# Doctoral Program

## Graduate Courses

These courses count for the major or minor in Human Development.

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<tr>
<th>Course Number/Course Name</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
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<tr>
<td>P513 Gerontology: Multidisciplinary Perspectives (3 cr.)</td>
<td>Fall &amp; Spring</td>
<td>Lesa Huber</td>
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<tr>
<td>P514 Life Span Development (3 cr.)</td>
<td>Spring &amp; Sum I</td>
<td>David Estell</td>
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<tr>
<td>P516 Adolescent Development (3 cr.)</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Mary Waldron</td>
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<tr>
<td>P517 Adult Development &amp; Aging (3 cr.)</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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### Course Descriptions

- **P513 Gerontology: Multidisciplinary Perspectives (3 cr.)**
  - An online course in fall and in the classroom in spring focusing on demographics, historical and cultural aspects of aging, biological and social theories of aging, physical, cognitive, personality changes in old age, physical and mental health in old age, relationships in old age, and death. Implications for social policy are emphasized.

- **P514 Life Span Development (3 cr.)**
  - A survey course of human development from infancy to old age, emphasizing the life span perspective of development. Classical stage theorists, current popular conceptions, major research findings, and educational and clinical implications for all life stages from birth to death. This course is required for the MS. counseling students.

- **P515 Child Development (3 cr.)**
  - Designed for M.S. Students. Major theories and findings concerning human development from birth through the elementary years as they relate to educational and clinical practice. Topics include: physical development, intelligence, perception, language, cognitive development, socioemotional development.

- **P516 Adolescent Development (3 cr.)**
  - Examination of major theories and findings concerning biological, cognitive, social, and emotional development during adolescence, emphasizing educational and clinical implications. Topics include: puberty and adolescent health, identity development, decision-making, the role of families, peers and romantic relationships, schools and achievement, and socioemotional problems in adolescence.

- **P517 Adult Development & Aging (3 cr.)**
  - An online course focusing on development from early, middle, and late adulthood. Topics include: developmental research methods, racial and ethnic diversity in adult development, relationships in adulthood, work, leisure, and retirement, changes across adulthood in health, sensory, cognitive, and personality functioning, coping in adulthood, mental health interventions, and communicating with the elderly.
P518 Social Aspects of Aging & Aging Families (3 cr.)  
Spring  
Lesa Huber

An online course focusing on the social, familial, resource needs, and issues of older individuals, and contemporary responses of public health and social systems. Critically analyze current social events related to issues in aging using theory and research.

P600 Children's Thinking (3 cr.)  
Spring of alternating years  
Joyce Alexander

This course will be an in-depth excursion into the minds of children. We study the theories of cognitive development, the mechanisms by which that development occurs, the tools researchers use to study it, and the outcomes and contexts of cognitive development. This course is meant to prepare you to begin to do research in the area of children's thinking. As a consequence, we will be discussing areas of research as well as methods of research.

P622 Social Development (3 cr.)  
Spring  
David Estell

Social development examined from birth to young adulthood. Topics include: attachment relationships, self-concept and understanding of others, temperament and personality, parent-child relationships, sibling relationships, friendships and peer relationships, and the development of aggression. Implications of theory and findings for educators and clinical practitioners are emphasized.

P623 Advanced Child Development (3 cr.)  
Spring of even years  
Anne Stright

Designed for Ph.D. Students. Major theories and findings concerning human development from birth through the elementary years as they relate to educational and clinical practice. Topics include: physical development, intelligence, perception, language, cognitive development, socioemotional development.

P624 Brain Research Applied to Educational and Clinical Practice (3 cr.)  
Fall  
David Estell

Research in developmental neuropsychology applied to educational practice, school psychology, counseling, and therapy. Topics include: the interaction between biology and experience, child maltreatment and brain development, the implications of brain research on the development of attention, memory, self-regulation, language, reading and mathematics, temperament, emotions/depression, attachment, and aggression.

The course complies with the APA’s school and counseling psychology foundations requirements on the biological bases of behavior.
P625 Family Processes Child/Adolescent Development (3 cr.)

Areas of family process examined in relation to child/adolescent development include the parenting subsystem (attachment, styles, beliefs, practices, corporal punishment), the marital subsystem (conflict, divorce, remarriage), and the family system. Also child temperament, culture, and poverty. Implications of theory and research for educational and clinical practice will be emphasized.

P650 Topical Seminar in Educational Psychology variable title (3 cr.)

Fall & Spring Mary Waldron

**Topic: Emerging Adulthood**

Examination of major theories and findings concerning the developmental period between adolescence and adulthood, emphasizing educational and clinical implications. Topics include: higher education, transition to work, changing relationships with parents, peers and romantic partners, and socioemotional problems during emerging adulthood.

**Topic: Family Transitions**

Examination of family transitions from a developmental lifecourse perspective. We will review major theories and findings regarding both normative and non-normative transitions, including courtship and mate selection, cohabitation and marriage, parenthood, work and family, divorce, remarriage and widowhood.

**Topic: Developmental Epidemiology**

Developmental epidemiology integrates developmental and psychiatric epidemiological approaches to better understand and prevent psychopathology. In this course, major concepts and findings in developmental epidemiology will be reviewed, including research on prevalence and changing prevalence, age at onset or timing, comorbidity and developmental ordering, as well as risk and protective factors.