PSYC 2120-501 Fall 2025

Developmental Psychology

Valencia Campus – Internet Section

Professor Paul Davis, MS

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

As an adjunct professor for UNM I do not have an on campus office or phone. The best way to contact me is through email (davispaul@unm.edu). My information is available in our course; in the left-hand menu click on People then set the All Roles Drop down to Teacher, I will be the only one listed there.

Office hours: By appointment only, please use email to arrange meetings.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

From the University of New Mexico Catalogue: Study of human physical and psychological change and stability from a lifespan development perspective.
Prerequisite: 1110.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

1. Explain theories, methods and research findings of lifespan developmental psychology.
2. Describe the interaction between physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development across the lifespan.
3. Compare and contrast major developmental theories and discuss what each brings to or adds to the study of lifespan developmental psychology.
4. Identify factors that influence psychological development across the lifespan.
5. Apply basic principles of developmental psychology to one's own life experiences.
6. Analyze historical and cultural factors that influence development across the lifespan.

TEXTBOOK:

Our textbook is Development Through the Lifespan: 7th Edition by Laura Berk.

It is included in the course at no charge to you. Access it by clicking on the "RedShelf Course Materials" link in the left hand menu.

If you do not participate in the Inclusive Access Program then please see Spring 25 – 2120 Book Info (Left Hand Menu > Files).

GRADING:

There is no weighting of any assignments (a point is a point is a point).

Week 1 Activities	1 @ 40 Points	40 Possible
AI Summaries	8 @ 40 Points each	320 Possible
Written Assignments	8 @ 80 Points each	640 Possible
Total	17 Assignments	1000 Points

Grade Calculation:

0 to 699 Points -- F
700 to 799 Points -- C
800 to 899 Points -- B
900 to 979 Points -- A
980 + Points -- A+

I do not give grades of D, or any plus / minus except for A+ for over 980 points earned.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Dates:	**Chapters**	**Calendar Notes**
Monday 10-13	Academic Integrity	Fri – Last Day to Add the course
Monday 10-20	Part I – Theory and Research Part II – Foundations of Development	Fri – Last Day to Drop w/ no W
Monday 10-27	Part III – The First Two Years	
Monday 11-3	Part IV – Early Childhood	
Monday 11-10	Part V – Middle Childhood	
Monday 11-17	Part VI – Adolescence	Fri – Last Day to W on LoboWeb
Monday 11-24	Part VII – Early Adulthood	
Monday 12-1	Part VIII – Middle Adulthood	Fri – Last Day to W w/ Dean Form

Monday 12-8 (Finals)	Part IX – Late Adulthood Part X – End of Life	

For all important academic dates related to the semester please click HERE.

LATE SUBMISSION POLICY:

Deadlines are Friday nights at 11:59. Assignments are considered as on time or late based on the Canvas time stamp. EVERY assignment that arrives late will be penalized. Communicating with me in advance of exigent circumstances can earn you consideration – the consideration will be to have the penalty be reduced, not eliminated.

The penalty may be up to 35% of the assignment. Normally the penalty starts at only a few points for something that just misses the deadline and goes up as time passes. This means that there is no need to email and ask permission to submit late; the work will be accepted and there WILL be a late penalty. If something big happens that might affect your ability to submit for multiple weeks, then please let me know. I will work with you on how much the late penalty will be.

For all Week 1 to Week 8, the last day that work will be accepted is SATURDAY 12-6-2025 at 11:59pm. The assignment that is due during Finals Week (called Week 9 in the syllabus and in the course) will have a deadline of Friday, 12-13-2025 at 11:59pm. It will NOT be accepted late. If you need an exception this policy, you will need to have an arrangement in place with me PRIOR to the deadline in question.

SUBMISSION FORMATS:

- You are free to work in the Word Processor of your choice (Docs, Pages, Word).
- All work should be saved and submitted as a Microsoft Word .doc or .docx file.
- I accept work as a PDF with a 10% penalty.
- I cannot open documents written in Pages.
- I do not open any links to a Google doc.

DROPPING THIS COURSE:

If something happened during the semester and you need to stop this class there are three available options.

You can Drop the course through LoboWeb or with the Registrar. This option is only available in the first weeks of the course and the deadline is noted in the course calendar above. The result would be that the attempt to take this class will not even show up on your transcript.

You can Withdraw from the course through LoboWeb or with the Registrar. This process is available for more than half the course, but if you wait too long you will need to get a form signed by the Dean in order to be able to do so. The result would be a grade of W on your Transcript. Generally this is better than getting an F, but please consult with an Academic Advisor to understand the impact of this on your GPA and/or financial Aid.

You could just stop submitting assignments. The result of that would be your grade would be based on whatever work has been submitted and graded. See the Grading section above for additional details.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated. Any instance of this will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Click Here for the UNM Academic Dishonesty Policy. The policy states:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or who otherwise fails to meet the expected standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

"Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

An additional note that is not a part of that policy that I am sure will be at some point in the near future. The use ChatGPT and other such bots to create assignments will be considered to be academic dishonesty and will be reported to the University as such.

Turnitin:

All submissions to Canvas are checked for plagiarism by Turnitin. I check the report for every submission.

This program checks for two things. First a score for "Similarity" is produced. Basically it is checking for how similar is your work any others that have ever been submitted to the system. I am not expecting perfection on this score (total originality – there are only so many ways to describe Freud's theories). If your similarity score is anything under 25% then I am not even worried. Scores even higher are often OK but might be a problem depending on the contents of the report.

The percentage that you see of you do not click in for the details is this one (The Similarity Report). If you click into the detailed report then you will also see a link to the AI Score report. The AI Score is what I am much more interested in.

The other thing that is checked is the risk that your work was produced by some sort of AI such as ChatGPT. If your score on that measure is over 40% then I will check the submission against an outside checker. Depending on the results of that check you may be asked to rewrite the assignment. You will see a score of 2 in the gradebook. The assignment can be rewritten and

resubmitted for full credit. Work will not be graded until Turnitin shows a score of less than 20% on the AI Risk.

If you are using anything like Grammarly and it is telling you to fix more than a few words in your sentences then you are likely going to be flagged by the checker. You need to be doing the writing, not having AI write it for you.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact Accessibility Resource Center (https://arc.unm.edu/) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION:

The University of New Mexico and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and providing an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. The University's programs and activities, including the classroom, should always provide a space of mutual respect, kindness, and support without fear of harassment, violence, or discrimination. Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of assigned sex at birth, sex characteristics, pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity. If you have encountered any form of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, we encourage you to report this to the University. You can access the confidential resources available on campus at the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (https://loborespect.unm.edu), the Women's Resource Center (https://women.unm.edu), and the LGBTQ Resource Center (https://lgbtqrc.unm.edu). If you speak with an instructor (including a TA or a GA) regarding an incident connected to discrimination on the basis of sex, they must notify UNM's Title IX Coordinator that you shared an experience relating to Title IX, even if you ask the instructor not to disclose it. The Title IX Coordinator is available to assist you in understanding your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct and reporting, please see https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html and CEEO's website.

If you are pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related condition, you may contact UNM's Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity at ceeo@unm.edu. The CEEO staff will provide you with access to available resources and supportive measures and assist you in understanding your rights. Pregnancy and Parenting Support information is available here.

STUDENT SUPPORT:

Confidential services for students are available at LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, Women's Resource Center, and the LGBTQ Resource Center. The Women's Resource Center supports all students, including those who are pregnant or are parents. UNM Pregnancy and Parenting Support information is available.

CREDIT HOUR STATEMENT:

This is a three credit-hour course delivered in an entirely asynchronous online modality over 8 weeks during the Fall 2025 semester. Please plan for a minimum of 18 hours per week to learn course materials and complete assignments.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS AND EMAIL:

Please check your contact information in Banner and keep it updated. As a reminder official policy is that you need to use your UNM address for all email communication with me.