Course Information Form (CIF)

Course Code: PSY 207 (IAI S6 903)

Course Title: Introduction to Child Psychology

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences
PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer
CIP Code: 42.2703
Repeatability: 0

Effective Date: Summer 2026

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3
Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3	Lab: 0	Clinical: 0	**Total: 3**

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Introduction to theory and research on the biological, physical, social, and cognitive development of the human child from conception to adolescence; genetic factors, prenatal development, sensory and perceptual changes, motor development, language acquisition, social learning, cultural influences, and abnormal development.

General Course Objectives

This course will enable the student to use the major developmental theories to describe and predict growth, to evaluate child-rearing and educational practices, and to reflect upon their own development. The learning outcomes listed below are the minimal outcomes required for every section of this course. Any additional learning outcomes are determined by the instructor.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	None	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

3-4 exams (objective, comprehension, and application-level multiple choice and/or short answer), 4-6 application activities and/or writing assignments.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Childhood and Adolescence: Voyages in Development, by Rathus. Students may choose an online or print copy of the current edition of the textbook.

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.
- Global Awareness and Cultural Reasoning: Students will demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, and multicultural perspectives.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Introduction	1. Describe the characteristics of development and explain methods of developmental research.	2	0	0
Theories of Development	1. Identify the major theories explaining development and use them to explain various aspects of development.	4	0	0
Heredity and Environment	1. Explain the role of genes in development. 2. Describe how a child's environment shapes their phenotype in combination with their genes. 3. Provide examples of chromosomal and genetic abnormalities.	3	0	0
Biosocial Development	1. Describe the physical changes from prenatal development through adolescence. 2. Explain how brain development correlates with other aspects of development.	12	0	0
Cognitive Development	1. Describe how the theories by Piaget and Vygotsky and the information processing theory explain cognitive development from infancy through adolescence. 2. Describe the development of language skills from infancy through adolescence and analyze how these changes reflect cognitive development. 3. Relate how a child's level of cognitive development influences their ability to learn.	12	0	0
Psychosocial Development	1. Explain how emotional experience and expression change from infancy through adolescence. 2. Describe the major theories of psychosocial development. 3. Break down how relationships with others evolve from infancy through adolescence.	12	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0