

**CUYAMACA COLLEGE**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD**

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT 125 – CHILD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

3 hours lecture, 3 units

**Catalog Description**

The study of child growth and development from conception through adolescence as determined by the interaction of the biosocial, cognitive and social/emotional domains of development within the family and the cultural context with implications for raising successful adults. Observations of children of various ages are an integral part of this course.

**Prerequisite**

None

**Course Content**

- 1) Introduction to developmental perspective and developmental theory and current research in the field of child development, including major and current historical and theoretical frameworks of child development
- 2) Developmental change in biosocial, cognitive and psychosocial domains from preconception through adolescence
- 3) Family, culture and social institutions as they influence child development
- 4) Techniques and investigative research methods for unbiased observation and analysis of children's behaviors
- 5) Developmental processes and appropriate strategies that promote healthy development at each stage
- 6) Brain development as a foundation for overall development
- 7) Uniqueness of the child and the variations in their development
- 8) The role of play
- 9) Bilingual development and theories of language learning and bilingualism

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- 1) Examine and integrate current and historical theories, research and practices in child development and compare and contrast various theoretical frameworks that relate to the study of human development.
- 2) Examine ways in which developmental domains are continuous, sequential and interrelated and analyze major developmental milestones for children from conception through adolescence in the areas of physical, psychosocial, cognitive, and language development using standard research methodologies.
- 3) Recognize and discuss the role of environment, family, teachers, culture and society in the development of children and factors that impact typical and atypical development; analyze how cultural, economic, political, historical contexts affect children's development and the guidance of children.
- 4) Integrate, discuss, and apply current theory and research to the observation, documentation and unbiased analysis of human behavior from birth through adulthood.
- 5) Identify and describe characteristics and risk factors for typical and atypical development at milestone stages and apply developmental processes at each stage of child development.
- 6) Identify and describe the diverse needs of children including linguistic, cultural, socioeconomic, social-emotional, and special needs.

- 7) Evaluate the role of play and its relationship to development at various stages
- 8) Analyze the interaction of genetics (nature) and environment (nurture) at various stages of development.
- 9) Demonstrate objective techniques and skills when observing, recording, and evaluating behavior in children of different ages, cultures, and backgrounds.

### **Method of Evaluation**

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Written observations of children of designated ages that require students to apply the norms of typical and atypical development and the analysis of theories identified in class
- 2) Written assignments that measure students' ability to analyze the role of play and the roles of cultural, social and familial institutions on the development of specific children.
- 3) Small group activities that require students to integrate and apply course content on the diverse needs of children, including linguistic, cultural, social-emotional development to specific children and families.
- 4) Quizzes and exams that measure students' ability to apply, compare and contrast developmental theories, current research, and strategies for promoting healthy physical, social, emotional and cognitive development, and identify prenatal and environmental factors that affect typical and atypical development.

### **Special Materials Required of Student**

Access to computer

### **Minimum Instructional Facilities**

Smart classroom, access to Child Development Center

### **Method of Instruction**

- 1) Lecture and small group discussion
- 2) Direct observation of children
- 3) Multimedia presentations
- 4) Guest speakers
- 5) Projects, directed group tasks

### **Out-of-Class Assignments**

- 1) Analysis of children's behavior at various stages of development by means of observation.
- 2) Reading and synthesis of current journals, periodicals and internet sources.
- 3) Written assignments including application of theory in a variety of activities.
- 4) Individual and/or group projects.
- 5) Reading of textbook and applying information from selected chapters to assignments.

### **Texts and References**

- 1) Required (representative example): Child Growth and Development. Open Educational Resource Publication by College of the Canyons. Version 1.2. 2019.
- 2) Supplemental: None

### **Exit Skills**

Students having successfully completed this course exit with the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge:

- 1) Demonstrate knowledge of the theories of Freud, Piaget, Erikson and the learning theorists.
- 2) Understand the evolving process in the physical, cognitive, social and emotional development from conception to adolescence, typical and atypical.

- 3) Consider the role of culture and social institutions in affecting child development.
- 4) Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate activities which promote healthy physical development.
- 5) Identify effective guidance techniques based on developmental theory.
- 6) Observe, record and evaluate children's behaviors according to current research and theory in child development, comparing typical development to atypical development.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

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

- 1) Identify major developmental milestones for children from conception through adolescence in the areas of physical, psychosocial, cognitive, and language.
- 2) Describe how family, cultural, economic, political, historical contexts affect children's development.
- 3) Integrate and apply current theory and research to the observation, documentation and unbiased analysis of a preschool child's behavior.