

Course Number & Name ► SO 309 – Human Behavior and Development

Instructor(s) Name ► Betsy Fecto



Instructor(s) Credentials

Education: Associates Degree in Psychology, Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from Skidmore College, Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology from Vermont College

Experience: In my heart I believe that life experience is a breeding ground for education. I learned a lot from the in-classroom courses that I was required to take but I learned the most in practice. My experience in the fields of both social work and psychology, include the following: Psychological Counselor for those with developmental disabilities in a “sheltered workshop”, Parent Educator for a Head Start program, Coordinator for Rape Crisis Unit, counselor for children residing in Battered Woman’s shelter, Case Management and supervision for 10 small facilities operated through the Department of Mental Retardation in CT. Child Protective Worker for State of Maine, Foster Care and Family Reunification for State of Maine, Supervisor for Child Development Specialists through York County Child Development Services, Ingraham, Services in Cumberland County as a Crisis Intervention worker. And mobile service unit (to those homeless and mentally ill in Portland, Broadway Crossing – a small mental health stabilization unit in S. Portland, ME.

Required Text(s) ► For required textbooks for this course, please visit our online bookstore at <http://www.shop-edmap.biz/stj/>.

Course Objectives ►

Upon completing this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Learn the theories of human development through the life span and understand how they relate to both the scientific and philosophical elements of human behavior.
- Critically analyze, compare, and contrast the interrelationships among physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development.
- Understand the critical role and impact of culture and history on human development.
- Gain a greater appreciation for behavioral differences in people based

on your knowledge of life-span development and its many complexities.

- Gain greater insight into personal development and the impact from contemporary society.



What you can expect from this course (volume of work) ►

Learning Exercises The learning exercises are optional and will not be graded. They are meant for those students who would like to delve deeper into the subject in relation to their own life experiences. Students can also use them as a means to evaluate how well they have mastered the material and how well they can apply the concepts in real-life situations.

Written Assignments The written assignments deal with the concepts contained in the text and the study guide and are designed to show your instructor how well you have mastered the material. Each unit will include optional learning exercises and either a test, a reflection paper, or essay questions. You are meant to provide full and well-developed thoughts in response to the reflection paper and each essay question and may call upon what you have learned from your own life experiences where applicable.

Final Examination The non-proctored final exam is required to complete this course. There is no need to memorize, but there is a need to understand concepts similar to those covered in your unit assignments and text. The final exam will allow you to choose ten essay questions from a possible twelve. You must answer all parts of each question and make sure your answers are fully developed and well thought out.

Grading Breakdown ►

Final grades for this course will be determined as follows:

Unit 1 Assignments 10 %
Unit 2 Assignments 10 %
Unit 3 Assignments 10 %
Unit 4 Assignments 10 %
Unit 5 Assignments 10 %
Unit 6 Assignments 10 %
Final Paper 40%