Course Description: To understand the development of biological, cognitive, perceptual, motor, social, emotional, and personality processes across the life span. Such understanding will be achieved through a discussion of major psychological theories and empirical research. Throughout the semester, you will apply your knowledge and see the concepts “in action” by participating in TWO simulations that are part of the MyDevelopmentLab, called MyVirtualChild and MyVirtualLife.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify dominant theories in lifespan theories.
2. Explore research methods to study development.
3. Identify how genes and environment impact prenatal development.
4. Examine the process of birth and the unique features of the newborn.
5 - 11. Identify, explain and apply the important concepts in physical, cognitive, emotional and social development in the periods of
   - infancy.
   - early childhood
   - middle childhood
   - adolescence
   - early adulthood
   - middle adulthood
   - late adulthood

Text and Lab:


To learn more about this title visit the Pearson Higher Education catalog:

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**Requirements:**

1. **Sylabus Quiz - 10 points**
   This quiz ensures that you have read both the SYLLABUS and the MDL REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS carefully. You must *take this quiz on BlackBoard during the first few days of class*, but you may take it as many times as is necessary to earn all 10 points possible. You will earn 10 points on this quiz or 0 points. If you do not get all the items correct, you will earn zero points. If you get all the items correct, you will earn 10 points. This quiz has no time limit.

2. **Introduce Yourself Paragraph – 5 points**
   Every student should post a paragraph about him- or herself on the discussion board. Just tell us a little about you: your year in school, major, plans post-graduate, hobbies, pets, etc. Feel free to respond to other students’ introduction posts, just to be friendly!

3. **Chapter Quizzes - 18 Quizzes @ 25 pts each = 450 pts**
   You will take a quiz for each chapter through MyDevelopmentLab. These are multiple-choice quizzes with 25 questions each. Rather than administering several major exams on multiple chapters each, I am having students take the Chapter Quiz through MyDevelopmentLab after reading each chapter. This should be the time when the material is most fresh in your mind.

   I would suggest that you:
   - read each chapter thoroughly,
   - review the powerpoint presentation to reinforce and highlight the text material,
   - look over the chapter again,
   - and then take the online Chapter Quiz through MyDevelopmentLab.

   That is, I would recommend that you take each chapter exam the same day you finish reading the chapter. [NOTE: there are also other studying tools within MDL that might be helpful].

   Important information about the quizzes:
   - 18 quizzes @ 25 pts each = 450 pts. 60%
   - Quizzes are 25 question multiple choice
   - You have one hour to take each quiz
   - You will see your score and items right and wrong after quiz, but not correct answer
   - You can take the exam a SECOND time, but the questions are a new random set which may only have a few questions from your first try.
   - Your HIGHEST SCORE will be recorded.
Quizzes are NOT OPEN BOOK.
You must take the quiz if you open it.

Taking the quiz soon after reading the material, should make these quizzes somewhat easier than the traditional 50-question exam over several chapters. Please see instructions for taking these quizzes on MDL on pages 4-5 of this syllabus.
NOTE: you will be able to go directly to each quiz when you are ready to take it by using the Assignment Calendar function in MyDevelopmentLab.

4. Simulations - MVC = 100 pts; MVL = 100 pts

*MyVirtualChild* involves raising your virtual child from birth through 18 years of age. You will answer the multiple-choice questions as you go, and your decisions shape how your child develops. You do NOT have to answer the essay questions embedded into the program, but you will be participating in TWO Discussion Board activities in which you discuss the development of your child with your classmates (see below).

*MyVirtualLife* involves making decision for your virtual self as an adult from early adulthood to late adulthood. Again, you will be answering the multiple-choice questions, only, not the open-ended essay questions. Your decisions again will impact the course of your virtual self’s development. You will participate in ONE Discussion Board activity in which you discuss your adult development with your peers (see below).

NOTE: You need only answer the multiple-choice questions in both simulations in order to move forward with raising your child or living your virtual life. The open-ended questions are not required, but may be helpful to do for your own reflection of the experience (and may help you answer the DB activities, see below).

5. Discussion Board Activities – 90 points total

There are three Discussion Board Activities throughout the session that are tied to the two simulations of development. For each activity, you will post your response AND respond to at least one peer’s response.

DB #1: MVC as an Infant (20 pts for post; 10 pts for response)
DB #2: MVC Child to Adolescent (20 pts for post; 10 pts for response)
DB #3: MVL Adult Development (20 pts for post; 10 pts for response)

**Grading:** Quizzes, MVC and MVL, and Discussion Board activities are worth 755 POINTS. Letter grades (A through F; +/- grading) will be assigned on a traditional distribution curve: 93%+ = A; 90 – 92% = A-; 87 – 89% = B+; 83 – 86% = B; 80 – 82% = B-; 77 – 79% = C+; 73 – 76% = C; 70 – 72% = C-; 67 – 69% = D+; 63 – 66% = D; 60 – 62% = D-; below 60% = F.
### Course Grading

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<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<td>Chapter Quizzes</td>
<td>18 quizzes @ 25 points</td>
<td>450 pts</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
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<td>1.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduce Yourself</td>
<td>On DB</td>
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<td>DB #1, #2, and #3</td>
<td>20 pts for original post, 10 pts for reply to classmate, 3 activities @30 pts ea</td>
<td>90 pts total</td>
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<tr>
<td>My Virtual Child (MVC)</td>
<td>Raising child from birth to 18 yrs</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>My Virtual Life (MVL)</td>
<td>Raising adult self from young adulthood to older adulthood</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>13%</td>
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**Weekly Schedule:** This is found on BlackBoard. Discussion Board Activities will be due by Saturday night of that week, and Quizzes will be due by Sunday night of that week. The exception is the last week of class when the DB and the Quizzes will be due Friday night. See the detailed schedule for each week on Blackboard.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION, BELOW!**

**Using Blackboard (Bb):**
Your login is the FIRST 8 CHARACTERS OF YOUR BearMail ADDRESS and your password is your STUDENT number.

You can find more info about your classes, and about this class in particular, if you go to URSA (go to UNC’s homepage at www.unco.edu then select “current students,” type in your URSA log-in info. From there you can check your course schedule, and the info for this ONLINE class (including login info) is there for you. This will also take you directly to Blackboard if you like, or you can get there by going to bb.unco.edu . You can also visit URSA to determine your BearMail address.

**Using MyDevelopmentLab:**
You will use MDL to take all of your Chapter Quizzes. After registering for MDL and for MVC, you will find that one of the most important parts of MDL will be the “Assignment Calendar” function.
It is critical that you change the default TIMEZONE TO MOUNTAIN TIME so that your calendar will show the correct due dates for your quizzes. This is done in the first few steps when you first logon to MDL and you make sure your browser is up-to-date, your pop ups are not blocked, etc.

You will use MDL to take all of your Chapter Quizzes. After registering for MDL and for MVC, you will find that one of the most important parts of MDL will be the “Assignment Calendar” function. It is critical that you change the default TIMEZONE TO MOUNTAIN TIME (see above) so that your calendar will show the correct due dates for your quizzes.

When you click on Assignment Calendar on the left side of the screen, it will bring you to a calendar for all of your assignments and due dates for quizzes, discussion board posts, and Parent Forums. When you click on a date with an icon for assignments that need to be completed, you will see the list of quizzes, as well as notes from me about other tasks to be done by that date. Importantly, you can click right on the quiz on the list and MDL will take you directly to that quiz.

You should not open the quiz until you are prepared to take it (and have 60 minutes available to take it). Remember that you are given the opportunity to take a quiz on a chapter TWICE (it is not the identical quiz) and I will be recording your HIGHEST score.

**Technical Issues:**
I can answer SOME technical questions, but your best bet is the UNC HELP DESK, which is available to answer questions about everything 24/7/365. Their local phone number is 970-351-HELP (970-351-4357). They also have a toll free number which is 1-800-545-2331 and you can get help online at [http://www.unco.edu/blackboard/supportu.html](http://www.unco.edu/blackboard/supportu.html)

Have your Bear number handy when you call.

**Academic Honesty:**
In order to encourage and foster academic excellence, the University expects students to conduct themselves in accordance with certain generally accepted norms of scholarship and professional behaviors. Academic misconduct is an unacceptable activity in scholarship and is in conflict with academic and professional ethics and morals. The University of Northern Colorado’s Student Code of Conduct and Honor Code strictly prohibit any form of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and knowingly or recklessly encouraging or making possible any act of plagiarism, cheating, or fabrication. Academic misconduct is an unacceptable activity in scholarship and is in conflict with academic and professional ethics and morals. All incidents of alleged plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will be investigated and violations of academic integrity will result in a consequence that may be as severe as an F in the class and a recommendation for expulsion.
For more information on plagiarism and appropriate paraphrasing, please see:
http://www.unco.edu/dos/pdf/StudentCodeofConduct.pdf
http://www.unco.edu/dos/honor_code/index.html

**Disability Access and CEBS Diversity Statement:**
Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in the class are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 as soon as possible to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. Please submit forms to me prior to quizzes and exams. You do not need to share with me specific details about your disability unless you choose to do so. I will respect your privacy.

The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences (CEBS) supports an inclusive learning environment where diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, appreciated and recognized as a source of strength. We expect that students, faculty and staff within CEBS will be accepting of differences and demonstrate diligence in understanding how other peoples’ perspectives, behaviors, and world views may be different from their own. Furthermore, as stated by UNC, “The University will not engage in unlawful discrimination in...educational services against any person because of race, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability, or veteran status. It is the University’s policy to prohibit discrimination in...educational services on the basis of sexual orientation or political affiliation.” (See http://www.unco.edu/hr/AAEO_TitleIX.htm)

Please visit the CEBS Diversity and Equity Committee website for more information on our commitment to diversity (http://www.unco.edu/cebs/diversity).

**Communication between Students and the Instructor:**
Students are encouraged to stay in contact with the instructor to ensure that all questions are answered and all assignments are clearly understood. The following procedures are recommended for communicating with the instructor:

- Use the discussion board forums to ask any questions or make general comments about that you think may be useful and of interest to the other students in the class. The instructor will attempt to answer all questions posted on the discussion board within 24-36 hours. Students are welcome to respond to other students’ questions and comments that are posted on the discussion board.
- Send e-mail to the instructor to ask questions about private issues, such as a score that you received on an exam or project. I would recommend sending your emails to me through BlackBoard, but if you send an email to me outside of BlackBoard, always include “PSY 230 online” in the subject line of the message. marilyn.welsh@unco.edu
- The instructor will post important information, such as revised deadlines or
reminders of tasks that need to be done, on the Announcements page of UNC’s blackboard. Check the announcements regularly.

**Additional Instructions/Pointers/Troubleshooting Information:**

**General Strategies for Success**
If you have taken a course in a condensed semester format before, you know that a primary challenge is simply keeping up with the faster pace, relative to a 15 week semester. I am giving you some flexibility with regard to turning in assignments and taking exams, but it is important that you discipline yourself to work on this class almost every day throughout the interim session.

Take careful note of the due dates for the requirements for each Unit. Do not be late in completing class requirements.

Communicate with the instructor by email and discussion board regarding your questions and concerns.

**E-Mail Addresses:** I cannot be responsible for e-mails that you do not receive because you’re checking an e-mail account that is other than your UNC/BearMaill account.

**Blackboard Test-Taking Tips (for the Syllabus Quiz only):**
Use a computer with a fast internet connection, if possible. Computers with slow, dial-up connections are not recommended, although I have been told that they will work.

**Some Student Resources:**
- Psychology Department, McKee 0014, 1-2957
- Tutorial Assistance, Michener L-120, 1-1905
- Counseling Center, Gordon Hall, 1-2496

**Note:** Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Disability Access Center at 1-2289 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.