Developmental Psychology, PSYC 2120-501
Summer 2026, Micah Cordova

Contact
Zoom Meetings: Monday from 9:00-9:40a & 3:00-3:40p @ https://unm.zoom.us/launch/chat?src=direct_chat_link&email=m4s4co3@unm.edu
Email: m4s4co3@unm.edu or message via UNM Canvas "Inbox"

Description
According to UNM's Academic Catalog, this course is the "study of human physical and psychological change and stability from a lifespan development perspective."

Materials
UNM Canvas @ https://canvas.unm.edu/.
This includes Lectures, Homework, Readings, Texts, and other resources.
Text (optional): Berger, K.S. (2016). *Invitation To The Life Span, Third Edition*. Worth Publishers: New York.

Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

a. Explain how the scientific method and psychological research methodologies are used to study lifespan development.
b. Recall key terms, concepts, and theories in the areas of neuroscience, learning, memory, cognition, intelligence, motivation and emotion, personality, health, disorders and therapies, and social psychology which better inform lifespan development.
c. Explain how information provided in this course can be applied to life in the real world.
d. Identify the major theoretical schools of thought that exist in developmental psychology as they relate to the self, culture, and society.

Practical outomces (or praxis):

1. A *critical understanding* of psychology from history through sociality.
2. The ability to *create* psychological *material*.
3. To *teach* psychological *tools* to one another.
4. A *functional perspective* of psychology's use in our lives.
5. To *develop* psychological *relationships* with each other.

Attendance
Be present, be respectful, be yourself, and use your own mind. Unethical behavior is subject to the UNM Student Code of Conduct found @ Student Code of Conduct. Each week is worth 5 points, with those points obtained through attendance of 1 Zoom Meeting or 3 Discussion posts related to the Readings. Discussion posts include your answer to a provided question, and 2 replies to classmates. Students who are dropped by an instructor for non-attendance will be notified at their UNM e-mail address. If the student believes a mistake has been made, contact the instructor within two (2) working days of receipt of the drop notification.

Coursework
Attendance = 5 points (pts) x 8 weeks = 40 pts total (1 Zoom Meeting or 3 Discussion posts)
Readings & Notes = 10 pts x 6 readings = 60 pts total (1 Reading with Notes per week)
Homework = 25 pts x 4 assignments = 100 pts total (due 2 weeks after assigned)
Quizzes = 25 pts x 2 = 50 pts (essay and drawing)
Final Exam = 50 pts x 1 = 50 pts total (multiple choice)

Grades

300 total points may be accumulated. Each assignment has a grading rubric (to be discussed). Additional points may be added by completing Extra Credit (tbd). Make-up work is accepted if discussed**.** Grades are based on the following scale:

A (100-97% = A+; 96.9-93 = A; 92.9-90 = A-) B (89.9-87 = B+; 86.9-83 = B; 82.9-80 = B-)
C (79.9-77 = C+; 76.9-73 = C; 72.9-70 = C-) D (69.9-67 = D+; 66.9-63 = D; 62.9-60 = D-)

Syllabus

Week/Date	Lectures	Text Chapters	Readings	Coursework
1/June 1-7	Prenatal	1 & 2	1	Readings & Notes HW1 - Prenatal
2/June 8-14	Infancy	3 & 4	2	Quiz 1 Review
3/June 15-21	Childhood	5-7	3	Quiz 1 - Prenatal & Infancy HW2 - Childhood
4/June 22-28	Adolescence	8-10	4	
5/June 29-July 5	Adulthood	11-13	5	HW3 - Adol. & Adulthood Quiz 2 Review
6/July 6-12	Aging	14-15	6	Quiz 2 - Adol. & Adulthood HW4 - Adulthood
7/July 13-19	Study Week			Final Exam Review
8/July 20-Aug. 2	Finals Week			Final Exam

Readings & Notes

1. Prenatal - Murphy Paul, Annie. (2010). *Origins: How the nine months before birth shape the rest of our lives*. Hay House. Pgs. 9-47.

2. Infancy - Darwin, Charles. (1877). A biographical sketch of an infant. In *Mind: A Quarterly Review of Psychology and Philosophy*, 2(7): 285-294.

3. Childhood - Hern, Matt (Editor). (2008). *Everywhere all the time: A new deschooling reader*. Oakland, CA: AK Press. Pgs. 1-48.

4. Adolescence - Kardaras, Nicholas. (2022). *Digital madness: How social media is driving our mental health crisis-and how to restore our sanity*. St. Martin's Press. Pgs. 6-53.

5. Adulthood - Duchinsky, R., Forslund, T., & Granqvist, P. (2024). *The psychology of attachment*. Routledge. Pgs. 75-106.

6. Aging - Alexander, Eben. (2012). *Proof of heaven: A neurosurgeon's journey into the afterlife*. Simon & Schuster. Pgs. 7-42.

Weekly Schedule (Starts on Monday and ends on Sunday)

6/1/2026 - 6/7/2026 - Week 1 - Prenatal
- Introduce Course Outline & Syllabus and Readings & Notes
- Assign Readings & Notes 1 - Prenatal - *Origins*
  - Due 6/7/2026
- Assign Homework 1 - Prenatal - Biography of Prenatal Conditions
  - Due 6/14/2026

6/8/2026 - 6/14/2026 - Week 2 - Infancy
- Assign Readings & Notes 2 - Infancy - "A Biographical Sketch..."
  - Due 6/14/2026
- Quiz 1 - Prenatal & Infancy Study Review

6/15/2026 - 6/21/2026 - Week 3 - Childhood
- Assign Readings & Notes 3 - Childhood - *Everywhere All The TIme*
  - Due 6/21/2026
- Assign Quiz 1 - Prenatal & Infancy
  - Due 6/21/2026
- Assign Homework 2 - Childhood - An Experimental Childhood
  - Due 6/28/2026

06/22/2026 - 06/28/2026 - Week 4 - Adolescence
- Assign Readings & Notes 4 - Adolescence - *Digital Madness*
  - Due 6/28/2026

06/29/2026 - 7/5/2026 - Week 5 - Adulthood
- Assign Readings & Notes 5 - Adulthood - *The Psychology Of Attachment*
  - Due 7/5/2026
- Assign Homework 3 - Adolescence & Adulthood - Emotional Praxis
  - Due 07/12/2026
- Quiz 2 - Adolescence & Adulthood Study Review

7/6/2026 - 7/12/2026 - Week 6 - Aging
- Assign Readings & Notes 6 - Aging - *Proof Of Heaven*
  - Due 7/12/2026
- Assign Quiz 2 - Adolescence & Adulthood
  - Due 07/12/2026
- Assign Homework 4 - Adulthood - Emotional Praxis Shared
  - Due 7/19/2026

7/13/2026 - 7/19/2026 - Week 7 - Study Week
- Final Exam Review

7/20/2026 - 8/2/2026 - Week 8 - Finals Week
- Final Exam
  - Due 8/2/2026

Statements Mandated by UNM and/or federal law
Credit-hour statement: This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for two 40-minute sessions of direct instruction for eight weeks during the Summer 2026 semester. Please plan for a minimum of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

Accommodations: UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact the UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu. Or the UNM-Albuquerque Accessibility Resource Center (https://arc.unm.edu/) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506.

Title IX: The University of New Mexico and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and providing an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. The University's programs and activities, including the classroom, should always provide a space of mutual respect, kindness, and support without fear of harassment, violence, or discrimination. Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of assigned sex at birth, sex characteristics, pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity. If you have encountered any form of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, we encourage you to report this to the University. You can access the confidential resources available on campus at the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (https://loborespect.unm.edu), the Women's Resource Center (https://women.unm.edu), and the LGBTQ Resource Center (https://lgbtqrc.unm.edu). If you speak with an instructor (including a TA or a GA) regarding an incident connected to discrimination on the basis of sex, they must notify UNM's Title IX Coordinator that you shared an experience relating to Title IX, even if you ask the instructor not to disclose it. The Title IX Coordinator is available to assist you in understanding your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct and reporting, please see https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html and CEEO's website.

If you are pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related condition, you may contact UNM's Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity at ceeo@unm.edu. The CEEO staff will provide you with access to available resources and supportive measures and assist you in understanding your rights.