Course Description:
This course provides an overview of human growth and development from conception through senescence and focuses on cognitive, affective, social, and psychomotor development.

Course Overview:
I am excited to share my enthusiasm about human development! This course is designed to develop your knowledge of various key developmental theories, explore critical research findings pertaining to development, and build your awareness of developmental needs and capabilities in various domains (e.g., self, emotional, cognitive, physical, social, moral). This course will also focus on the influences of nature and nurture, as well as the important dynamic interaction between both nature and nurture on development as highlighted by the epigenetic theory of development. Distinctions between the various periods of the lifespan will also be highlighted.

successful development can be described as “the relative maximization of gains and the minimization of losses” (Baltes, 1997, p. 367).

Knowledge and Skill Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course students will:
1. Understand the nature and needs of persons at all developmental levels and in multicultural contexts (CACREP II.G.3).
2. Understand theories of individual and family development and transitions across the life span (CACREP II.G.3.a).
3. Understand theories of learning and personality development, including current understandings about neurobiological behavior (CACREP II.G.3.b).
4. Understand effects of crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events on persons of all ages (CACREP II.G.3.c).
5. Understand theories and models of individual, cultural, couple, family, and community resilience (CACREP II.G.3.d).
7. Understand human behavior, including an understanding of developmental crises, disability, psychopathology, and situational and environmental factors that affect both normal and abnormal behavior (CACREP II.G.3.f).
8. Know theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors, including strategies for prevention, intervention, and treatment (CACREP II.G.3.g).
9. Understand theories for facilitating optimal development and wellness over the life span (CACREP II.G.3.h).

**Human Growth and Development Rubric:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge Learning Outcome Assessed</th>
<th>Exemplary</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Partially Proficient</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Development</strong> Student demonstrates an understanding of the theories of individual and family development across the lifespan.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a superior level of understanding of the theories of individual and family development across the lifespan. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a basic, entry-level understanding of the theories of individual and family development across the lifespan. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a limited understanding of the theories of individual and family development across the lifespan. The student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a lack of understanding of the theories of individual and family development across the lifespan. The student performs well below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Theories</strong> Student demonstrates knowledge and skill in applying learning theories in order to help a client learn new thought patterns and life skills.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a superior knowledge and skill in applying learning theories in order to help a client learn new thought patterns and life skills. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates basic, entry-level knowledge and skill in applying learning theories in order to help a client learn new thought patterns and life skills. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates limited knowledge and skill in applying learning theories in order to help a client learn new thought patterns and life skills. The student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a lack of knowledge and skill in applying learning theories in order to help a client learn new thought patterns and life skills. The student performs well below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theories of normal and abnormal personality development</strong> Student demonstrates an understanding of the theories of normal and abnormal personality</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a superior understanding of the theories of normal and abnormal personality</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a basic, entry-level understanding of the theories of normal and abnormal personality</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a limited understanding of the theories of normal and abnormal personality development. The student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>development. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>development. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Addictions and addictive behaviors</strong>&lt;br&gt;Student demonstrates knowledge and application of the theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a superior knowledge and application of the theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a basic, entry-level knowledge and application of the theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Framework for Abilities</strong>&lt;br&gt;Student has knowledge and the ability to apply a general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differential interventions.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a superior knowledge and ability to apply a general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differential interventions. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a basic, entry-level knowledge of and ability to apply a general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differential interventions. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a limited ability to understand and apply a general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differential interventions. The student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a lack of ability to understand and apply a general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differential interventions. The student performs well below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Factors</strong>&lt;br&gt;Student demonstrates an understanding of biological, neurological, environmental, systemic and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning and</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a superior understanding of biological, neurological, environmental, systemic and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning and</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a basic, entry-level understanding of biological, neurological, environmental, systemic and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning and</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a limited understanding of biological, neurological, environmental, systemic and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning and behavior. The student performs</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a lack of understanding of biological, neurological, environmental, systemic and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning and behavior. The student performs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Behavior. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Behavior. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

well below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

**Effects of Trauma**

Student demonstrates a superior understanding of the effects of crisis, disasters, and trauma on diverse individuals across the lifespan. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student demonstrates a basic, entry-level understanding of the effects of crisis, disasters, and trauma on diverse individuals across the lifespan. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student demonstrates a limited understanding of the effects of crisis, disasters, and trauma on diverse individuals across the lifespan. The student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student demonstrates a lack of understanding of the effects of crisis, disasters, and trauma on diverse individuals across the lifespan. The student performs well below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

**Wellness**

Student demonstrates ethical and culturally relevant strategies for promoting resilience and optimum development and wellness across the lifespan. The student performs well above what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student demonstrates basic, entry-level ethical and culturally relevant strategies for promoting resilience and optimum development and wellness across the lifespan. The student performs equivalent to what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student demonstrates limited ethical and culturally relevant strategies for promoting resilience and optimum development and wellness across the lifespan. The student performs somewhat below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

Student demonstrates a lack of ethical and culturally relevant strategies for promoting resilience and optimum development and wellness across the lifespan. The student performs well below what would be expected of an entry-level counselor.

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**Required Readings:**


This textbook can be purchased from the following website: [http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/life-span-human-development-for-helping-professionals-9780133785647](http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/life-span-human-development-for-helping-professionals-9780133785647) or through the UNC bookstore. For this course, YOU WILL NOT NEED TO PURCHASE ANY ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FROM THE PUBLISHER OR OTHERWISE. There should be used copies available for purchase at the UNC bookstore. The bookstore is generally able to ship the textbook to you so that you receive within a couple of days of purchase. It is critical that you purchase and receive your textbook with ample time in advance.
of the start of the course so that your readings and participation in the course aren’t negatively impacted.

You will also be required to read specific chapters and articles from resources outside of the textbook. These readings are posted on Canvas and/or are available through the electronic databases accessed through the Michener Library (https://www.unco.edu/library/databases/).

Please bring your textbook and additional required journal articles to all class meetings. You are expected to read all assigned readings prior to class. Reading before class will help you understand and integrate the lecture material and help you to contribute to the depth of classroom discussions. Please note, lectures will supplement and expand upon the readings, and will not simply repeat it. If you have any questions from the readings, please ask.

**Class Format:**
This course will combine powerpoint-supported lectures, video clips depicting key developmental milestones or findings, class discussion, in-class group activities, small group discussions, and various assignments to illustrate, discuss, and challenge your thinking about the relationships between theory, research, and clinical/school-based work that effect development. My hope is to make the class as interactive as possible as we explore a variety of developmental psychology topics to ignite critical thinking and discussion. If possible, please bring your laptop computers or tablet/ipads to each class meeting.

Self-analysis is an important component in building our understanding of ourselves, and therefore important to counseling. This is a course that will involve self-introspection, self-examination, and some degree of sharing personal information with the class. Therefore, students must be sensitive to the right to privacy of other students. It is important to be discrete and appropriate in your personal sharing in our classroom. Also, be very mindful of what personal information you post onto Canvas. It is important to self-disclose about yourself; but also, to be very mindful of what you share in class and not to share those personal things that you might regret sharing at some later point. Further, you must be sensitive to the privacy of your fellow students, and that all information shared during the course should remain CONFIDENTIAL.

**Obligations of the Student:**
1) Complete readings before class, 2) Arrive to each class on time each day, 3) Thoughtfully participate in the class (i.e., during discussions, actively integrating new information into your repertoire of knowledge, considering alternative perspectives highlighted during the course), 4) Prepare for and thoughtfully complete the exam, papers, presentations, and in-class assignments, and 5) Turn in papers and other assignments at designated time.

**Honor Code**
The UNC Honor Code is below:

“All members of the University of Northern Colorado community are entrusted with the responsibility to uphold and promote five fundamental values: **Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness**, and **Responsibility**. These core elements foster an atmosphere, inside and outside of the classroom, which serves as a foundation and guides the UNC community’s academic, professional, and personal growth. Endorsement of these core elements by students, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees strengthens the integrity and value of our academic climate.”

http://www.unco.edu/dos/honor_code.htm
Accommodations Statement:
Students who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Disability Support Services, voice/TTY (970) 351-2289, or fax (970) 351-4166, or visit www.unco.edu/dss as soon as possible to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Inclusivity Statement:
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, administrators and staff within CEBS will respect differences and demonstrate diligence in understanding how other peoples’ perspectives, behaviors, and worldviews may be different from their own.

Personal Considerations:
Psychology courses may occasionally touch upon topics that students find personally distressing in some way. If you experience a reaction of this type, please feel free to discuss it with me or someone at the Student Counseling Center 970-351-2496.

Other Policies/Deadlines:
You are solely responsible for knowing all relevant academic policies (e.g., incompletes, inclement weather, academic dishonesty) and deadlines (e.g., the last day to drop a course) that pertain to this course, as described in the university bulletin and course schedule.

Plagiarism:
When you present information, you should (a) use your own words to express your own ideas; (b) use your own words to express someone else’s ideas and cite the source; and/or (c) put quotes around someone else’s words and cite the source. If you violate these rules, you will receive a zero on the assignment. If you continue to violate these rules on any course assignments, you will fail the class.

Cell Phones/Classroom Behavior:
Please be vigilant and ensure that your cell phone is absolutely off during class. Please no ringing, no text messaging, etc. If you have an emergency, step outside to use your phone. Same is true for using the restroom, getting a drink, etc. Please do not carry-on secondary conversations during class. Give your classmates and the instructor the respect they deserve when they are contributing to the discussion by listening to what they have to say.

Use of Laptops:
Use of laptops for note-taking in class is a privilege, not a right. Any indication that laptops are being used to check email, to surf the internet, or to engage in any activity other than note-taking will result in loss of this privilege.

Library Services for Distance Education and Off-Campus Students: Obtaining Materials from UNC Libraries:
Off-campus students residing within 50 miles of the UNC campus are required to come to the library and borrow materials in person. Students residing more than 50 miles from campus may request that materials be delivered to them. All requests must include complete citations. We will supply materials from the UNC Libraries, as well as materials from other libraries obtained via
Interlibrary Loan. Articles will be delivered via email. Books will be mailed first class. Delivery time by U.S. postal service is approximately 1 week. It is the responsibility of the student to return books by the date due. UNC does not pay return postage on books. For information on document delivery, call (970) 351-1446.

Requests for materials may be made through the following methods:
- Online: http://www.unco.edu/library/forms/distancerequest.htm
- By email: library.ocp@unco.edu
- By fax: (970) 351-2540

**Student Satisfaction Evaluation:**
Students will be asked to evaluate the course for instructor’s knowledge, interest and enthusiasm as well as providing additional information on classes or topics which you would like to see developed as a future offering from UNC.

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**Evaluation:**

1) A series of in-class assignments are worth 15 points total. Assignments will be designed to build critical thinking and analytical skills pertaining to developmental psychology. Some of the assignments will be designed to be completed in small groups and others will be meant to be completed individually. You must be present in class and actively participate in the assignment in order to earn points for each of the assignments.

2) A jigsaw presentation & handout is worth 15 points. The jigsaw presentations will take place during class on *July 14th*. Each group will read and be responsible for teaching their peers about a particular area of study that relates to lifespan development. This assignment will be described in more detail in class and the guidelines will be posted to Canvas. Time in class will be allotted to work on most of this group assignment.

3) A developmental autobiography is due on *July 18th* by 11:59 pm. Please post this assignment to Canvas. This paper is worth 15 points. The guidelines for this assignment are included below:

This assignment sets the stage for connecting personal experiences to psychological literature on human development. I do not intend for this assignment to be intrusive or to make students uncomfortable. I do hope, however, that the assignment will provoke students’ analysis of their own developmental process and help them to see the relevance of developmental concepts for their own lives to then help build insight that is useful in their future professional work. Analyzing their own personal narratives will give rise to their analyses of their clients’ narratives. The following are the basic questions for students to read and consider in preparing their paper.

Students can choose to answer any of the questions in Part A (see note on Part A below, which offers alternative ways to complete this section of the assignment if so desired), and then answer all of Part B and Part C.

**Part A: Your Life (2- to 2 ½ pages)**

1. Describe your family. How many people were in your family during your childhood years?

Did your family structure change (e.g., divorce of parents, death of a family member, inclusion of grandparent in the home, addition of a sibling)?
2. Was there anything unusual about your birth (e.g., were you born early, you are a twin, longer stay in hospital, low birth weight)?

3. Were there any notable circumstances during your infancy (e.g., a sibling was born, move, parent job change)?

4. What do you remember about your early childhood, from about 2 to 6 years of age (e.g., did you go to preschool? Who did you play with? What kinds of fantasies and pretend play did you participate in? What scared you?)

5. What are your most vivid memories about middle childhood, from about 6 to 10 years of age (e.g., who were your friends? How did you do in school? What did you do in your free time? What kind of identity did you develop (as a boy or girl? as a member of an ethnic or cultural group)? What kind of chores did you have at home? How did your family make sense of the meaning of life?)

6. What was your adolescence like, from about 10 to 18 years of age (e.g., what do you remember about your search for an identity? What were your close friends like? What other kinds of peer interactions did you have? What were your romantic relationships (or desires) like? How did you find school? Did you participate in any extracurricular activities? What did you do to explore the boundaries of acceptable behavior—for example, trying risky behaviors?)

7. What accomplishments and struggles have you had as a young adult, from about 18 to 30 years of age (e.g., how have you negotiated your personal relationships? What kinds of jobs have you had? What personal changes have been most satisfying?)

8. What have been your experiences, if applicable, during middle adulthood, from about 30 to 60 years of age (e.g., What responsibilities have you had? How have your relationships changed in some ways and remained stable in others? How have you both changed and remained stable? In what areas in your life do you gain the most satisfaction?)

Note on Part A. If you prefer not to examine your own life, you may choose to write about another person or report on a published biography or autobiography. If you choose the former option, make sure that you give the person a pseudonym. If you choose the latter option, provide a full reference.

Part B. A Lifespan Framework (½ to 1 page)

Prior to completing this section, read Chapter 1 from the textbook; this chapter includes information about themes in development including a section on major issues in development. Choose three of the following themes/issues and apply them to your life by answering the following questions: How have you demonstrated one or both of the dimensions? How have the dimensions been influential in your development?

- Sensitive periods and brain plasticity
- Continuous/incremental change vs. discontinuous/stage-like change (consider transformative experiences as an example of discontinuity)
- Cultural universality and cultural specificity
- Actively constructing developmental change vs. passivity

Part C. Stress and Resiliency (½ to 1 page)

Please be specific when answering the following questions for this section. What characteristics of your nature and nurture resulted in stressors? What characteristics of your nature and nurture resulted in buffers and ultimately resiliency against those stressors?
Your paper should be double spaced, have 12-point font, and 1-inch margins. The 3-4 page paper will be assessed based on thoughtful inclusion of the above points (e.g., an easy-to-read description of one’s own or another’s personal life in A, accurate application of concepts in B, and thoughtful analysis of C), clarity in writing, organized ideas, thoughtful analysis overall, and absence of spelling and grammar errors.

4) A critical written reflection on an addictions and development article is worth 10 points. The written post will be due by 11:59 pm on *July 24th*. The written reflection will be posted to the class discussion board on Canvas. Participation in a class discussion on addictions and development is required in-person during class on Friday, July 26th. This assignment will be described in more detail in class and the guidelines will be posted to Canvas.

5) A developmental analysis handout and short presentation about a developmental milestone or developmental event OR an empirically supported intervention (that is relatable to a developmental milestone or event) is worth 20 points. You will sign up to present on *July 27th or July 28th*. This assignment will be described in more detail in class and the guidelines will be posted to Canvas. The handout and copies of the first page of the journal articles reviewed should be submitted to me upon arrival to class on the day of your presentation.

6) There is a final exam worth 25 points. The final exam questions and your responses are due by 11:59 pm on *August 2nd* (post this completed exam to Canvas). The final exam is cumulative. The final exam is a take-home exam that is comprised predominantly of short answer and essay questions. The final exam must be completed individually but reference to your notes, textbook, and other readings is permitted. All responses should be written in complete sentences. The final exam will be graded based on accuracy and clarity of responses as well as appropriate grammar and spelling.

**Final Course Grade:**
You will receive a final grade based on the total number of points you obtain. The scheme for assignment of final grades is as follows:

- **A** 94-100 points
- **B** 80-83 points
- **D+** 67-69 points
- **A-** 90-93 points
- **C+** 77-79 points
- **D** 64-66 points
- **B+** 87-89 points
- **C** 74-76 points
- **D-** 60-63 points
- **B** 84-86 points
- **C-** 70-73 points
- **F** 59 points and below

**Calculation of Course Grade:**

In-class Assignments (*July 12-14 & 26-28*):

Jigsaw Assignment (*July 14*):

Developmental Autobiography (*July 18*):

Review of Addictions and Development Article (*July 24 & 26*):

Analysis of Development Handout and Presentation (*July 27 or 28*):

Final Exam (*August 2*):

Total: __________________ (100 total points possible)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading Topic/s</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/12</td>
<td>Organizing Themes in Development</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13</td>
<td>Neural and Cognitive Development in the Early Years</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Emotional Development in the Early Years</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Emerging Self and Socialization in the Early Years</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/14</td>
<td>Realms of Cognition in Middle Childhood</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/26</td>
<td>Gender and Peer Relationships: Middle Childhood</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Through Early Adolescence</td>
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<td>The Social World of Adolescence</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/27</td>
<td>Socioemotional and Vocational Development in Young Adulthood</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<td>Middle Adulthood: Cognitive, Personality, and Social Development</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/28</td>
<td>Living Well: Stress, Coping, and Life Satisfaction in Adulthood</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gains and Losses in Late Adulthood</td>
<td>Chapter 15 (pages 569-578)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = indicates required articles to read that can be accessed via Canvas or by doing a search through a database at UNC’s Michener Library.
## Student Assessment of CACREP Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CACREP Standard</th>
<th>Course Activities</th>
<th>Student Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Understand the nature and needs of persons at all developmental levels and in multicultural contexts *(CACREP II.G.3)* | -Textbook Readings  
-Required Reading- | • Final Exam Questions  
• Developmental Autobiography  
• Analysis of Development Handout and Presentation |
| Understand theories of individual and family development and transitions across the life span *(CACREP II.G.3.a)* | -Textbook Readings  
-Class Lectures  
| Understand theories of learning and personality development, including current understandings about neurobiological behavior *(CACREP II.G.3.b)* | -Textbook Readings  
-Class Lectures | • Final Exam Questions |
• In Class Discussion: risk and resilience  
• Developmental Autobiography |
• Developmental Autobiography |
| Have a general framework for                                                                 | -Textbook Readings  
-Video case study of Jake  
-Required Reading- Baron-Cohen, | • Final Exam Questions  
• Analysis of |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
• Jigsaw presentation and handout |       |
| Understand human behavior, including an understanding of developmental crises, disability, psychopathology, and situational and environmental factors that affect both normal and abnormal behavior (CACREP II.G.3.f) | -Textbook Readings  
| Know theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors, including strategies for prevention, intervention, and treatment (CACREP II.G.3.g) | -Required Additional Reading on Addictions  
-Required discussion board post review of addictions and development  
-Required in class discussion about addictions and development | - Reflections and Discussion of Addictions and Development  
• In Class Assignment: Analysis of addictive behaviors from differing theoretical perspectives |       |
| Understand theories for facilitating optimal development and wellness over the life span (CACREP II.G.3.h) | -Class lectures  
-Textbook Readings  
• Final Exam Questions  
• In class assignment: what can we learn about those that live in the “blue zones”? |       |