PSY 3300: Correspondence

Course Sample
Welcome to

PSY 3300

Lifespan Development

New to the course? Click the Course Content link at left, then read the Get Started materials.

Returning to the course? Click the Course Content link and resume where you left off.
Course Content

PSY 3300.12 corr: Learning Modules

- Get Started
  - Syllabus
  - Course Study Schedule (pdf)
  - Meet Your Instructor
  - Correspondence Course Information (pdf)

- Lesson 1 - Conceptualizing Lifespan Development: Themes, Research, & Theories
  - Objectives and Assignments
  - How Should We Think About Development?
  - How is Development Studied?
  - Special Challenges Facing Developmental Scientists
  - Developmental Theories
  - Psychoanalytic Theory and Classical Conditioning
  - Operant Conditioning and Cognitivism
  - Issue: Free Will versus Determinism
  - Student Introductions
  - Self-Assessment 1
  - Assignment 1

Last Visit: Oct 27, 2014 9:55 AM
Lesson One - Conceptualizing Lifespan Development: Themes, Research, & Theories

How Should We Think About Development?

Chapter 1 defines development and discusses issues related to development. Development takes place because of both genetic (nature) and environmental (nurture) determinants. Maturation refers to “biological unfolding” that primarily occurs due to one’s genes; other developmental changes may be more influenced by environmental events. Cross-cultural and historical perspectives help us consider the relative influence of genes and the environment on specific traits and behaviors.

Development needs to be understood in context. One approach is Bronfenbrenner’s biocological model that has bidirectional influences at many levels, including the microsystem (immediate environment of the individual) level and the macrosystem (cultural context) level.

Seven themes are introduced in this chapter. These themes will occur throughout the course and emphasize that development continues throughout life, is multidirectional, involves losses as well as gains, is characterized by the ability to change due to experience (plasticity), is influenced by historical and cultural contexts, is a function of multiple influences, and is best understood from multiple disciplines.
Lesson 1 - Conceptualizing Lifespan Development: Themes, Research, & Theories

Assignment 1

After reviewing the lesson content, complete and submit Assignment 1. This assignment has two parts. Part I is an objective quiz, and Part II is an essay.

To access Part I, click the Assessments link in the menu bar at left. Then, choose Quiz 1 and follow the instructions.

To access Part II, click the Essays link in the menu bar at left, and choose Essay 1. Follow the instructions to compose and submit your essay.

When you have completed both parts of Assignment 1, you may proceed to Lesson 2.
PSY 3300: Correspondence
Course Sample