

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2025	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	PSYC240		
Course Title	Developmental Psychology		
Prerequisites	PSYC/DATA190 Research Design		
Course Instructor	LAW Wai Him Crystal	Year Available (Grade Level)	2
Subject Area	Psychology	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	This course introduces students to the fundamental theories, empirical findings, and practical applications in developmental psychology, providing a comprehensive understanding of the cognitive, social, and emotional changes that occur from prenatal stages through adolescence. Emphasis is placed on understanding both the normative developmental patterns and the individual variations that emerge as a function of different socialization agents such as parents, socioeconomic conditions, and cultural influences.
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	The syllabus is subject to annual review and revision to incorporate insights and feedback from the previous year's course evaluations
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	Not applicable
Learning Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Appreciate the importance of a developmental perspective in understanding human behaviour and cognition and apply it to analyze human development. ·Communicate an understanding of the developmental perspective and its significance in written and oral formats. ·Identify patterns of change and individual differences in cognitive, social, and emotional development across different life stages. ·Understand and evaluate research methodologies in developmental psychology, critically assessing their findings to address key questions in human development. ·Investigate and critically appraise the impact of socializing agents on development, considering parental practices, socioeconomic conditions, and cultural norms.

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2
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iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning/Flipped Classroom/Discussion, Debate/Group Work				
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	Not applicable				
Use of ICT	Google form, Google classroom				
Contents of class preparation and review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must complete the recommended readings provided by instructors. Exams, quizzes, and in-class written assignments will draw from lecture slides and class material. Attendance is crucial, and taking notes and engaging in class activities are key parts of preparation for exams and quizzes. Review all class content post-lecture to prepare effectively. 	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	3 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	3 hours
Feedback Methods	1. Constructive feedback and feedforward on assignments 2. Post-exam reviews discussing correct answers and exam performance 3. Additional feedback or guidance provided during individual meetings with the instructor upon request				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Scientific Report	20%	
Mid-term exam	30%	
Final exam	35%	
in-class assessment	15%	

Required Textbook(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture notes Siegler, R., Saffran, J. R., Eisenberg, N., DeLoache, J., & Gershoff, E. (2020). How Children Develop, 6th Edition. Worth Publishers, New York.
Other Reading Materials/URL	Not applicable

Plagiarism Policy	Plagiarism is the dishonest presentation of the work of others as if it were one's own. Duplicate submission is also treated as plagiarism. All plagiarized text on your assignment will not be graded and this will very likely lead to failing. The repeated act of plagiarism will be reported to the University which may apply additional penalties.
Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	Not applicable

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Week 1: Introduction (1) Course and assessment overview (2) Anonymous survey
Class 2	(3) Themes, theories, methods
Class 3	Week 2: Infant Perception and Cognition (1) Fetal Experience, Fetal Learning (2) Intro to Experimental Design
Class 4	(3) Visual Perception (4) Piaget, Info-Processing
Class 5	Week 3: Infant Perception and Motor Development (1) Auditory Perception
Class 6	(2) Motor Development
Class 7	Week 4: Learning and Memory (1) Habituation (2) Learning, Conditioning
Class 8	(3) Memory (4) Written Assignment assigned (due in week 12)
Class 9	Week 5: Language development (1) Sensitive period for language development
Class 10	(2) Process of Language Acquisition

Class 11	Week 6: Conceptual Development (1) Representational understanding
Class 12	(2) Theory of mind (3) Causality
Class 13	Week 7: Emotional Development (1) Emotions
Class 14	(2) Temperament (3) Internalizing Mental Disorders
Class 15	Week 8: Mid-term exam (1) Mid wrap-up
Class 16	(2) Mid-term Exam
Class 17	Week 9: Attachment (1) Attachment Theory
Class 18	(2) Attachment Security
Class 19	Week 10: Development of The Self - I (1) Self-Concept
Class 20	(2) Self-Esteem
Class 21	Week 11: Development of The Self - II (1) Identity I
Class 22	(1) Identity II
Class 23	Week 12: The Family (1) Family Dynamics
Class 24	(2) Parenting

Class 25	Week 13: Peer Relationships (1) Play (2) Developmental Changes in Friendship
Class 26	(3) Bullying (4) Effects of Friendships on Psychological Functioning and Behavior
Class 27	Week 14: Gender (1) Milestones in Gender Development
Class 28	(2) Patterns of Gender Development
Class 29	Week 15: Morality and Aggression and Final Exam Revision (1) Moral Judgment (2) Prosocial Behavior
Class 30	(3) Antisocial Behaviour