



HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

REQUIRED READING

Theoretical Perspectives (10%)

Chapter 1, Section 1.3: Major Theories and Theorists

This section provides an overview of various developmental theories, including:

- **Cognitive Developmental Theories** – Exploring how thinking and reasoning develop over the lifespan.
- **Evolutionary Perspectives** – Examining how evolutionary principles influence human development.
- **Learning Theories** – Focusing on how behavior is acquired and modified through experience.
- **Psychodynamic Theories** – Investigating how unconscious motives and early experiences shape development.
- **Social Cognitive Theories** – Analyzing how cognitive processes and social contexts influence behavior.
- **Sociocultural Theories** – Considering how culture and social interactions impact development.
- **Biological Perspectives** – Looking at how genetics and physiological processes affect development.
- **Ecological Theories** – Understanding development within the context of environmental systems.

Research Strategies and Methodology (6%)

Chapter 1, Section 1.5: Lifespan Development as a Science - Research Methods

This section provides an overview of various research designs used in developmental psychology, including:

- **Case Study** – An in-depth analysis of an individual or small group to explore unique phenomena.
- **Correlational Research** – Examines the relationship between two or more variables to determine if a connection exists.

- **Cross-Sectional Studies** – Comparisons of individuals of different ages at a single point in time to infer developmental changes.
- **Cross-Sequential Studies** – Combines cross-sectional and longitudinal approaches to correct for cohort effects.
- **Experimental Research** – Involves manipulation of variables to establish cause-and-effect relationships.
- **Longitudinal Studies** – Observations of the same individuals over an extended period to assess developmental changes.
- **Observational Research** – Involves systematically watching and recording behaviors as they occur naturally.

Biological Development Throughout the Life Span (12%)

Covered Across Multiple Chapters

This section highlights where each topic is discussed in the textbook:

- **Development of the Brain and Nervous System** – Foundational overview in **Chapter 2**, "Genetic, Prenatal, and Perinatal Health," with more details in **Chapter 3**, "Physical and Cognitive Development in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Genetic Disorders** – Covered in **Chapter 2, Section 2.1**, "Genetics and Environment."
- **Heredity, Genetics, and Genetic Testing** – **Chapter 2, Section 2.1**, covering heredity, genetic development, and genetic testing.
- **Hormonal Influences** – Examined in **Chapter 9**, "Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence."
- **Influences of Drugs** – Discussed in **Chapter 2, Section 2.3**, "Pregnancy and Prenatal Development," with later chapters covering other life stages.
- **Motor Development** – **Chapter 3, Section 3.2**, "Motor Development in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Nutritional Influences** – **Chapter 2, Section 2.3** (prenatal nutrition), with further discussions in **Chapter 5**, "Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood."
- **Perinatal Influences** – **Chapter 2, Section 2.4**, "Childbirth and Perinatal Health."
- **Physical Growth and Maturation; Aging** – Covered throughout the book, including **Chapter 13**, "Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood," and **Chapter 15**, "Physical and Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood."
- **Prenatal Influences** – **Chapter 2, Section 2.3**, "Pregnancy and Prenatal Development."
- **Sexual Maturation** – **Chapter 9**, "Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence."
- **Teratogens** – **Chapter 2, Section 2.3**, focusing on environmental factors that cause developmental abnormalities.

Perceptual Development Throughout the Life Span (6%)

Key Sections

- **Habituation** – Chapter 3, Section 3.3, "Sensory Development in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Sensitive Periods** – Chapter 1, Section 1.3, "Major Theories and Theorists."
- **Sensorimotor Activities** – Chapter 3, Section 3.2, "Motor Development in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Sensory Acuity** – Chapter 3, Section 3.3, "Sensory Development in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Sensory Deprivation** – Not extensively covered in the textbook but relates to discussions on critical periods in development.

Cognitive Development Throughout the Life Span (12%)

Covered Across Multiple Chapters

- **Attention** – Chapter 5, Section 5.3, "Cognition in Early Childhood."
- **Environmental Influences** – Chapter 1, Section 1.4, "Contexts and Settings of Development."
- **Executive Function** – Chapter 7, Section 7.2, "Cognition in Middle Childhood."
- **Expertise** – Chapter 13, Section 13.3, "Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood."
- **Information Processing** – Chapter 1, Section 1.3, "Major Theories and Theorists."
- **Memory** – Chapter 3, Section 3.4, "Cognition and Memory in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Jean Piaget's Cognitive Development Theory** – Chapter 1, Section 1.3, "Major Theories and Theorists."
- **Play** – Chapter 5, Section 5.6, "Play in Early Childhood."
- **Problem Solving and Planning** – Chapter 7, Section 7.2, "Cognition in Middle Childhood."
- **Thinking** – Chapter 1, Section 1.3, "Major Theories and Theorists."
- **Lev Vygotsky's Sociocultural Theory** – Chapter 1, Section 1.3, "Major Theories and Theorists."
- **Wisdom** – Chapter 15, Section 15.3, "Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood."

Language Development (8%)

Key Topics and Chapters

- **Bilingualism** – Chapter 7, Section 7.5, "Language in Middle Childhood."
- **Development of Syntax** – Chapter 3, Section 3.5, "Language in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Environmental, Cultural, and Genetic Influences** – Chapter 1, Section 1.2, "Themes of Development."
- **Language and Thought** – Chapter 3, Section 3.4, "Cognition and Memory in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Pragmatics** – Chapter 5, Section 5.4, "Language in Early Childhood."
- **Semantic Development** – Chapter 3, Section 3.5, "Language in Infants and Toddlers."
- **Vocalization and Sound** – Chapter 3, Section 3.5, "Language in Infants and Toddlers."

