical, cognitive, social, and affective/emotional development will be emphasized.

Objectives:

In general, the two overarching IDEA objectives for this course are:

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)

Specific to the topic, the goals are for students:

1) to build the students’ foundational knowledge of lifespan developmental theories and research.
2) to critically examine the extent to which cultural variation is included and/or excluded from major theories of human development.

Note: Objectives 1 and 2 meet NSCP Standards 17A, 17B, 17C
3) to identify the implications of developmental theories and research for the counseling and educational professions (Standards 17F, 17K).
4) to identify and enhance the students’ knowledge of and expertise in one self-selected area of human development.
5) to understand the importance of sociocultural context in the conceptualization of development across the lifespan (Standards 17H).

**Dispositions:** The dispositions of *Professionals and Fairness* will be assessed in this class. Professionalism is assessed by examining your conduct as a student both in your interactions with the instructor as well as other students. Students who show impairment in this regard may be assessed as deficient. Students who exhibit exemplary conduct will be assessed as such on this dimension. Fairness is an indication of how you perceive your future clients in terms of social justice issues. Students who show impairment in this regard may be assessed as deficient. Students who exhibit exemplary conduct will be assessed as such on this dimension.

**Social Action Through Education:** As a professional counselor, higher education professional, school psychologist, or counseling psychologist, you can be a vehicle for justice in whatever setting you work. Issues of oppression, privilege, access, opportunity, inclusion, exclusion, discrimination and bias occur throughout our society. You will be in a unique position to apply the knowledge base of your profession and the skills that you will acquire in an ethical and reflective manner that promotes the self-development and self-determination of others. This class is designed to help you consider social action as a critical aspect of your professional work. The School of Education conceptual framework is described here: [www.luc.edu/education/mission/](http://www.luc.edu/education/mission/)

**Diversity:** Your program is committed to issues of diversity including, but not limited to, race, gender, sexual orientation, social class, ethnicity, ability status. This class is designed to facilitate your development as a culturally competent professional, able to work effectively with diverse clients and communities.

Required Materials:


Table of Contents:

**PART I. THEORY AND RESEARCH IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**  
*Chapter 1:* History, Theory, and Research Strategies

**PART II. FOUNDATIONS OF DEVELOPMENT**  
*Chapter 2:* Genetic and Environmental Foundations  
*Chapter 3:* Prenatal Development, Birth, and the Newborn Baby

**PART III. INFANCY AND TODDLERHOOD: THE FIRST TWO YEARS**  
*Chapter 4:* Physical Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood  
*Chapter 5:* Cognitive Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood  
*Chapter 6:* Emotional and Social Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood

**PART IV. EARLY CHILDHOOD: TWO TO SIX YEARS**
Chapter 7: Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood
Chapter 8: Emotional and Social Development in Early Childhood

PART V. MIDDLE CHILDHOOD: SIX TO ELEVEN YEARS
Chapter 9: Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood
Chapter 10: Emotional and Social Development in Middle Childhood

PART VI. ADOLESCENCE: THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD
Chapter 11: Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence
Chapter 12: Emotional and Social Development in Adolescence

PART VII. EARLY ADULTHOOD
Chapter 13: Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Adulthood
Chapter 14: Emotional and Social Development in Early Adulthood

PART VIII. MIDDLE ADULTHOOD
Chapter 15: Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood
Chapter 16: Emotional and Social Development in Middle Adulthood

PART IX. LATE ADULTHOOD
Chapter 17: Physical and Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood
Chapter 18: Emotional and Social Development in Late Adulthood

PART X. THE END OF LIFE
Chapter 19: Death, Dying, and Bereavement

Required Articles:


Assignments:

1. Child or Adolescent Project (40%): In order to demonstrate your understanding of developmental theories as applied to children and adolescents, and how to use technology to identify pertinent research, you will be required to select a developmental transition area and present recommendations that would promote healthy development in this area (e.g., helping young children transition into attending school, facilitating learning to read, helping adolescents
adjust to puberty, working with high school students entering the world of work). You will be working in groups of three (or four) determined by the instructor. The project will have 3 components: 1) Address what the literature has to say about the developmental transition you have selected (i.e., what are the issues, challenges). To become familiar with the field of developmental research, you should peruse journals such as *Journal of Adolescent Research, Developmental Psychology, Journal of College Student Development,* or *Child Development.* 2) Based on your reading of the literature, develop a list of best practices or recommendations for parents and/or practitioners working with this age group. 3) Present parts 1 & 2 to the class in a 30 minute presentation using Power Point. Since context is critical to development, you must describe the relevant sociocultural issues (e.g. gender, SES, racial differences) related to your issue. You will be required to provide your classmates with a list of references they can use to explore your topic further. Additionally, group projects require equitable participation by all group members. Each person should turn in a written summary of his/her part of the presentation (including the background research and the recommendations you compiled). You will also be asked to rate your group partners’ contributions to this project and the extent to which each person participated in a professional manner. This information will be one determinant of your grade. Approve your topic with the instructor via email by 9/20/16. This project is “due” (i.e., will be presented) during classes on November 1 & 8, 2016.

2. Adulthood Analysis Project (20%): You will be doing a self-analysis of developmental issues relevant to your current or a recent life stage and integrating how your family context has influenced your adjustment to that life stage. You will use Arnett's Emerging Adulthood Theory or Levinson's Seasons of Life Theories to frame your individual development and to integrate the relevance of family context, you will use the Family Lifecycle Model. To organize this paper, first select a transition that has meaning for you personally right now (e.g., establishing romantic relationships, career change, decision to become a parent, empty nest syndrome, caretaking of elderly relatives) and talk about how the Adult Development Theory you selected would describe that transition. Second, describe where your family members are within the Family Lifecycle Model. Then, discuss whether your transition into the area you selected (e.g., going back to school) was challenged or facilitated by your family's larger context and whether your experience is consistent with those theories. You should cite relevant literature from the models or other literature that supports your analysis, but the "data" should be your own experience. More details about this assignment will be discussed in class. Page limit is 5 pages. Due October 25, 2016.

3. Older Adult Narrative Inquiry Project (30%): In order to demonstrate your understanding of later-life development, you will be required to interview someone in older adulthood about issues affecting development at this stage (e.g., physical health, issues of loss, life lessons learned, views of death and beyond). Providing a description of the sociocultural context of your interviewee will be important to your analysis of the interview content. You will be expected to summarize to what extent your subject's experience fits with theoretical concepts you read about in your text. You will turn in a summary of the interview and a developmental analysis of the issues raised. Length: 8 pages max. Due December 6, 2016.

4. Participation (10%): This class will involve small and large group discussion and thus, it is expected that all students will attend classes and participate in these dialogues.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Reading Material</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>September 6</td>
<td>Contextual Models of Development (17A, 17H) &amp; Psychodynamic Models of Development</td>
<td>Brofenbrenner, Leventhal &amp; Brooks</td>
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<td>September 13</td>
<td>Prenatal Development &amp; Birth: Inside the Womb</td>
<td>Chapter 2-3</td>
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<td>September 20</td>
<td>Infancy: Physical &amp; Emotional Development (12D)</td>
<td>Borstein et al.</td>
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<td>September 27</td>
<td>Cognitive &amp; Language Development of Infancy/Toddlers: Piaget &amp; Vygotsky (1B, 12A, 12B, 12C, 17J)</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Tronick &amp; Beeghly</td>
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<td>October 4</td>
<td>Social &amp; Emotional Development in Childhood The Meaning of Play &amp; Moral Development (3B, 3E)</td>
<td>Chapter 8, 10 Moreno et al.</td>
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<td>October 11</td>
<td>Mid-semester break</td>
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<td>October 18</td>
<td>Physical &amp; Cognitive Development in Childhood: The World of School</td>
<td>Chapter 7, 9 Tomasetto et al.</td>
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<td>October 25</td>
<td>Adolescent Physical &amp; Cognitive Changes Sexuality &amp; Abstract Thinking (3B, 6C, 15B)</td>
<td>Chapter 11, 13 Arnett</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>Adolescent &amp; Early Adult Social And Emotional Changes, Identity Search &amp; Development Group Presentations I</td>
<td>Chapter 12, 14 Levinson, McGwen &amp; Guerrero, Manning et al. (3E, 6D, 9C)</td>
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<td>November 8</td>
<td>Middle Adulthood: Cog, Soc, Physical Emotional Changes: Work &amp; Family Life(1C) Group Presentations II</td>
<td>Chapter 15-16 Osbourne</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>Late Adulthood: Social, Emotional, Cognitive Changes &amp; Generativity</td>
<td>Chapter 17-18 Bennett et al., Nelson, Smith</td>
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<td>November 22</td>
<td>Aging in Place &amp; End of Life Issues</td>
<td>Chapter 19</td>
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November 29  Death and Grief

December 6  Why positive development is a challenge
Papers Due, Wrap Up

Grading Policy: Before each assignment is due, the instructor will discuss the criteria for grading. For the course grade, the total accumulation of points will be used to determine your grade based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>100-90</td>
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<td>89-80</td>
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<td>69-60</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>59-</td>
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Late papers will not be accepted without previous permission of the instructor. If an extension is granted, grades will be lowered by 10% for every day the paper is late. Therefore, any anticipated situations that may affect turning in materials on time should be discussed with the instructor.

Please see the following link for additional information on University policies listed below: [http://luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/](http://luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/)

**IDEA Course Evaluation Link for Students**
At the end of this course, you will need to provide an evaluation via the IDEA Campus Labs website: [http://luc.edu/idea/](http://luc.edu/idea/) by going to the Student IDEA Log In.

**LiveText**
LiveText is used to complete the benchmark assessments aligned to the Conceptual Framework Standards and all other accreditation, school-wide and/or program-wide related assessments. Use this link for additional information about [LiveText](http://luc.edu/idea/).