

AP Psychology – Unit 4 Assignment

Developmental Psychology

Big Question: Is nature or nurture more influential in determining our course of development?

Developmental Psychology Objectives:

- Identify the major aspects of evolutionary psychology such as natural selection and survival of one's genes.
- Describe the evolutionary psychologists' explanation for gender differences and discuss the major criticisms of the evolutionary explanation
- Identify the major findings of twin, adoption, and temperament studies and how they contribute to the question of nature vs. nurture in development.
- Describe the studies of behavior genetics and molecular genetics.
- Discuss the influence of parents, experience, and peers on development.
- Define cultural norms and memes.
- Discuss the influence the social learning theory and the gender schema theory have had on gender behavior.
- Discuss the proposal that adult development involves chronological stages and explain why it is controversial.
- Describe the capacities of the newborn.
- Describe Piaget's view of how the mind develops and discuss his theory of cognitive development in the light of current research.
- Describe the impact of aging on adult memory and intelligence.
- Identify and describe Erikson's stages of social development.
- Identify and describe Kohlberg's stages of moral development and major criticisms of his theory.
- Summarize current view regarding continuative vs. stages and stability vs. change in lifelong development.

Developmental Psychology Overview

Developmental psychologists study the life cycle, from conception to death, examining how we develop physically, cognitively, and socially. The Development chapter covers prenatal, infant, and childhood development and introduces three major issues in developmental psychology: (1) the relative impact of genes and experience on behavior, (2) whether development is best described as gradual and continuous or as a discontinuous sequence of stages, and (3) whether the individual's personality remains stable or changes over the life span.

Research and theoretical issues introduced in this chapter are the foundation of the overarching developmental unit. Pay particular attention to the research of Piaget on cognitive development, Harlow and others on attachment and social deprivation, and to the studies of twins and adopted children.

A key assumption of modern developmental psychology is that development is lifelong. The Development unit explores physical, cognitive, and social development during adolescence and adulthood. On the basis of this discussion, this chapter will revisit the issue of continuity in development. Although there are not too many terms to learn in this chapter, there are a number of important research findings to remember. Pay particular attention to the discussions regarding intellectual stability or decline and social changes during adulthood. A major challenge in this chapter is to become familiar with two stage theories: Kohlberg's theory of moral development and Erikson's theory of psychosocial development. Writing carefully prepared answers to the guided study items should be especially helpful in mastering the material of this chapter.

Unit 4 Reading Assignment(s)

You are responsible for the reading listed below; it is meant to supplement the material discussed in class and there may be a pop quiz at any point.

- **OpenStax Psychology Textbook:** Chapter 9 (Posted on Class Website)

Unit 4 Vocabulary Terms & Flip Book

Psychology is a term heavy course; you are responsible for the terms below. You will have a vocabulary quiz every other unit. For the quiz I will pull terms from the Unit vocabulary lists.

Unit 4 Flip Book: Each term should be on its own card. Each card will have the term thoroughly and clearly defined on the back. Each card will be taped into a manila folder and turned in the day of the unit test.

1. Developmental Psychology
2. Zygote
3. Embryo
4. Fetus
5. Teratogens
6. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
7. Habituation
8. Maturation
9. Cognition
10. Schema
11. Assimilation
12. Accommodation
13. Sensorimotor Stage
14. Object Permanence
15. Preoperational Stage
16. Conservation
17. Egocentrism
18. Theory of Mind
19. Concrete Operational Stage
20. Formal Operational Stage
21. Autism
22. Stranger Anxiety
23. Attachment
24. Critical Period
25. Imprinting
26. Temperament
27. Basic Trust
28. Self-Concept
29. Gender
30. Aggression
31. X Chromosome
32. Y Chromosome
33. Testosterone
34. Role
35. Gender Role
36. Gender Identity
37. Gender Typing
38. Social Learning Theory
39. Adolescence
40. Puberty
41. Primary Sex Characteristics
42. Secondary Characteristics
43. Identity
44. Social Identity
45. Intimacy
46. Emerging Adulthood
47. Menopause
48. Crystallized Intelligence
49. Fluid Intelligence
50. Social Clock