

## WTCS Repository

# 10-809-188 Developmental Psychology

## Course Outcome Summary

### Course Information

**Description** Developmental Psychology is the study of human development throughout the lifespan. This course explores developmental theory and research with an emphasis on the interactive nature of the biological, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that affect the individual from conception to death. Application activities and critical thinking skills will enable students to gain an increased knowledge and understanding of themselves and others.

**Total Credits** 3.00

### Pre/Corequisites

**Prerequisite** Each Wisconsin Technical College determines the General Education course prerequisites used by their academic institution. If prerequisites for a course are determined to be appropriate, the final Course Outcome Summary must identify the prerequisites approved for use by the individual Technical College.

### Course Competencies

#### 1. Examine current research as relevant to lifespan development

##### Assessment Strategies

- 1.1. a written or oral response that evaluates current research

##### Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 1.1. apply research to issues pertinent to development
- 1.2. evaluate the influence of culture on research
- 1.3. compare research designs within the context of development
- 1.4. apply current research in developmental psychology to one's personal and professional life

#### 2. Analyze key issues that influence developmental perspectives

##### Assessment Strategies

- 2.1. a written or oral response that identifies current developmental perspectives

##### Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 2.1. discuss nature/nurture issues
- 2.2. compare continuity versus discontinuity across the lifespan
- 2.3. identify normative versus exceptional development
- 2.4. examine critical time periods and life events that impact development
- 2.5. apply key issues of developmental psychology to one's personal and professional life

### **3. Compare the various theoretical frameworks as they apply to development**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 3.1. a written or oral response that identifies developmental theoretical frameworks

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 3.1. apply the psychodynamic theoretical framework to development
- 3.2. apply the cognitive theoretical framework to development
- 3.3. apply the behavioral theoretical framework to development
- 3.4. apply the contextual theoretical framework to development
- 3.5. apply theories of developmental psychology to one's personal and professional life

### **4. Evaluate the integration of genetics and environmental influences on development**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 4.1. a written or oral response that identifies genetic and environmental influences across the lifespan

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 4.1. recognize the impact of genetics and environment on pre-conception
- 4.2. recognize the impact of genetics and environment on prenatal period
- 4.3. recognize the impact of genetics and environment on early childhood
- 4.4. recognize the impact of genetics and environment on middle childhood
- 4.5. recognize the impact of genetics and environment on adolescence
- 4.6. recognize the impact of genetics and environment on adulthood
- 4.7. apply theories/knowledge base of genetic and environmental influences on developmental to one's personal and professional life

### **5. Analyze developmental issues related to physical/biological changes across the lifespan**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 5.1. a written or oral response that identifies physical/biological changes across the lifespan

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 5.1. identify major life changes/tasks throughout the lifespan
- 5.2. describe the germinal, embryonic and fetal periods of development
- 5.3. describe the predictable biological changes in infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood
- 5.4. apply knowledge base of physical/biological changes to one's personal and professional life

### **6. Analyze developmental issues related to cognitive changes across the lifespan**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 6.1. a written or oral response that identifies cognitive changes across the lifespan

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 6.1. identify major life changes/tasks throughout the lifespan
- 6.2. describe the predictable cognitive changes in infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood
- 6.3. describe the cognitive theories of Piaget, Vygotsky, Information Processing, Gardner and Sternberg
- 6.4. compare the major cognitive theoretical perspectives to more recent biological brain development research
- 6.5. apply theories/knowledge base of cognitive changes to one's personal and professional life

### **7. Analyze developmental issues related to psychological/emotional changes across the lifespan**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 7.1. a written or oral response that identifies psychological/emotional changes across the lifespan

## Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 7.1. identify major life changes/tasks throughout the lifespan
- 7.2. describe the predictable psychological changes in infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood
- 7.3. describe the psychological theories of Freud, Erikson and Levinson
- 7.4. identify exceptional versus normal psychological development
- 7.5. apply theories/knowledge base of social influences to one's personal and professional life

## 8. Analyze developmental issues related to social changes across the lifespan

### Assessment Strategies

- 8.1. a written or oral response that identifies social influences across the lifespan

### Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 8.1. identify major life changes/tasks throughout the lifespan
- 8.2. describe the predictable social changes in infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood
- 8.3. describe historical/contextual influences on human development
- 8.4. identify the impact of culture on development
- 8.5. apply theories/knowledge base of social influences to one's personal and professional life

## 9. Examine issues surrounding death and dying

### Assessment Strategies

- 9.1. a written or oral examination of issues surrounding death and dying

### Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when you:*

- 9.1. summarize the changes in perspective on death and dying across the lifespan
- 9.2. summarize bereavement that pertain to different life stages
- 9.3. differentiate normal from abnormal grief reactions
- 9.4. identify sociocultural and spiritual influences on death and dying issues
- 9.5. apply theories/knowledge base of issues surrounding death and dying to one's personal and professional life