



CFS 251: Child and Adolescent Development

Student Syllabus for the Adult Degree Programs

Course Description

Development and behavior from conception through puberty and the subsequent attainment of maturity, including genetic influences, developmental processes, and psychological processes related to physical, linguistic, social, intellectual, emotional, and personal development.

Course Introduction

CFS 251 is an introductory course into the field of developmental child psychology. This course will focus on milestones in child development in a chronological format. Throughout the course, students will ask and explore the basic question: How does a child change and grow over time beginning in the prenatal phase into adolescence? Attention will be given to research methodology and data collection over this time period.

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Discuss various theoretical perspectives on child development.
2. Identify milestones in various areas of childhood with specific attention to physical, cognitive, and social development.
3. Examine the nature and nurture influences on the developing child.
4. Comprehend research methodology in child development.
5. Utilize, experience, apply, and practice research methodologies.
6. Describe, more fully, God's design for human development and appreciate the unfolding of his creation through the developing child.

Course Texts

Feldman, R. S. (2022). *Child development* (9th ed.). Pearson Education.
ISBN-13: 9780136966678 (Print rental)
ISBN-13: 9780136966753 (eText)

Textbook Disclaimer

The textbooks for this course were chosen because their primary content directly relates to the objectives of this course. At times, there may be items or issues that are not presented from a proper

Christian worldview. As such, the textbooks do not represent an endorsement by Geneva College or the relevant academic department at Geneva College.

Archiving of Online Courses

In order to provide the best service and to eliminate bandwidth bottlenecks, online courses will be removed from Moodle according to a scheduled archiving process. Students will have access in Moodle to courses taken during the current academic year and one previous academic year. Once a course is removed from Moodle, students will no longer have access to their coursework for the archived course. In preparation for the archiving of online courses, students are advised to save copies of their papers and other important coursework offline on a personal computer or other file storage location. Geneva College is not responsible for student files once a course has been archived offline.

Learning and Physical Disabilities Policy

Geneva College values diversity and inclusion and recognizes disabilities as an aspect of diversity. Our shared goal is to create learning environments that are accessible, equitable, and inclusive, ultimately leading to the success of our students in and beyond college. Therefore, Geneva College complies with the ADA as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act by affording reasonable accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. Any student with a disability who needs academic accommodations should contact Geneva's Student Success Center (SSC) to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the SSC before or during the first week of classes. (Some accommodations may take time to put into place, so it is advised to request this appointment as early as possible.) Legally, no retroactive accommodations can be provided.

Accommodations for disabilities are available only as recommended by the SSC. For more details, visit the [Student Success Center website](#), call 724-847-5005, or stop by the SSC office. The SSC is located on the second floor of the Student Center. Students who have questions about their right to benefits or have grievances under these statutes should contact the Director of the SSC.

The Grading System in the Adult Degree Program

The grading scale for the Adult Degree Program is A, B, C, D, and F. Geneva includes pluses (+) and minuses (-) in the determination of the grade point average (GPA). Grade points are assigned for each semester hour of credit earned according to the following system:

Letter Grade	Percentage	GPA	Explanation
A	93.00% - 100.00%	4.0	Excellent
A-	90.00% - 92.99%	3.7	
B+	87.00% - 89.99%	3.3	

B	83.00% - 86.99%	3.0	Good
B-	80.00% - 82.99%	2.7	
C+	77.00% - 79.99%	2.3	
C	73.00% - 76.99%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	70.00% - 72.99%	1.7	
D+	67.00% - 69.99%	1.3	
D	63.00% - 66.99%	1.0	Less than Satisfactory
D-	60.00% - 62.99%	0.7	
F	< 60.00%	0.0	No Credit Given
WX, WP, WF			Withdrawal

Policy on Academic Honesty

Because honesty is expected in all college relationships, any form of cheating on exams or any plagiarism in formal written work is punishable by failure in the course. Repeated violations may result in expulsion from the college. Please read the Academic Integrity Guidelines in Appendix A of the ADP Student Handbook.

Students may appeal any disciplinary action by following the procedure laid out in the Academic Integrity Guidelines in the ADP Student Handbook.

Students are encouraged to visit www.plagiarism.org in order to clarify what constitutes plagiarism as well as a number of other academic standards. This website also provides directives as to how to avoid committing this act and how to properly cite academic sources.

Turnitin Policy

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Students must agree to the End User License Agreement (EULA) for Turnitin. Use of the Turnitin service is subject to the Usage Policy and Privacy Pledge posted on Turnitin.com. Assignments that are not submitted through Turnitin will not be graded and will not receive credit.

Participation Policy

In the online environment, **participation is marked by the completion of an academic event in each session (week) of the course.** Academic events include, but are not limited to, submission of a class assignment, participation in class discussion forum, or completion of a quiz/exam.

If no academic event is completed within the first session (Week 1) of a course, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the course. Beyond the first session, if no academic event is completed for a class session, the student will be considered as having not participated in that week of class, which in some cases may result in zeros on the missed assignments and a half-letter grade deduction from the student's final course grade.

If a student does not complete an academic event for two consecutive sessions, the student will either be administratively withdrawn from the course or will receive a final course grade of F, depending on how much of the course has transpired at the time of the second week of nonparticipation. For more details, please review Geneva's Student Handbook ([Undergraduate](#) and [Graduate](#)).

Academic Grievance Policy

For grievances related to grading and other course academic policies, the student should follow the published Grievance and Appeal Process in the ADP Student Handbook.

Course Evaluation

Criteria	Points Breakdown	Points
Discussion Forums (8)	30 points each	240 points
Quizzes (4)	35 points each	140 points
Child Development Project (4)	100 points each	400 points
Total		780 points

Assignment Descriptions

Discussion Forums

Class participation is monitored by postings and responses in the discussion forum. Typically, class participation is composed of two parts:

- a. Part 1 – Requires you to go to your discussion forum and post a response to a question or prompt that is written in your syllabus by 11:55 pm (EST) Wednesday of your scheduled session week. Your instructor will generally respond to your post within 24 hours. Depending on the nature of the assignment, the instructor may have a follow up question for you, ask you for clarification or further details, or direct your conversation to someone else for rebuttal.
- b. Part 2 – Respond back to your instructor’s post. In addition, post a response to at least two of your fellow classmates’ postings, using 1 or 2 paragraphs. Your response should further the discussion (e.g., ask a question, provide further information or examples, or introduce a different opinion). In particular, one response to a classmate **MUST** be in the form of a question that seeks to further the conversation. Your question must be posed by 11:55 pm (EST) Friday of the scheduled session week so that your classmate has adequate time to answer it.

Likewise, if a question is posed to you by Friday night, you are also required to answer it.

Part 2 of these online activities (response to instructor, response to classmates’ questions of you, and responses to your classmates) must be completed by 11:55 pm (EST) Saturday of each session.

NOTE: How to earn full credit in discussion forums:

1. Become familiar with the discussion forum rubric, which is available to you in all of your Moodle classroom discussion forums.
2. Be thoughtful in your responses and incorporate examples from your personal and professional experiences and references to the course material (e.g., readings, lecture, videos, audio clips, scripture, etc.) when appropriate. Remember to cite all sources and references according to proper APA style.
3. Respond to the discussion contributions of at least 2 peers and be sure to adequately address all posts your instructor may pose to you throughout the week. This level of participation is **REQUIRED** as the minimum in all discussion forums (see the rubric for more detail).

Your posting and responses will be graded by your instructor. For a detailed description of your responsibility in discussion forum postings, please see the “Interacting in the Online Environment” section in the ADP Student Handbook.

Quizzes

During this course, there will be four quizzes that cover the essential elements of the textbook and help students review and identify important facets of child development. These quizzes will include multiple choice questions taken from the material covered in the respective session.

- Session 1 – Students will take an online quiz on Chapters 1-2 of the textbook (35 points)
- Session 3 – Students will take an online quiz on Chapters 5-6 of the textbook (35 points)

- Session 5 – Students will take an online quiz on Chapters 9-10 of the textbook (35 points)
- Session 7 – Students will take an online quiz on Chapters 13-14 of the textbook (35 points)

Students will be allowed to consult their text and notes when taking online quizzes. However, quizzes will be timed, and students will need to have a working knowledge of the material before taking the quiz. There will simply not be enough time to “look up” every answer in your text and materials.

If a student does not take a quiz by Saturday at 11:55 pm (EST) of the designated session week, they will not have an opportunity to make it up.

Child Development Project

In this course, students will engage in the Child Development Project which is designed to encourage application of course concepts and principles. The Child Development Project will be worked on in four parts. Within each of the four Child Development Project assignments in the Moodle classroom, students will find a link to a document containing a list of possible activities for each assignment. Students are to select and complete one activity for each of the four assignments.

The Child Development Project is meant to encourage the student to reflect on and apply course concepts to his or her life. As such, these projects should be individualized and reflected upon. Students are encouraged to complete the activities that will be especially meaningful to their life and career choice.

Each of the four Child Development Project parts will be graded on content, style, and timeliness. They should each be 3-5 pages in length and adhere to typical APA style and formatting (double spacing, proper APA citations, etc.).

These assignments are due by 11:55 pm (EST) Saturday of the designated session week.

Professional Skills in Your Online Courses

All courses in your Geneva College Online program will provide you with an opportunity to develop valuable skills that can positively influence your professional and career development. Each course at Geneva provides numerous opportunities to develop skills employers desire in their employees and job candidates in areas including, but not limited to, written communication, research, critical thinking, and decision-making. However, targeted skill sets are also developed through the learning in particular courses.

After successful completion of this course, you will be able to add these particular skills to your bank of professional assets:

Design Skills



Creation of a plan or convention for the construction of an object, system, or measurable human interaction

Decision-Making Skills



Skilled in initiating, structuring, and carrying out steps to complete projects and tasks

Problem Solving Skills

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Ability to identify and define problems and solutions