

## DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY



DEP3053

3 CREDIT HOURS

FALL/2024

**\*\* ONLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR:** *Marina A. Klimenko, Ph.D., M.P.A. (mklimenko@ufl.edu)*

*Psychology Building, office in room 361*

**PRIMARY GENERAL EDUCATION DESIGNATION:** Social and Behavioral Sciences  
(S) ([area objectives available here](#))

(NOTE: A MINIMUM GRADE OF C IS REQUIRED FOR GENERAL EDUCATION)

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

**COURSE GTA (GRADUATE TAS):**

Ariana Burga

Sara Aslani

Jamie Newland

Mina Elhamiasl

## **COURSE UTAS:**

Luna Parra

Hope McCrary

Kruti Bosmia

## **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, with some exceptions. 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 assignment 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). 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, Feldman, **LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENT: A TOPICAL APPROACH, 5<sup>th</sup> edition**

This package includes an e-book, my virtual life simulation program, and the quizzes that you will have to complete. Please note that the package is custom made for this course and must be purchased either through UF bookstore or UF All Access. If you purchase this package via a third party, the link in Canvas will not work for you and you will not be able to complete Pearson quizzes and the MVL assignments.

**MyVirtual Life**: You will be required to complete My Virtual Life simulation, only the child portion of the simulation. More details can be found on Canvas.

Read the instructions BEFORE starting the simulation.

## LECTURE MODULE QUIZ ASSESSMENTS (30%)

Each Module you will have one or more lectures with PlayPosit Questions. PlayPosit questions are not graded, however, poll and multiple-choice questions are required to complete to play the videos.

There will be a graded quiz for each module lectures. ***Quiz with the lowest grade will be automatically dropped. Only 13 quizzes will be counted towards your final grade.***

Quizzes are timed and include 10 objective questions (multiple choice, multiple answers, or true/false). Each question is worth 1 point, making each quiz worth 10 points. Questions are randomly selected from a larger pool, ensuring that no two people receive the same quiz. Quizzes are specific to the material covered in a particular week or module, including lectures and videos.

IMPORTANT: You are responsible for ensuring the strength and reliability of your internet connection and using a dependable computer. If you encounter internet issues due to your computer or network, retaking quizzes or the final exam won't be permitted. However, if the connection problem is caused by Canvas, promptly contact the e-learning help desk for verification. Decisions regarding quiz retakes will be made on an individual basis. Keep in mind that technical issues are rare, so students won't be allowed to retake more than one quiz.

#### PEARSON CHAPTER QUIZ ASSESSMENTS (10%)

You'll need to complete chapter quizzes on Pearson's Revel course shell (it is already linked to our Canvas course). These quizzes consist of 15 multiple-choice questions. You will have 3 attempts with a penalty of -1 per try. Each question is worth 1 point. Only the overall score (on all quizzes) will be visible on Canvas.

#### GROUP DISCUSSIONS (4%)

You will participate in 7 group discussions but only 6 will count. Thus, you are allowed to drop/skip one or I will simply drop one discussion grade with the lowest grade.

Most every discussion will pose a question, or a set of questions, and you will be asked to give your informed opinion. No late posts will be allowed. No replies are required, however, you are allowed to reply to your peers if you find their posts compelling and insightful.

To receive full credit (5 points):

1. Write at least one paragraph.

2. Write a reasonably substantive post (i.e., contain meaningful ideas and based on some information from our course material when necessary).
3. Write without errors in terms of understanding the material under discussion.
4. Address the issue/question fully.
5. Be respectful.

#### MY VIRTUAL CHILD SIMULATION ASSIGNMENT (24%)

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.

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

#### VIRTUAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE (5%)

You will conduct a brief interview with a person of your choice and write a short paper evaluating the influence of the Macrosystem (including the culture). See Canvas for more information.

All the details are posted on Canvas course shell.

#### FINAL EXAM (25%)

Final exam will be cumulative, however, it will be only based on the material covered in my lectures. You will be allowed to use your personally prepared notes: one sheet (front and back) or two sheets (one side/per sheet) of your personal notes.

**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.

### PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH EXPERIENCE THROUGH SONA (2%)

There are two options to choose from, participate in research or write a critical analysis paper. The details will be posted on Canvas course website.

### 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 (this is not related to the Research experience participation assignment (2%))**
- **Possible end of semester survey (0.5%): TBA**

### 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: Aug 22—31: An Orientation to Lifespan Development (Chapter 1)**
  - Take Orientation Quiz to unlock module 1 (in Orientation module)
  - Lecture Module 1 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Aug 31, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson's chapter 1 quiz
  - ***Become familiar with the instructions for My Virtual Life Simulation assignment (find MVL assignment in Canvas and read instructions)***
  
2. **Module 2: Sep 3—7: Prenatal Development, and Birth (Chapter 2)**
  - Lecture Module 2 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Sep 7, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson's chapter 2 quiz
  - ***Extra Credit Survey released***
  
3. **Module 3: Sep 9--14: Physical Growth and Aging Across the Life Span (Chapter 3).**
  - Group Discussion #1 due Sep 14, 11:59pm.
  - Lecture Module 3 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Sep 14, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson's chapter 3 quiz.
  
4. **Module 4: Sep 16--21: Theories of Cognitive Growth by Piaget and Vygotsky (Chapter 5).**
  - Lecture Module 4 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Sep 21, 11:59pm.
  - Group Discussion #2 due Sep 21, 11:59 pm.
  - Take Pearson's chapter 5 quiz.
  
5. **Module 5: Sep 23—28: Information processing to Cognition and Intelligence (Chapters 6 and 8)**
  - Lecture Module 5 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Sep 28, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson's chapter 6 and 8.
  - ***Complete the Extra Credit Survey, September 28, 11:59pm.***

6. **Module 6: Sep 30—October 5: Social and Emotional Development (Chapter 9).**
  - Group Discussion #3 due Oct 5, 11:59pm.
  - Lecture Module 6 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Oct 5, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson’s chapter 9 quiz.
  
7. **Module 7: Oct 7--12: Development of the self (Chapter 10).**
  - Lecture Module 7 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Oct 12, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson’s chapter 10 quiz.
  
8. **Module 8: Oct 14--19: Moral Development and Aggression (Chapter 11).**
  - Group Discussion #4 due Oct 19, 11:59pm.
  - Lecture Module 8 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Oct 19, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson’s chapter 11 quiz.
  
9. **Module 9: Oct 21—26: Language (chapter 7)**
  - Lecture Module 9 Quiz, recommended to be completed Oct 26, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson’s chapter 7 quiz.
  - Group Discussion #5, due Oct 28, 11:59pm.
  - ***Finish Revel MVL simulation and begin working on your paper***
  - ***Cultural Paper due October 26, 11:59pm.***
  
10. **Module 10: Oct 28—Nov 2: Friends and Family (Chapter 13)**
  - Lecture Module 10 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Nov 2, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson’s chapter 13 quiz.
  - Group Discussion #6, due Nov 2, 11:59pm.
  - ***MVL Raise a Child Assignment & Picture of completion, due Nov 2, 11:59pm (grades will be released on Nov 23)***
  
11. **Module 11: Nov 4--9: Gender and Sexuality (Chapter 12)**
  - Lecture Module 11 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Nov 9, 11:59pm.
  - Take Pearson’s chapter 12 quiz.
  
12. **Module 12: Nov 12—16: Health and Wellness (Chapter 4)**



- Lecture Module 12 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Nov 16, 11:59pm.
- Take Pearson’s chapter 4 quiz.
- Group Discussion #7, due Nov 16, 11:59pm.

**13. Module 13: Nov 18—23: Schooling, Culture, and Society (Chapter 14)**

- Lecture Module 13 Quiz, recommended to be completed by Nov 23, 11:59pm.
- Take Pearson’s chapter 14 quiz.
- Complete All Pearson’s chapter quizzes, due Nov 23, 11:59pm.
- Extra credit article summary must be completed by Nov 23

**14. Module 14: Dec 2--4: Review of the course**

- Lecture Modules 1-13 quizzes must be completed by Dec 4, 11:59pm.
- Lecture Module 14 Quiz, cumulative (optional/can be dropped), must be completed by Dec 4. It will cover mainly the two lectures from the module.
- ***Final Exam*** will be on **Dec 9**, between 7am and 11:59pm. All inquiries about final exam grades must be emailed to instructor by Dec 10, 11:59pm.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOS)

*At the end of “Developmental Psychology,” students will be able to...*

1. Identify, describe, and explain key themes in developmental sciences, principles, and terminology in Developmental psychology; identify, describe and explain the history of developmental theories and methodologies used in understanding human development; social institutions, structures and processes that influence human development (*Content SLOs for Gen Ed S area available here*). *These outcomes will be assessed through participation in classroom discussions, online group discussions, MVL paper, quizzes and final exam.*

2. Apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis effectively to examine the processes that shape human development and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions as they grow. Assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions. (*Critical Thinking SLOs for Gen Ed S area available here*). *These outcomes will be assessed through participation in classroom discussions, group discussions, final exam, and MVL written assignment.*

3. Communicate knowledge of human development, thoughts on one's personal development and reasoning clearly and effectively considering the multitude of factors influencing human development. ([Communication SLO for Gen Ed S area SLOs available here](#)). These outcomes will be assessed through participation in classroom discussions, online group discussions, and MVL paper.

## 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](mailto: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. In-Class Recording: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student.
12. 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.
13. 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

### **How your final grade is calculated (and how you can estimate your final grade):**

Multiply your total percentage points for Psychology Research Experience Through Sona by 2 and divide by 100

multiply your total percentage points for Group Discussions by 4 and divide by 100

multiply your total percentage points for Revel Quizzes by 10 and divide by 100

multiply your total percentage points for Lecture Quizzes by 30 and divide by 100

multiply your total percentage points for Final Exam by 25 and divide by 100

multiply your total percentage points for Virtual Cultural Exchange by 5 and divide by 100

multiply your total percentage points for MVL paper by 25 and divide by 100

Next, add all percentage points for each assignment category you got above up.

***Any extra credits are extras and should be added at the end!***

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Raw Points</b>	<b>Percentage of your Grade</b>
Pearson Chapter Quizzes (14 chapter-quizzes)	100	10%

Lecture Quizzes (13 quizzes)	130	30%
Group Discussions (6)	35	4%
MVL Assignment	100	24%
Virtual Exchange	5	5%
Final Exam	50	25%
Psychology Research Experience	2	2%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

### GRADING SCALE

Grade	%
<b>A</b>	94% - 100%
<b>A-</b>	90% & up
<b>B+</b>	87% & up
<b>B</b>	84% & up
<b>B-</b>	80% & up
<b>C+</b>	77% & up
<b>C</b>	74% & up

<b>C-</b>	70% & up
<b>D+</b>	67% & up
<b>D</b>	64% & up
<b>D-</b>	61% & up
<b>E</b>	<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>)