

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY



DEP3053

3 CREDIT HOURS

SPRING/2021

**** ONLINE**

INSTRUCTOR: *Marina A. Klimenko, Ph.D., M.P.A.*
Psychology Building, office in room 361

**VIRTUAL OFFICE HOUR (OPTIONAL REVIEW OF WEEK'S LECTURES) VIA ZOOM
IN CANVAS:** Thursday, from 12 to 1pm.

COURSE GTA (GRADUATE TA):

Garret Hack

Alexandra Wilson Knerr

Milan Savoury (Raiford)

COURSE UTA:

Parisha Bousquet

Samia Chowdhury

Alexandra Pellegrino

Kiara Lolo

Meiliana Rivera Ortiz

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will gain an understanding of the forces that shape human development across the lifespan. A particular emphasis will be placed on the interplay of biological, psychological and contextual factors, such as culture, in shaping development over time. As part of understanding and applying developmental concepts, students will engage in active participation with their peers.

International Scholars Program - This course fulfills one of the curriculum requirements of the International Scholars Program. Learn more about how you can obtain a graduation medallion and diploma at <https://internationalcenter.ufl.edu/global-learning/international-scholars-program>.

STRUCTURE OF COURSE IN E-LEARNING

This course is fully on-line with no specified meeting times. Students are expected to login to Canvas at least 2-3 times/week to participate in group discussions, take weekly quizzes, and check emails/announcements.

This course is broken down into 14 topical modules, and each module covers one (sometimes two) chapter of your textbook with some additional material that you will find in my lectures. Note, that the topics will **not** be covered in the same order as they are presented in the textbook, so please follow our class syllabus. All modules contain: objectives, readings (what to read for any given week), lectures (lectures to watch), assignments, and quizzes.

The course is self-paced only in the sense that you can read and study weekly material, watch lectures, and work on My Virtual Life assignments ahead of time.

Group discussions can only be completed within the specified time frame. If you wish to move ahead of our class schedule, click on Modules (on the left-hand side panel and choose the module you want to study.

MODULE TIMELINE

Module will begin on a Monday morning (12am) and will end on a Saturday night (11:59pm) (check schedule for exceptions). All graded assignments will be due on Saturday, at 11:59pm. We will respond to your emails Monday-Friday (Occasionally we may be able to respond on weekends; if you have a question about an upcoming assignments you should plan to email them during week days as we most likely will not respond to your question before the assignment is due).

All modules will be unlocked at the beginning of the semester (unless it is being revised or updated). However, I strongly recommend that you keep up with our course timeline instead of postponing everything until the end of the semester.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

All communication will be done in Canvas—emails, discussions, and announcements. ***Please do not send emails to my uf email address.***

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND OTHER CLASS MATERIALS:

You will be using Pearson Revel, Feldman, **LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENT: A TOPICAL APPROACH**

This package includes an e-book, my virtual life simulation program, and other supplemental materials.

MyVirtual Life: You will be required to complete My Virtual Life simulation, only raising a child portion. More details will be posted on Canvas.

Read the instructions BEFORE starting the simulation.

WEEKLY QUIZ ASSESSMENTS (45%)

There will be a quiz for each chapter/lectures covered in this class + one cumulative quiz covering everything, a total of 14 quizzes. However, one lowest grade quiz will be dropped, so you can miss any one of the 14 quizzes. Module quizzes will be unlocked at the beginning of the semester and due at the end of semester (see syllabus for exact date). This will allow you to take extra time to study, if necessary. *However, I strongly recommend that you do not postpone taking the quizzes and get into the habit of completing each quiz by the end of its module week.*

All quizzes are timed, and will consist of short 20 objective questions (multiple choice/multiple answers and/or true/false format). One (lowest) quiz will be dropped, and only 13 quizzes will be counted towards your final grade. Each question is worth 0.5 point. So each quiz is worth 10 points. Items are drawn at random from a larger pool of items, so no two people may receive the same quiz. Quizzes are not cumulative; each quiz pertains to the material covered in a particular week/module, including lectures, and videos for that week.

The answers will only be revealed at the end of the semester, however, you can email me to inquire about any question or any quiz, and find out the correct answers within one week of taking it.

The quizzes are relatively easy and most students do well on them—the average fluctuates between 85 and 90.

IMPORTANT: You are responsible for the strength and reliability of your internet, and for using a reliable computer. If you lose internet connection due to issues with **your** computer or internet, you will not be allowed to retake quizzes or the final exam. If the interruption in connection is caused by the issues in Canvas, contact e-learning help desk right away and get verification. My decision about letting students retake quizzes will be determined on an individual basis. Since the chances of experiencing technical issues more than once in a semester are very slim to none, no one will be allowed to retake more than one quiz.

GROUP DISCUSSIONS (5%)

Find your group and introduce yourself by its due date in your Group Introduction Discussion Board (0.5 point). You will participate in 7 group discussions but only 5 will count. Thus, you are allowed to miss two discussions (with the exception of the introduction and the final week discussion #7) or replace two lowest discussion grades with the higher extra two.

All (except for introduction) will require you to post a response to the prompt and a response to at least one post made by one of your peers. Both must be made on time to receive any credit.

To receive full credit, (1) post your original and a reply to one of the posts on time, (2) the length of your posts should be at least one paragraph, (3) your posts should be reasonably substantive (i.e., contain meaningful ideas and based on some information from our course material when necessary), and (3) respectful.

Canvas displays the due dates for your personal (original) response. You must post that first to receive any points. The three extra days are reserved for posting responses to your peer's posts.

Although you are not required to make more than one reply, you are encouraged to engage in conversations with your peers by commenting and replying to your peers' posts as many times as you want. I will reward those who have engaged in lively and respectful discussions by commenting/responding to their peers with a 1% extra credit at the end of the semester.

MY VIRTUAL CHILD SIMULATIONS ASSIGNMENT (20%)

You will raise a virtual child (read my instructions to this assignment) and write a short paper. ***I strongly recommend that you become familiar with the directions and the format of this assignment as early as possible and start working on the simulations as early as you can.***

Inquiries about MVL paper (e.g., questions, ask for help, etc.) should be made at least 24 hours before their due dates to ensure that you will receive our response in a timely manner (before papers are due). Questions should be sent to class instructor or TAs via Canvas mail.

Please know that the average score on the papers is a B, and many students will see a slight drop in their overall grade.

PRESENTATION & PEER REVIEW ASSIGNMENT (5%)

The purpose of this assignment is to explore the topic of human development as it is portrayed in works of fiction (e.g., film, novels) or art (e.g., songs). This should be a fun assignment!

You will choose one topic and create a presentation. Then you will post it for peer evaluation and will evaluate three other similar presentations.

FINAL EXAM (25%)

Final exam will be cumulative, however, it will be only based on the material covered in my lectures. In addition, unlike quizzes, you will only be tested on the higher-level concepts rather than on minutia or fact memory questions. If you read your textbook, watch lectures and learn course material through assignments, you will do well on the exam. Inquiries about the exam should be sent to course instructor at least 24 hours in advance to ensure that you receive response on time.

No notes or textbook will be allowed during the exam.

The final exam will be conducted through Honorlock.

IMPORTANT: You are responsible for your internet strength and reliability, and for using a reliable computer. If you lose internet connection due to issues with **your** computer or internet, you will not be allowed to retake the final exam. If the interruption in connection is caused by issues in Canvas, contact e-learning help desk and get verification. The decision to allow retaking the final exam will be determined on an individual basis and will be based on the cause of the issue.

EXTRA CREDITS

There will be two possible ways for you to earn some extra credits. I offer them to boost everyone's final grade (without giving any favors); and this works especially well for those who are close to the next letter grade at the end of the semester. Please consider taking these opportunities (don't miss the due dates if given) as this will be the only opportunities to get a "bump" in your final grade.

- **Participation in a survey study with two parts (2%)**

See announcement posted on Canvas. The first part will be emailed to you on Jan 19. The second part will be emailed on April 5. You must complete both parts to receive the extra credit.

- **Group Discussion Extra Credit (1%)**

- **Possible end of semester survey (0.5%):** A simple extra credit question will be released IF I receive an 80% response rate on my end of semester evaluations.

POLICY FOR DISPUTING GRADES

You will have one week after the release of a grade (**exception is the final exam; see syllabus schedule for the final exam dispute deadline**), including weekends and holidays, to dispute it (Disputes are defined as questions about the material on a quiz, final exam, or an assignment), and will NOT be accepted after the deadline.

If you want to dispute a grade you will need to write a paragraph explaining the dispute (write out the question on the quiz or explain the part of the assignment in detail). Quiz disputes must be sent to my Canvas mail (your instructor). Disputes about MVL writing paper or discussions should be sent to your graduate TA via Canvas mail.

COURSE SCHEDULE

1. **Module 1: Jan 11-16: An Orientation to Lifespan Development (Chapter 1)**

- Take Orientation Quiz to unlock module 1 (in Orientation module)
- Module 1 Quiz 1, recommended to be completed by Jan 16, 11:59pm.
- Group Introduction (0.5 point), due Jan 19, 11:59pm.

- **Survey part 1 (extra credit study; optional) emailed**
2. **Module 2: Jan 19-23: Genetics, Prenatal Development, and Birth (Chapter 2)**
 - Module 2 Quiz 2 recommended to be completed by Jan 23, 11:59pm.
 3. **Module 3: Jan 25-30: Physical Growth and Aging Across the Life Span (Chapter 3).**
 - Group Discussion #1 due Jan 30-Feb 2, 11:59pm.
 - Module 3 Quiz 3 recommended to be completed by Jan 30, 11:59pm.
 4. **Module 4: Feb 1-6: Theories of Cognitive Growth by Piaget and Vygotsky (Chapter 5).**
 - Module 4 Quiz 4 recommended to be completed by Feb 6, 11:59pm.
 - Group Discussion #2 due Feb 6--9, 11:59 pm.
 5. **Module 5: Feb 8-13: Information processing to Cognition and Intelligence (Chapters 6 and 8)**
 - Module 5 Quiz 5, recommended to be completed by Feb 13, 11:59pm.
 6. **Module 6: Feb 15-20: Social and Emotional Development (Chapter 9).**
 - (Week 6) Group Discussion #3 due Feb 20--23, 11:59pm.
 - Module 6 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Feb 20, 11:59pm.
 7. **Module 7: Feb 22-27: Development of the self (Chapter 10).**
 - Module 7 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Feb 27, 11:59pm.
 8. **Module 8: March 1-6: Moral Development and Aggression (Chapter 11).**
 - (Week 8) Group Discussion #4 due March 6--9, 11:59pm.
 - Module 8 Quiz, recommended to be completed by March 6, 11:59pm.
 9. **Module 9: March 8-13: Language (chapter 7)**
 - Module 9 Quiz, recommended to be completed March 13, 11:59pm.
 - (Week 9) Group Discussion #5, due March 13-16, 11:59pm.
 10. **Module 10: March 15-20: Friends and Family (Chapter 13)**

- Module 10 Quiz, recommended to be completed by March 20, 11:59pm.
- Group Discussion #6, due March 20--23, 11:59pm.
- **MVL Raise a Child Assignment & Picture of completion, due March 20, 11:59pm (grades will be released on April 10)**

11. Module 11: March 22-27: Gender and Sexuality (Chapter 12)

- Module 11 Quiz, recommended to be completed by March 27, 11:59pm.
- **Presentation due by March 27, 11:59pm (You will not be assigned peer-reviews unless you submit a presentation.)**

12. Module 12: March 29-April 3: Health and Wellness (Chapter 4)

- Module 12 Quiz, recommended to be completed by April 3, 11:59pm.
- **Peer-Reviews due by April 3, 11:59pm. (grades will be released April 17)**

13. Module 13: April 5-10: Schooling, Culture, and Society (Chapter 14)

- Module 13 Quiz, recommended to be completed by April 10, 11:59pm.
- **Survey part 2 (extra credit optional) emailed.**

14. Module 14: April 12-17; 19-21: Review of the course

- Module 14 Quiz, cumulative (optional/can be dropped), recommended to be completed by April 17. It will cover all chapters/lectures from the course.
- (Week 14) Group Discussion #7 (mandatory discussion), due April 17-20, 11:59pm.
- Review of the lectures.
- **All Quizzes must be completed by April 18, 11:59pm.**
- **Final Exam** will be on **April 21**, between 7am and 11:59pm. All inquiries about final exam grades must be emailed to instructor by April 22, 11:59pm.

COURSE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

1. All communication will be done in Canvas.

If you have any questions/comments pertaining to

- ✓ Course administration, not time sensitive: post your question in Technical issues and course materials errors/ FAQ discussion board.
- ✓ Course concepts: post your question in Course Concepts discussion board.
- ✓ If you do not receive an answer from either FAQ or Course Concepts discussion boards within 24 hours, contact instructor or TA by Canvas mail.

*Discussion boards will not be monitored on Saturdays and Sundays.

If you have a question about

- ✓ Quiz or final exam grade, email your instructor.
- ✓ Group discussions, email me graduate or undergraduate TA.
- ✓ MVL assignment grades, email graduate TA.

Do not post questions or information about your grade on the FAQ board.

*CANNOT CONTACT INSTRUCTOR OR TA 8 HRS BEFORE an ASSIGNMENT IS DUE!!!

- ✓ In the case of a serious medical condition, a family emergency or other situation that will keep you out of class a week or more, email me (your instructor) to mklimenko@ufl.edu.
2. All interactions with instructors and among class members are expected to be professional and appropriate. Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions on the FAQ and Course Content Board.
 3. Announcements: Occasionally, announcements will be made. If there are any changes to class schedule or assignments.
 4. Extension of deadlines may be requested ONLY for university excused absences with adequate documentation. Requests for an extension must be based on University approved reasons and must include proper documentation as per University guidelines. Requests for extensions must be made before the deadline, if possible, or within 24 hours of the deadline for unexpected emergencies.
 5. Computer/internet access to e-learning is required for this course. Students are responsible for maintaining access to e-learning.
 - ✓ Extensions will not be given for student-based technical difficulties. Do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments and

quizzes! Do not take your quizzes on the bus! Use a land connection instead of Wi-Fi.

- ✓ If UF e-learning experiences technical difficulties, deadlines will be adjusted to allow for completion of assignments.
- 6. This course adheres to all University Policies. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/> for useful information at the Dean of Students Office webpage.
- 7. Academic Honesty: This course uses the definitions and guidelines for academic honesty as described by the Dean of Students Office. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php> for details.
- 8. Students with disabilities: requesting accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> for details.
- 9. Religious Observances: Please check your calendars against the course syllabus. Any student having a conflict due to religious observance should contact me as soon as possible so that we can make any necessary arrangements.
- 10. Copyright Statement: Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. **They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further.** They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.
- 11. Syllabus Change Policy: Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. If changes are made to this syllabus they will be announced and/or emailed. It is **your** responsibility to check for announcements and/or email of changes online.
- 12. Extra Help: Contact me as soon as possible for extra assistance if you discover you are having trouble. I want you to do well!

GRADING

Your final grade is based on the total number of points you accumulate. Your grade will be calculated by summing the points you earn on quizzes and assignments.

Assignment	Points	Percentage of your Grade
Quizzes (13)	130	45%
Group introduction (1)	0.5	0.5%
Group Discussions (4)	4	3 %
Final Week Group Discussion (1)	1.5	1.5%
MVL Assignment	100	20%
Presentation & Peer-Review	15	5%
Final Exam	80	25%
Total	276	100%

GRADING SCALE

Grade	%
A	94% - 100%
A-	90% & up
B+	87% & up

B	84% & up
B-	80% & up
C+	77% & up
C	74% & up
C-	70% & up
D+	67% & up
D	64% & up
D-	61% & up
E	<61%

The good news is – these grades are firm – there is no curve. Everybody in the class can get an A grade and I hope you do.

The bad news is – these grades are firm – there is no curve. If you score just a quarter of a point below the cutoff then you will receive the lower grade.

IMPORTANT: “Canvas is always working to calculate two grades, the current grade and the total grade, for students. The current grade is calculated by adding up the graded assignments according to their weight in the course grading scheme. This grade is calculated with the **Calculate based only on graded assignments** checkbox selected in the sidebar. The total grade is calculated by adding up all the assignments according to their weight in the course grading scheme. If a course is using weighted assignment groups, students can also see how each assignment is weighted in the course.

To view the total grade in the course, students can deselect the **Calculate based only on graded assignments** checkbox.”

<https://guides.instructure.com/s/2204/m/67952/l/55015-what-are-what-if-grades>)