

SS5752: LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENT

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Life Span Development

Subject Code

SS - Social and Behavioural Sciences

Course Number

5752

Academic Unit

Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

- 1) MSSPSY Students : Nil
- 2) MSSC Students (cohort 2016 and thereafter): Nil
- 3) Other programme students: SS2023 Basic Psychology I or its equivalent

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to enable students to (1) understand the nature and basic concepts of human development, and (2) analyze the characteristics and needs at different stages through the life span.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe milestones and characteristics during the courses of development throughout the life span and their implications for development and intergenerational issues.	40	x	x	
2	Explain behaviours and phenomenon during the courses of development and put the theories into practice (e.g., for educational settings).	20	x	x	
3	Discuss critically with support from the literature and real life situation issues and concerns central to human development.	20	x	x	
4	Analyze underlying factors which contribute to variations in human development.	20	x	x	

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture	Introducing theoretical perspectives to the understanding of human development across the life span.	1, 2, 3, 4	
2	Group discussions/ observations	Students will critically analyse different developmental issues.	1, 2, 3, 4	
3	Case Study	Students will use cases to illustrate events and issues concerning development across the life span.	1, 2, 3, 4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	AT1: Quiz	1, 2, 3, 4	40	Individual	No
2	AT2: Group Project Presentation	1, 2, 3, 4	30	Allow AI to (1) conduct proof editing; (2) brainstorm and generate initial ideas; (3) conduct preliminary analyses or gather information Details on the scope of using GenAI tools will be announced in course outline.	Yes
3	AT3: Individual Report	1, 2, 3, 4	30	Allow AI to (1) conduct proof editing; (2) brainstorm and generate initial ideas; (3) conduct preliminary analyses or gather information Details on the scope of using GenAI tools will be announced in course outline.	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. Quiz (40%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Assess students' abilities in mastering, applying and synthesizing theories and concepts explained in the course, and to evaluate the applicability of developmental psychology principles to practical situations. Quiz items will be designed to test students' understanding of terminology and concepts and students' ability to integrate and apply these concepts to analyze hypothetical and/or real-life examples.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Superior grasp of theories and concepts about human development

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good grasp of theories and concepts about human development

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Evidence of proper understanding about theories and concepts in human development

Marginal

(D) Sufficient familiarity with major theories and concepts in human development to enable the student to progress without repeating the course

Failure

(F) Little familiarity with major theories and concepts in human development

Assessment Task

2. Group Project Presentation (30%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Evaluate students' abilities to critically assess the relevance and applicability of developmental psychological principles to a specific life issue.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Evidence of extensive knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Good

(B+, B, B-) Evidence of good knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Evidence of some knowledge and innovative ideas of human development

Marginal

(D) Sufficient knowledge of human development to enable the student to progress without repeating the course

Failure

(F) Little knowledge of human development

Assessment Task

3. Individual Report (30%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Evaluate students' ability to accurately and comprehensively present information related to life span development. Assess their capacity to analyze and interpret data related to developmental issues and determine the effectiveness of their written communication skills in conveying their findings.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Evidence of extensive knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Good

(B+, B, B-) Evidence of good knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Evidence of some knowledge and innovative ideas of human development

Marginal

(D) Sufficient knowledge of human development to enable the student to progress without repeating the course

Failure

(F) Little knowledge of human development

Assessment Task

1. Quiz (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Assess students' abilities in mastering, applying and synthesizing theories and concepts explained in the course, and to evaluate the applicability of developmental psychology principles to practical situations. Quiz items will be designed to test students' understanding of terminology and concepts and students' ability to integrate and apply these concepts to analyze hypothetical and/or real-life examples.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Superior grasp of theories and concepts about human development

Good

(B+, B) Good grasp of theories and concepts about human development

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Fair to limited grasp of theories and concepts about human development

Failure

(F) Insufficient grasp of theories and concepts about human development

Assessment Task

2. Group Project Presentation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Evaluate students' abilities to critically assess the relevance and applicability of developmental psychological principles to a specific life issue.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Evidence of extensive knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Good

(B+, B) Evidence of good knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Evidence of some knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Failure

(F) Insufficient knowledge base and lacking innovative ideas of human development

Assessment Task

3. Individual Report (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Evaluate students' ability to accurately and comprehensively present information related to life span development. Assess their capacity to analyze and interpret data related to developmental issues and determine the effectiveness of their written communication skills in conveying their findings.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Evidence of extensive knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Good

(B+, B) Evidence of good knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Evidence of some knowledge base and innovative ideas of human development

Failure

(F) Insufficient knowledge base and lacking innovative ideas of human development

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Human Development; Infancy and Toddlerhood; Childhood; Adolescence; Adulthood.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Santrock, J. W. (2015). Life-span development (15th ed.). Boston, MA: McGraw Hill.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil