

FRHD*2270 - Child Development

Fall 2025 Course Outline

Section: 01

Credits: 0.50

Land Acknowledgement: Guelph

The University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land and offer respect to our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis neighbours. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and acknowledging them reminds us of our important connection to this land where we work and learn.

Calendar Description

This course is designed to provide students with a greater understanding of children's holistic development from birth to 12 years with emphasis on family, community, cultural, and societal contexts. Using developmental theoretical perspectives, as well as critiques of developmentalism, this course will consider the interrelationships among a child's physical, emotional, social, intellectual, communication, and spiritual development. Children's holistic development will be considered within the context of important relationships and the course will offer cross-cultural and globalized perspectives on child development.

Prerequisite(s): 1 of ANTH*1150, FRHD*1010, FRHD*1100, PSYC*1000, PSYC*1100, PSYC*1200, SOC*1100

Restriction(s): PSYC*2450. This is a Priority Access Course. Some restrictions may apply during some time periods. Please see the departmental website for more information.

Department(s): Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition

Course Fit Within Program/Curriculum

Lecture Schedule

TuTh 4pm-5:20pm

Textbooks

Group	Title	Author	Cost
Required	Infants and children, prenatal through middle childhood (9th edition). 2022	Berk, L. E.	\$197.73 (price may change)

Students may use either a new or second-hand copy of the required textbook. There are no restrictions on purchasing or sharing used copies. Please note that the course content is based on the 9th edition of the required textbook. While test material will be drawn from lecture content, lectures are structured around and supported by information in the 9th edition. Other editions may differ in structure, pagination, or content and therefore may not align with lectures, assigned readings, or course assessments.

Learning Resources

Recommended Resource

College of Early Childhood Educators. (2022). *Practice guideline on child development*. <https://www.college-ece.ca/practice-guideline-on-child-development/>

Course Resource - Course Website

There is a course website at <http://courselink.uoguelph.ca>. All components of this course will be housed on the CourseLink site including this course outline, assignments, and links to further resources. Assignments will be submitted through the Dropbox function. Marks and feedback will also be released on the site. Please familiarize yourself with this website as soon as possible and visit it regularly throughout the semester.

Note: CourseLink site is used as a communication. It is strongly recommended that students log in to the course website every day to check announcements, and discussion posts, access course materials, review the weekly schedule and assignment requirements.

Campus Resources

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program: Make an appointment with a Program Counsellor (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/uaic/programcounsellors/>) in your degree program. If you are struggling to succeed academically: There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons (<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/using-library/spaces/learning-commons/>) including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills.

Course Learning Outcomes

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date:	Topic	Activities	Due
Thu	9/4	Introduction and Course Overview History, Theory, and Research Strategies of Child Development	Berk, Chapter 1	
Tue	9/9	History, Theory, and Research Strategies of Child Development	Berk, Chapter 1	
Thu	9/11	Genetic and Environmental Foundations	Berk, Chapter 2	
Tue	9/16	Genetic and Environmental Foundations	Berk, Chapter 2	
Thu	9/18	Prenatal Development	Berk, Chapter 2	
Tue	9/23	Birth and Newborn Baby	Berk, Chapter 4	
Thu	9/25	Physical Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood	Berk, Chapter 5	
Tue	9/30	Physical Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood	Berk, Chapter 5	
Thu	10/2	Cognitive Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood	Berk, Chapter 6	Assignment #1 Due: Thurs. Oct. 3 at 11:59 pm, Submit as a word OR pdf copy to the Dropbox. Do NOT submit a pages file.

Tue	10/7	Cognitive Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood	Berk, Chapter 6	
Thu	10/9	Emotional and Social Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood	Berk, Chapter 7	
Tue	10/14	Fall Study Break		
Thu	10/16	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam, In Class Based Weeks 1-5 (Sept. 5 - Oct. 9)	
Tue	10/21	Emotional and Social Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood	Berk, Chapter 7	
Thu	10/23	Physical Development in Early Childhood	Berk, Chapter 8	
Tue	10/28	Physical Development in Early Childhood	Berk, Chapter 8	
Thu	10/30	Cognitive Development in Early Childhood	Berk, Chapter 9	
Tue	11/4	Cognitive Development in Early Childhood	Berk, Chapter 9	
Thu	11/6	Emotional and Social Development in Early Childhood	Berk, Chapter 10	
Tue	11/11	Emotional and Social Development in Early Childhood	Berk, Chapter 10	
Thu	11/13	Physical Development in Middle Childhood	Berk, Chapter 11	Assignment #2 Due: Thurs. Nov. 13 at 11:59 pm; Submit as a word or a PDF copy to the Dropbox. Do NOT submit a pages file
Tue	11/18	Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood	Berk, Chapter 12	
Thu	11/20	Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood	Berk, Chapter 12	
Tue	11/25	Emotional and Social Development in Middle Childhood	Berk, Chapter 13	
Thu	11/27	Emotional and Social Development in Middle Childhood	Berk, Chapter 13	

Assessment Breakdown

{NOTE: instructor can add another row by hitting "TAB" button when they are at the end of the row}

Description	Weighting (%)	Due Date
Assignment #1: Reflecting on Children's Development	20%	Week 4 – Oct. 2, 11:59 PM
Midterm Exam	25%	Week 6 – Oct. 16, in class
Assignment #2: Applying Your Developmental Knowledge & Lens	25%	Week 10 – Nov. 13, 11:59 PM
Final Exam	30%	TBD

Assessment Details

Assignment

Assignment #1: Reflecting on Children's Development

20%

- Due Week 4 – Thursday, October 2 2025, by 11:59 pm
- Submission of assignment via CourseLink Dropbox
- Note: See additional assignment documents posted on the CL site

Exam

Midterm Exam

25%

- 1-hour in-person exam during the regular scheduled class time
- 40 Multiple Choice and True/False
- Based on Required Readings and Lecture Material for Week 1 – 5.

Assignment

Assignment #2: Applying Your Developmental Knowledge & Lens

25%

- Due Week 10 – Thursday, November 13, 2025, by 11:59 pm
- Submission of assignment via CourseLink Dropbox
- Note: See additional assignment documents posted on the CL site

Final Exam

Final Exam

30%

- 2-hour in-person final exam during the final examination period
- 70 Multiple Choice and True/False
- Based on Required Readings and Lecture Material for Week 7 – 12

Final Exam

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: *Please see Web Advisor closer to the date of scheduled final for location.*

To understand rules and regulations regarding Examinations students are encouraged to read Student's Responsibilities (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/examinations/>)

If the student is unable to meet the final exam requirements due to medical, psychological or compassionate circumstances they are encouraged to review Student's Responsibilities in the Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>) section of the Academic Calendar.

Last Day to Drop Course

The final day to drop Fall 2025 courses without academic penalty is the last day of classes: November 28

After this date, a mark will be recorded, whether course work is completed or not (a zero is assigned for missed tests/assignments). This mark will show on the student's transcript and will be calculated into their average.

Course Grading Policies

Submission of Assignments

Students are responsible for ensuring their submissions and posts are complete. Incomplete submissions, unreadable attachments or posts will receive the late penalty according to the late assignment policy (below). Students should check the technical requirements and make sure they have a supported browser, and reliable Internet access. In the event of experiencing technical difficulty when submitting an assignment or making a discussion post electronically, please contact CourseLink Support, in advance of the due date and time.

Note - Technical difficulty is not a valid reason for late assignment submissions or posts.

Students are encouraged to keep a back-up copy of discussion posts and assignment submission in the event that they are lost in transition. In order to avoid any last-minute problems, it is strongly recommended that students save their discussion posts and assignments to a cloud-based file storage (e.g., Google Docs), or send to their U of Guelph email account, so that posts or assignments can be accessed if needed.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will be accepted up to 5 days following the due date and will receive a penalty of 10% per day EXCEPT under documented grounds for compassionate consideration. Assignments submitted more than one week late without documented grounds will receive a grade of zero.

Receipt of Grades

Feedback and grades for assignments and discussion posts will be released on CourseLink approximately two weeks from the date of submission or posting. After you receive a grade on CourseLink, please review your feedback. Any inquiry or dispute over the grade must be made within one calendar week from the date they are posted. If you fail to protest any grade during this time limit, changes to the grade will not be considered. Grades will be based on the Grading Procedures outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar. (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/grades/>)

Course Standard Statements

Course Policies

Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

All email directed to the professor must come from an official University of Guelph email address. Students will not receive a response if an email is sent from a non-university account.

Students will receive a reply from Dr. Pitt within 24-48 hours if their email is sent from a uoguelph.ca address. GTAs are not able to answer any emails regarding course material.

Use of AI

Students are not permitted to use any generative AI system (such as ChatGPT, Claude, Jenni, Github Co-pilot, DaLL-E, and Midjourney) in FRHD*2270. Use of generative AI is considered an unauthorized aid in this course.

Academic sources can be found through searching a database like OMNI, via the UofG library or one specific to their discipline. Generative AI programs like ChatGPT are not academic databases, and if asked to generate academic sources it may not provide credible or legitimate sources. Using fabricated sources in your work is a form of academic misconduct called Falsification, specifically defined in the academic calendar as "concocting facts or reference". This could lead to an academic misconduct allegation.

If you are struggling to find academic and peer reviewed sources, contact Dr. Pitt or the library for Research Assistance. You can also use the "chat with us" tab at the bottom of the screen on the library's homepage to ask a librarian for some help. University of Guelph's Statement on Artificial Intelligence Systems, ChatGPT, and Academic Integrity (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2023/03/university-of-guelph-statement-on-artificial-intelligence-systems-chatgpt-academic-integrity/>)

Use of Electronic Devices and Recording of Lectures

Electronic recording of lectures is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

Posting Of Course Material

Do NOT post any FRHD*2270 course documents, or any assignments that you have completed for this course on sites such as Course Hero. This is a direct violation of privacy and confidentiality. It also violates academic integrity.

CSAHS Academic Misconduct Policy

The *Academic Misconduct Policy* is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar. The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and **it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct** and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have

the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Instructors **shall not** determine if academic misconduct has occurred. This is up to the Associate Dean Academic's office. Instructors shall not assign a grade of zero even if they believe that the student has committed some form of academic misconduct (e.g., copied material from a website like CourseHero) on an assignment or exam.

Instructors **can** determine if a student has poorly paraphrased and/or improperly cited material and can provide a grade accordingly as long as this is clearly identified as part of the assessment criteria via a rubric or other assessment tools.

For more information about Academic Integrity resources and how to prevent Academic Misconduct.

Standard Statements for Undergraduate Courses

Academic Integrity

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Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-misconduct/>) is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 10 days in advance, and no later than the first business day in November, March or July as appropriate for the semester. Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time. For students at the Guelph campus, information can be found on the SAS website. (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas/>)

Accommodation of Religious Obligations

If you are unable to meet an in-course requirement due to religious obligations, please email the course instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester to make alternate arrangements.

See the Academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Accommodations of Religious Obligations (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-accommodation-religious-obligations/>).

Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all undergraduate students except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available

in the Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/dropping-courses/>).

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

Health and Wellbeing

The University of Guelph provides a wide range of health and wellbeing services at the Vaccarino Centre for Student Wellness (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/>). If you are concerned about your mental health and not sure where to start, connect with a Student Wellness Navigator (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/navigators/>) who can help develop a plan to manage and support your mental health or check out our mental wellbeing resources (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/shine-this-year/>). The Student Wellness team are here to help and welcome the opportunity to connect with you.

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars (<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/?index>) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration. (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>)