

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Psychology
Programme:	Psychology
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Developmental Psychology
Course Code:	PSY 4210
Total Hours:	120
Timetabled Hours:	45
Guided Learning Hours:	0
Independent Learning Hours:	75
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

Developmental Psychology explores the child's developing experience of the world. Major theories and issues in development from conception to adolescence are examined with a particular emphasis on the nature-nurture issue and cross-cultural studies. Topics covered include fetal development, physical development, cognitive development, social development and personality development. Students are encouraged to actively participate in class discussion and use their own experiences to help understand theoretical issues.

Prerequisites: PSY 3100

Aims and Objectives:

The course introduces students to the major theories of development and their contribution to the overall understanding of human behaviour. It will familiarize students with developmental research methodologies that the field typically employs today and examine the biological underpinnings and physical changes that characterize child development. Moreover, it looks at the unfolding of the child's mental capacities with a special emphasis on perception, language, and emotional development. Students will be provided with the theoretical tools with which to evaluate developmental theories.

Programme Outcomes:

Psychology: 4A(i), 4A (iii), 4B (ii), 4C (i), 4D (iii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

- Develop an understanding of key approaches to the study of human development.
- Develop an understanding of the diverse theoretical positions within the discipline.
- Appreciate the connections between theories and their applications and to be able to critically evaluate these.
- Demonstrate the ability to orally present an interpretation to a given text relating to developmental psychology.

Indicative Content:

- Perceptual-Motor Development
- Jean Piaget
- Lev Vygotsky
- Attachment Theory
- Self-Concept & Self Esteem
- Language Acquisition
- Theory of Mind
- Autism

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course material will be covered in the following ways:

- I. Lectures on key topics
- II. Group discussions on the reading material
- III. Internet sites related to psychology
- IV. Films/Videos on psychology topics

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

Bukatko, D. & Daehler, M.W. (2011). *Child Development: A Thematic Approach*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.

Donaldson, M. (1986). *Children's Minds*. London: Fontana.

Holmes, J. (1993). *John Bowlby and Attachment Theory*. London: Routledge.

Journals
Scientific American

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Revision – annual update	May 2023	
Total Hours Updated	April 2024	