

SS2701: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Developmental Psychology

Subject Code

SS - Social and Behavioural Sciences

Course Number

2701

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

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

SS1101 Basic Psychology or SS2023 Basic Psychology I

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, (2) apply developmental theories to analyze related developmental issues, and (3) evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different developmental theories.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	describe most important developmental tasks and changes in each age period.	30	x	x	
2	explain the interplay of nature and nurture in human development.	20	x	x	
3	apply different developmental theories/perspectives to account for different aspects of human development.	25	x	x	
4	compare and contrast the strength and weakness of different approaches to understand and explain issues/phenomena of human development.	25	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)
Lectures	Students will engage in formal lectures to gain an overview of basic concepts and theories of human development.	1, 2, 3, 4	
Case Study	Students will engage in case analysis to illustrate events and issues concerning development across the life span, and discover the impacts of developmental theories on individuals.	1, 2, 3, 4	

3	Small group discussion	Students will engage in analysing different developmental issues critically and evaluating their relevance within a local context.	1, 2, 3, 4	
4	Group project and presentation	Students will engage in hands-on experiments on discovering and acquiring knowledge of developmental theories and practice.	1, 2, 3, 4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Quiz	1, 2, 3, 4	40	-	No
2	Group Project	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	Yes
3	Individual Report	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Quiz

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

Group Project

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

Individual Report

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

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Concepts and Controversies in Human Development. Infancy and Toddlerhood. Pre-school and School-aged Children. Early Adolescence and Adolescence. Early Adulthood and Adulthood. Later Adulthood and Ageing.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Santrock, J. W. (2021). Life-span development (18th Ed.). McGraw Hill.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	British Journal of Developmental Psychology
2	Child Development
3	Cognitive Development
4	Developmental Psychology
5	Developmental Review

6	Early Education and Development
7	Human Development
8	Infant Behavior and Development International Journal of Behavioural Development
9	Journal of Experimental Child Psychology