I. Catalog Description

Covers the physical, cognitive, social and personality stages of development from conception through adolescence. Emphasizes how abuse/neglect impacts normal development. (3 credit hours)

II. Prerequisites: SW 110 or consent of Instructor

III. Purpose and Objectives of the Course

A. Purpose

The purpose of the course is to provide the student with an overview of child development from the prenatal period through adolescence, in the framework of social work values/ethics, as well as systems theory and a problem solving framework. In addition, the course will present a consideration of various obstacles to the normal developmental course, including abuse and neglect, and how they might be expected to impact development. Various developmental perspectives - psychodynamic, behavioral, cognitive, contextual, and evolutionary - will be discussed.

B. Objectives

By the end of the semester the student will be able to:

1. Apply various perspectives of child development in a social work framework.
2. Assess developmental growth from the prenatal period to adolescence.
3. Explain how children’s development may be impacted by adverse experiences such as abuse/neglect.
4. Describe how diversity - ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, gender, geographic - may affect development.
5. Examine social work values and ethics and demonstrate how they impact working with children and families.
6. Discuss the use of research in developing and validating models of development as effective means of working with children and families at risk.

IV. **Expectations of students**

A. Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in all class activities.

B. Students are expected to successfully complete all class assignments and all examinations.

C. Students are expected to contribute to the class from their knowledge, experience, and imagination.

V. **Course Content**

A. Introduction to the course; Theoretical Perspectives & Research (3 hours)

B. Prenatal Development; Birth and the Newborn (6 hours)

C. Infancy (8 hours)
   1. Physical and Cognitive Development
   2. Social and Personality Development
   3. Effects of Abuse/Neglect on Infant Development

D. Preschool years (8 hours)
   1. Physical and Cognitive Development
   2. Social and Personality Development
   3. Effects of Abuse/Neglect on Preschool Development

E. Middle Childhood (8 hours)
   1. Physical and Cognitive Development
   2. Social and Personality Development
   3. Effects of Abuse/Neglect on Middle Childhood Development

F. Adolescence (8 hours)
   1. Physical and Cognitive Development
   2. Social and Personality Development
   3. Effects of Abuse/Neglect on Adolescent Development

G. Adolescent substance abuse/Integration of concepts and review (4 hours)

VI. **Text:**

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation

Article Abstracts (25 pts @) 2) 7%
Observation Report 9%
Presentation 13%
Exams (100 pts @) 3) 39%
Participation 32%
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A = 92.% - 100%
B = 91% - 84%
C = 83% - 76%
D = 75% - 68%