

Common Course Outline
PSYC 103
Principles of Human Growth and Development
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

PSYC 103 – 3 credits – Human Growth and Development focuses on the scientific study of the physical, socioemotional, cognitive, and personality development, that occurs over the human life span from conception until death. Topics addressed in this course include the effects of heredity, environment, and culture on human behavior and mental processes during prenatal development, infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, aging and end of life.

3 credits

Prerequisite: PSYC 101

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. define the fundamental concepts associated with the principles of human growth and development;
2. apply major human development theoretical perspectives with data derived from research to maximize potentials and/or resolve developmental issues that typically occur in each phase of life;
3. identify the advantages and disadvantages of the various research methods, including the ethical considerations, used to study human development throughout the lifespan;
4. find, evaluate, use and cite academic resources pertaining to human development topics;
5. identify the physical, socioemotional, cognitive, and personality aspects associated with each phase of life;
6. analyze the similarities and differences of diverse multicultural, international, and global perspectives in such areas as parenting styles, sexual expression, relationship patterns, treatment of different age groups, gender roles, death, dying, bereavement, and other human development topics;
7. evaluate the authenticity, timeliness, relevance, and validity of information on human development found in print, online resources, film, television, radio and other resources;
8. apply the data, concepts, and theories learned in human development to their personal, relational, social and/or workplace situations;
9. participate in analytical discussions of various topics found in human development, and
10. formulate teaching, nursing, counseling, or other professional strategies that are developmentally appropriate for a particular age group.

Major Topics

- I. Human development
 - A. Research methods
 - B. Hereditary and biological influences
 - C. Theoretical perspectives in human development
 - D. Hereditary and biological influences upon human development
- II. The role of diverse multicultural, international and global perspectives in human development
- III. Prenatal development and birth
- IV. Death, dying, and bereavement
- V. Physical, socioemotional, cognitive, and personality development during the following stages:
 - A. Prenatal
 - B. Infancy/Toddlerhood
 - C. Early Childhood
 - D. Middle Childhood
 - E. Adolescence
 - F. Young Adulthood
 - G. Middle Adulthood
 - H. Late Adulthood
- VI. Death, dying, and bereavement
- VII. Single life, companionship, marriage, divorce, remarriage
- VIII. Differences in growth and development
 - A. Sociocultural
 - B. Age
 - C. Gender
 - D. International diversity
- IX. Theoretical models pertaining to:
 - A. Moral development and possible gender differences in models of morality
 - B. Intelligence
 - C. Normative Crisis/Timing of Events Models
 - D. Life Structures Theory
 - E. Love and attraction
 - F. Role of work in phases of life
 - G. Ageing
 - H. Child-raising/parenting/education issues including role of different family structures
- X. Attitudes toward elderly, adolescents, and other age groups

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- A minimum of four exams including a comprehensive final exam.
- Multiple assignments will infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives; at least one assignment worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education Program outcomes.
 - There will be a written critical thinking assignment of at least 1000 words on a topic in human development.

- The written paper will be based on any or all of these sources: psychological research articles found in print or electronic formats, film, television, media, or a service learning project.

Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information

This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

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