

## DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY



DEP3053

3 CREDIT HOURS

FLEX LEARNING

\*\* FLEX LEARNING ONLINE

**INSTRUCTOR:** *Marina A. Klimenko, Ph.D., M.P.A.*

*Psychology Building, office in room 361*

**VIRTUAL OFFICE HOUR (OPTIONAL REVIEW OF WEEK'S LECTURES) VIA ZOOM  
IN CANVAS:** by appointment (send me a message through Canvas to set up a meeting) in Canvas via Zoom

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Students will gain an understanding of the forces that shape human development across the lifespan. A particular emphasis will be placed on the interplay of biological, psychological and contextual factors, such as culture, in shaping development over time. As part of understanding and applying developmental concepts, students will engage in active participation with their peers.

**International Scholars Program** - This course fulfills one of the curriculum requirements of the International Scholars Program. Learn more about how you can obtain a graduation medallion and diploma at

<https://internationalcenter.ufl.edu/global-learning/international-scholars-program>.

## STRUCTURE OF COURSE IN E-LEARNING

This course is broken down into 14 topical modules, and each module covers one (sometimes two) chapter of your textbook with some additional material that you will find in my lectures. Note, that the topics will **not** be covered in the same order as they are presented in the textbook, so please follow our class syllabus. All modules contain: objectives, readings (what to read for any given week), lectures (lectures to watch), assignments, and quizzes. The course is self-paced.

## COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

All communication will be done in Canvas—emails, discussions, and announcements. ***Please do not send emails to my uf email address.***

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND OTHER CLASS MATERIALS:

You will be using Pearson Revel, Feldman, **LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENT: A TOPICAL APPROACH, 4<sup>th</sup> edition**

This package includes an e-book, my virtual life simulation program, and other supplemental materials. Please note that the package is custom made for this course and must be purchased either through UF bookstore or UF All Access. If you purchase this package via a third party, the Revel link in Canvas will not work for you. The material will still be the same, but you will have to access it outside our course website (I will not have access to any of your work in Revel).

**MyVirtual Life:** You will be required to complete My Virtual Life simulation, only the child portion of the simulation. More details will be posted on Canvas.

Read the instructions BEFORE starting the simulation.

## WEEKLY QUIZ ASSESSMENTS (50%)

There will be a quiz for each chapter/lectures covered in this class + one cumulative quiz covering everything, a total of 14 quizzes. ***However, you can either miss one or the lowest grade quiz will be dropped. Only 13 quizzes will be counted towards your final grade.***

All quizzes are timed, and will consist of short 20 objective questions (multiple choice/multiple answers and/or true/false format). Each question is worth 0.5

point. So each quiz is worth 10 points. Items are drawn at random from a larger pool of items, so no two people may receive the same quiz. Quizzes are not cumulative; each quiz pertains to the material covered in a particular week/module, including lectures, and videos for that week.

The quizzes are relatively easy and most students do well on them—the average fluctuates between 85 and 90.

IMPORTANT: You are responsible for the strength and reliability of your internet, and for using a reliable computer. If you lose internet connection due to issues with **your** computer or internet, you will not be allowed to retake quizzes or the final exam. If the interruption in connection is caused by the issues in Canvas, contact e-learning help desk right away and get verification. My decision about letting students retake quizzes will be determined on an individual basis. Since the chances of experiencing technical issues more than once in a semester are very slim to none, no one will be allowed to retake more than one quiz.

#### GROUP DISCUSSIONS (5%)

You will participate in 8 group discussions, each worth 1 point.

To receive full credit, (1) post your original and a reply to one of the posts on time, (2) the length of your posts should be at least one paragraph, (3) your posts should be reasonably substantive (i.e., contain meaningful ideas and based on some information from our course material when necessary), and (3) respectful.

#### MY VIRTUAL CHILD SIMULATIONS ASSIGNMENT (20%)

You will raise a virtual child (read my instructions to this assignment) and write a short paper. ***I strongly recommend that you become familiar with the directions and the format of this assignment as early as possible and start working on the simulations as early as you can.***

**Please know that the average score on the papers is a B, and many students will see a slight drop in their overall grade.**

#### FINAL EXAM (25%)

Final exam will be cumulative, however, it will be only based on the material covered in my lectures. In addition, unlike quizzes, you will only be tested on the higher-level concepts rather than on minutia or fact memory questions. If you read your textbook, watch lectures and learn course material through assignments, you will do well on the exam.

**The final exam will be conducted through Honorlock.**

IMPORTANT: You are responsible for your internet strength and reliability, and for using a reliable computer. If you lose internet connection due to issues with **your** computer or internet, you will not be allowed to retake the final exam. If the interruption in connection is caused by issues in Canvas, contact e-learning help desk and get verification. The decision to allow retaking the final exam will be determined on an individual basis and will be based on the cause of the issue.

## POLICY FOR DISPUTING GRADES

If you want to dispute a grade you will need to write a paragraph explaining the dispute (write out the question on the quiz or explain the part of the assignment in detail). Quiz disputes must be sent to my Canvas mail (your instructor).

## COURSE SCHEDULE

1. **Module 1: An Orientation to Lifespan Development (Chapter 1)**
  - Take Orientation Quiz to unlock module 1 (in Orientation module)
  - Module 1 Quiz 1
  - Group Introduction
2. **Module 2: Genetics, Prenatal Development, and Birth (Chapter 2)**
  - Module 2 Quiz 2
3. **Module 3: Physical Growth and Aging Across the Life Span (Chapter 3).**
  - Group Discussion #1
  - Module 3 Quiz 3
4. **Module 4: Theories of Cognitive Growth by Piaget and Vygotsky (Chapter 5).**
  - Module 4 Quiz 4
  - Group Discussion #2
5. **Module 5: Information processing to Cognition and Intelligence (Chapters 6 and 8)**
  - Module 5 Quiz 5
6. **Module 6: Social and Emotional Development (Chapter 9).**

- (Week 6) Group Discussion #3
  - Module 6 Quiz
7. **Module 7: Development of the self (Chapter 10).**
    - Module 7 Quiz
  8. **Module 8: Moral Development and Aggression (Chapter 11).**
    - (Week 8) Group Discussion #4
    - Module 8 Quiz
  9. **Module 9: Language (chapter 7)**
    - Module 9 Quiz
    - (Week 9) Group Discussion #5
  10. **Module 10: Friends and Family (Chapter 13)**
    - Module 10 Quiz
    - Group Discussion #6
    - **MVL Raise a Child Assignment & Picture of completion**
  11. **Module 11: Gender and Sexuality (Chapter 12)**
    - Module 11 Quiz
  12. **Module 12: Health and Wellness (Chapter 4)**
    - Module 12 Quiz
  13. **Module 13: Schooling, Culture, and Society (Chapter 14)**
    - Module 13 Quiz
  14. **Module 14: Review of the course**
    - Module 14 Quiz, cumulative
    - (Week 14) Group Discussion #7
    - Review of the lectures.
    - **Final Exam**

## COURSE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

1. All communication will be done in Canvas.

If you have any questions/comments pertaining to

- ✓ Course administration, not time sensitive: post your question in Technical issues and course materials errors/ FAQ discussion board.
- ✓ Course Questions Forum: post your question in Course Concepts discussion board.
- ✓ If you do not receive an answer from either FAQ or Course Concepts discussion boards within 24 hours, contact instructor by Canvas mail.

\*Discussion boards will not be monitored on Saturdays and Sundays.

Do not post questions or information about your grade on the FAQ board.

- ✓ In the case of a serious medical condition, a family emergency or other situation that will keep you out of class a week or more, email me (your instructor) to [mklimenko@ufl.edu](mailto:mklimenko@ufl.edu).
2. All interactions with instructors and among class members are expected to be professional and appropriate. Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions on the FAQ and Course Content Board.
  3. Announcements: Occasionally, announcements will be made. If there are any changes to class schedule or assignments.
  4. Extension of deadlines may be requested ONLY for university excused absences with adequate documentation. Requests for an extension must be based on University approved reasons and must include proper documentation as per University guidelines. Requests for extensions must be made before the deadline, if possible, or within 24 hours of the deadline for unexpected emergencies.
  5. Computer/internet access to e-learning is required for this course. Students are responsible for maintaining access to e-learning.
    - ✓ Extensions will not be given for student-based technical difficulties. Do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments and quizzes! Do not take your quizzes on the bus! Use a land connection instead of Wi-Fi.
    - ✓ If UF e-learning experiences technical difficulties, deadlines will be adjusted to allow for completion of assignments.
  6. This course adheres to all University Policies. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/> for useful information at the Dean of Students Office webpage.

7. Academic Honesty: This course uses the definitions and guidelines for academic honesty as described by the Dean of Students Office. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php> for details.
8. Students with disabilities: requesting accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> for details.
9. Religious Observances: Please check your calendars against the course syllabus. Any student having a conflict due to religious observance should contact me as soon as possible so that we can make any necessary arrangements.
10. Copyright Statement: Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. **They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further.** They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.
11. Syllabus Change Policy: Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. If changes are made to this syllabus they will be announced and/or emailed. It is **your** responsibility to check for announcements and/or email of changes online.
12. Extra Help: Contact me as soon as possible for extra assistance if you discover you are having trouble. I want you to do well!

## GRADING SCALE

Assignment	Points	Percentage of your Grade
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Quizzes (13)	130	50%
Group Discussions (8)	8 points	5%
MVL Assignment	100	20%
Final Exam	80	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Grade</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>A</b>	94% - 100%
<b>A-</b>	90% & up
<b>B+</b>	87% & up
<b>B</b>	84% & up
<b>B-</b>	80% & up
<b>C+</b>	77% & up
<b>C</b>	74% & up
<b>C-</b>	70% & up
<b>D+</b>	67% & up
<b>D</b>	64% & up



<b>D-</b>	61% & up
<b>E</b>	<61%

*The good news is – these grades are firm – there is no curve. Everybody in the class can get an A grade and I hope you do.*

*The bad news is – these grades are firm – there is no curve. If you score just a quarter of a point below the cutoff then you will receive the lower grade.*

**IMPORTANT:** “Canvas is always working to calculate two grades, the current grade and the total grade, for students. The current grade is calculated by adding up the graded assignments according to their weight in the course grading scheme. This grade is calculated with the **Calculate based only on graded assignments** checkbox selected in the sidebar. The total grade is calculated by adding up all the assignments according to their weight in the course grading scheme. If a course is using weighted assignment groups, students can also see how each assignment is weighted in the course.

To view the total grade in the course, students can deselect the **Calculate based only on graded assignments** checkbox.”

<https://guides.instructure.com/s/2204/m/67952/l/55015-what-are-what-if-grades>)

## Flexible Learning Policies

### **Disability Accommodations:**

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides students and faculty with information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. Staff at the Disability Resource Center will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation of a disability is required to determine eligibility for appropriate accommodations. The professional employees at the Disability Resource Center serve as full-time advocates for students with disabilities ensuring students have physical and programmatic access to all college programs. One of the services provided by the Disability Resource Center includes:

- Testing Accommodations:  
[disability.ufl.edu/students/accommodated-testing-request](https://disability.ufl.edu/students/accommodated-testing-request)

Students with disabilities who need to drop a course due to disability-related reasons are permitted to petition for additional drops. Find more information by contacting the [Disability Resource Center \(DRC\)](#).

**The Flexible Learning Office needs to be notified of any special accommodations required by the student when they begin their course by emailing the Accommodations Letter to**

[learn@dce.ufl.edu](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu).

**Course Deadline and Extension Policy:**

Students are allowed *16 weeks, from their date of enrollment*, to complete and submit their coursework. If the student has not submitted at least 50% of their coursework and have an extenuating circumstance preventing them from submitting the coursework, a failing grade of “E”, “E0” or “E1” will be issued and recorded to the UF Registrar.

If the student has made sufficient academic progress, which is defined as completing and submitting at least 50% of the coursework and have an extenuating circumstance, the student may petition the instructor for a course extension before the course expires. Each course extension request will be administratively evaluated. Instructors are not required to allow extensions. If a student does receive an extension, an incomplete grade of an “I” will be assigned as an interim grade. When the course is completed, the instructor will initiate the change of grade. After that, the “I” grade will be changed to the student’s final course grade on their transcript.

**Course Cancels and Course Drops:**

**A Course Cancel:**

A tuition refund may be granted after a student submits a written request within 30 days of enrollment to the Flexible Learning Office. This request must be in writing by [learn@dce.ufl.edu](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu). Refunds will be the amount of tuition, less \$25.00 per course. If a credit card was used, the refund will be credited a back to the card. At the time of cancel, a refund can be issued for course materials. **No refunds are granted after 30 days.**

**Course Drop:**

**Dropping a course:** To drop a course, you need to email the Flexible Learning office at [learn@dce.ufl.edu](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu) with a request to drop within 14 weeks of the date of enrollment. In addition to their own request by email, *UF* students must have advisor approval to drop a flexible learning course. An advisor can email [learn@dce.ufl.edu](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu) with the student’s name, the course that they want to drop, and confirmation of permission to do so. It is the student's responsibility to verify that all drop requests have been received by the Flexible Learning office within the allotted time. The course grade will appear as "W" on a UF transcript

**Full Term Withdrawals:**

All full-term withdrawals must follow University of Florida policies/ procedures. An approved withdrawal form must be submitted to the [Dean of Student Affairs](#). for review and final approval. Students must also notify the Flexible Learning of this request by [learn@dce.ufl.edu](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu).

**It is the responsibility of the student to notify Flexible Learning of their approved medical or retroactive withdrawal so the students’ record is updated. [Email](#) to our office a copy of the approval.**

**Medical Withdrawals:**

[Here is the link to start the Medical Withdrawal Process.](#)

**Retroactive Withdrawals:**

[Here is the link for retroactive withdrawal information.](#)

### **UF Official Transcripts:**

Flexible Learning *advises* that you review your “unofficial transcript” first to ensure your grade(s) is/are posted, prior to ordering the “official transcript”.

Two ways to order a transcript:

1. [Order UF Official Transcripts here](#)
2. If you are unable to order your official transcript online, please contact the [UF Office of the University Registrar](#). In addition, on more information on mailing in a transcript request form by remitting a check or money order.
3. The Registrar’s Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and their phone number is 352-392-1374. Persons with hearing impairments can call FRS # 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

### **UF Flexible Learning Contact Information:**

Email: [learn@dce.ufl.edu](mailto:learn@dce.ufl.edu)  
Phone: (352) 294-6300  
Website: [UF Flexible Learning](#)

### **Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday, except Holidays  
8:00am-5:00pm EST