

**WURZWEILER SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
YESHIVA UNIVERSITY**

**HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT  
SWK 6100**

**FALL 2021**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**ERES: wurzweiler**

The Human Behavior sequence includes two courses: Human Behavior in the Social Environment (HBSE) and Psychosocial-pathology. HBSE is the first of the two courses in the Human Behavior and will introduce students to the conceptual and theoretical frameworks that inform our understanding of the human condition and the normative stages of human development from prenatal through old-old-age. The course material will focus on the reciprocal and transactional influences between individuals and their environment with an emphasis on the micro, mezzo, macro and chrono systems and the importance of cultural competence for the social work practitioner. The growth and development of the individual will be viewed as a person in dynamic transition through the context and lens of the life course perspective. The individual, family, community, and larger society will be explored as elements in a state of perpetual flux, each uniquely affected by socioeconomic, political, historical, and ecological forces that are part of an overarching framework.

A unique aspect of this course is the emphasis on issues that deal with the 'self' in an ecological context, with specific attention to the exploration of the individual, physical, intellectual, and temperamental endowments in transaction and conflict with socio-cultural norms, family patterns, and the crises, struggles, conflicts, risks and opportunities encountered throughout the life course. This course lays the foundation for social work's understanding of the diverse elements that unite contemporary knowledge and theories regarding human behavior and the social environment and the intersectionality of the human experience. Specific emphasis will be placed on the capacity and adaptability for individuals, groups and organizations to improve the conditions in their own lives in response to external forces.

Through the perspective of the Life Course Theory, the student will begin to approach their interactions with clients using a differentiated lens that reflects the critical influence of the environment on human development. The course utilizes class discussions, readings and assignments to develop increased awareness of themselves in relation to their own life experience, thereby gaining greater sensitivity and cultural competence related to the external forces that contribute to individual development.

**COURSE COMPETENCY OUTCOMES**

Competency #1 is measured with student outcome data.

**Competency 1- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior**

Social workers understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards, as well as relevant laws and regulations that may impact practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Social workers understand frameworks of ethical decision-making and how to apply principles of critical thinking to those frameworks in practice, research, and policy arenas. Social workers:

- Recognize personal values and the distinction between personal and professional values. They also understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions influence their professional judgment and behavior.
- Understand the professional history, its mission, and the roles and responsibilities of the profession.
- Understand the role of other professions when engaged in inter-professional teams.
- Recognize the importance of life-long learning and are committed to continually updating their skills to ensure they are relevant and effective.
- Also understand emerging forms of technology and the ethical use of technology in social work practice.
- Make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes as appropriate in context.
- Recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice.

**Competency 2- Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice**

Social workers understand how diversity and difference characterize and shape the human experience and are critical to the formation of identity. The dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including but not limited to age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. Social workers understand that, as a consequence of difference, a person's life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power, and acclaim. Social workers also understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and recognize the extent to which a culture's structures and values, including social, economic, political, and cultural exclusions, may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create privilege and power.

Social workers:

- Apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels;
- Present themselves as learners and engage clients and constituencies as experts of their experiences; and
- Apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies.

### **Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic and Environmental Justice**

Social workers understand that every person regardless of position in society has fundamental human rights such as freedom, safety, privacy, an adequate standard of living, health care, and education. Social workers:

- Understand the global interconnections of oppression and human rights violations, and are knowledgeable about theories of human need and social justice and strategies to promote social and economic justice and human rights.
- Understand strategies designed to eliminate oppressive structural barriers to ensure that social goods, rights, and responsibilities are distributed equitably and that civil, political, environmental, economic, social, and cultural human rights are protected.
- Recognize and communicate their understanding of the importance of difference in shaping life experiences; and

### **COMPETENCY 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities**

Social workers understand that engagement is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers

- Value the importance of human relationships. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to facilitate engagement with clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
- Understand strategies to engage diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may impact their ability to effectively engage with diverse clients and constituencies.
- Value principles of relationship-building and inter-professional collaboration to facilitate engagement with clients, constituencies, and other professionals as appropriate.

### **Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

Social workers understand that assessment is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers:

- Understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in the assessment of diverse clients and

constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

- Understand methods of assessment with diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness.
- Recognize the implications of the larger practice context in the assessment process and value the importance of inter-professional collaboration in this process.
- Understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may affect their assessment and decision-making.

### **Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities**

Social workers understand that intervention is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers:

- Are knowledgeable about evidence-informed interventions to achieve the goals of clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
- Understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to effectively intervene with clients and constituencies.
- Understand methods of identifying, analyzing and implementing evidence-informed interventions to achieve client and constituency goals.
- Value the importance of inter-professional teamwork and communication in interventions, recognizing that beneficial outcomes may require interdisciplinary, inter-professional, and inter-organizational collaboration.

### **Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

Social workers understand that evaluation is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. Social workers:

- Recognize the importance of evaluating processes and outcomes to advance practice, policy, and service delivery effectiveness.

- Understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in evaluating outcomes.
- Understand qualitative and quantitative methods for evaluating outcomes and practice effectiveness.
- Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes

## **II. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. Understand the value base of the profession, its ethical standards, and the use of ethical decision-making frameworks, and how they may impact practice at the micro, mezzo, macro and chronosystems levels.
2. Recognize personal values and the distinction between personal and professional values.
3. Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in understanding person-in-environment
4. Understand and evaluate key theories that describe human behavior and functioning.
5. Understand the dynamics of individual growth and development throughout the life span within a biopsychosocial framework.
6. Understand the ecological view of person-in-environment (micro, mezzo, macro, and chrono systems) through a biopsychosocial and socio-cultural lens of human growth and development.
7. Understand the interaction between the person and the environment as it applies to clients and to oneself as a developing social work professional.
8. Understand how the inequities of resource distribution impacts the ability of at-risk populations to achieve their optimal developmental functioning.

## **III. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS**

Learning will occur through a variety of experiences including readings in theoretical and fictional sources, didactic lectures, films and class discussions. Class sessions are designed to permit exploration, **not review**, of the content assigned readings, and of the students' responses.

## **IV. COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING**

Students are expected to attend all classes and to be on time. Class participation is an important part of the learning process and ALL students are expected to participate in all assigned exercises and discussions. Students are expected to complete assignments on time, complete readings and to be prepared for related class discussions. You will be graded on the

depth of your contributions and preparedness for class. In addition, all students must submit a weekly journal entry reflecting their reaction to assigned readings and class discussion. Each assignment will be weighted as follows:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Grade %</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Written Assignment: Reflection on Environmental Influence on Early Development	15%	4 <sup>th</sup> session
Reflective Journals	15%	Through-out semester
Midterm: Written Assignment: Application of Ecological Perspective to a Film	20%	7 <sup>th</sup> Session
Final Assignment: Presentation of Stages of Development	30%	13 <sup>th</sup> Session
Attendance & Class Participation	20%	

### **Rubric for Participation, Attendance and Comportment**

<b>Class Participation</b>	Contributes to class discussions by raising thoughtful questions, analyzing relevant issues, building on others' ideas, synthesizing across readings and discussions, expanding the class' perspective, and appropriately challenging assumptions and perspectives <b>8 points</b>	Attends class regularly and <i>sometimes</i> contributes to the discussion in the aforementioned ways. <b>6 points</b>	Attends class regularly but <i>rarely</i> contributes to the discussion in the aforementioned ways. <b>4 points</b>	Attends class regularly but <i>never</i> contributes to the discussion in the aforementioned ways. <b>2 points</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	Always arrives on time and stays for entire class; regularly attends class; all absences are excused; always takes responsibility for work missed; no deadlines missed. <b>7 points</b>	Minimal lateness; almost never misses a class; no unexcused absences. No deadlines missed. <b>5 points</b>	Late to class semi-frequently; misses deadlines. <b>3 points</b>	Late to class frequently misses deadlines <b>1 point</b>
<b>Comportment</b>	Demonstrates excellence in communication, interpersonal skill, respect for the ideas of others and the learning environment, engages in reflective thinking, exemplifies empathy, honesty and integrity, shows respect for diversity, demonstrates ethical conduct, and conducts oneself with a professional demeanor. <b>5 points</b>	Occasionally exhibits excellence in comportment; is almost always respectful towards peers, and the learning environment <b>4 points</b>	Recurring comportment issues behaves in ways that are not always respectful of peers, and the learning environment <b>2 points</b>	Consistent comportment concerns; is often disrespectful to peers and the learning environment <b>0 points</b>

### **Required Texts:**

Rogers, A.T. (2016) Human Behavior in the Social Environment: Perspectives on Human Development and the Life Course, 4th edition (paperback or rental online available). New York: Routledge. Cost: \$53.52 (used), \$59.50 (new), \$20.86 (rental)  
 ISBN-13: 978-1138819511  
 ISBN-10: 1138819514

Garbarino, J. (1992). *Children and Families in the Social Environment*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Aldine de Gruyter. ISBN: 202-36080-6. Cost: \$17.48 used.

**Recommended Texts:**

Newman, B.M. and Newman, P.R. (2018). *Development Through Life: A Psychosocial Approach*, 13<sup>th</sup> edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning. ISBN: Student Edition: 978-1-337-09814-4: Cost \$112.97

Thomas, A.J. & Schwarzbaum, S.E. (2017). *Culture and Identity: Life Stories for Counselors and Therapists*, Third Edition. Los Angeles: CA. Sage Publishers. ISBN: 13: 978-1506305677 \$81.00

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**ASSIGNMENT I - Due Session 3 - Reflection on Environmental Influence On Early Development**

We have introduced the various levels of the Ecological Perspective and the idea of environmental press. This framework provides social workers with a useful tool for understanding some of the profound ways individuals are shaped by direct and indirect systems. You were born into an environment that provided certain experiences, opportunities and challenges. Consider the environment of your early development (childhood years) and the ways in which that environment influenced

- How you think about yourself
- Your current worldview – the lens through which you see the world
- The important relationships in your life

This is a 3-4 page reflective paper on how you understand the impact of the environment in which your childhood development occurred. Please be sure to consider micro, meso, exo, macro and chronosystems.

**Do not use literature or citations in this paper.** (3) Due Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> class. This paper is reflective, therefore the content is not graded. However, the paper will be evaluated on how well you have presented ideas in writing, organization of the paper and grammar (5) **All papers must be typed, double spaced. The cover page must be attached to the back of the paper so that the name of the writer is unknown until after the paper has been read.**

**ASSIGNMENT II- MIDTERM – APPLICATION OF THE ECOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE TO A FILM.**

This assignment is a combination of demonstration of mastery of content as well as application of content to the characters/circumstances in the film. All written assignments require understanding of theoretical concepts and materials presented in classroom and readings. This paper is an opportunity for you to apply what you have been learning this semester.

*You are required to view the film “The Joy Luck Club” on your own time prior to session 7 this will be the basis of your midterm paper. The film is available on Netflix, Amazon Prime as*

*well as on you tube where we believe it is free but that is subject to change and you may need to sign-up to view it.*

1. Define Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Perspective including all five (5) levels of systems – making note of each of the systems as they are expressed in the film.
2. Choose two (2) of the main characters (among the four daughters).
3. Through a multidimensional and life cycle perspective discuss how each system interacts with these characters to inform their functioning and development. Compare and/or contrast the differences or similarities between the environmental factors of these two characters.
4. Make sure to include the environmental press, the interlocking circles of risk as well as elements of resource and resilience.
5. Include any value conflicts and personal biases that may have emerged for you in viewing the film.
6. You may use any and all required readings as well as 4 additional peer reviewed journal articles.

This is an analysis not a film review. You are expected to apply acquired knowledge to your understanding of the development of the characters you've chosen. Although you will focus on one character this paper is also about interlocking systems and the probable systemic impact on your character's development. **Do not use online computer sites such as Wikipedia or sites that provide psycho-educational information. Use professional scholarly journals and texts only!**

This paper should be presented in a scholarly fashion using APA-6 style citations and references. Make sure to include an **Introduction** and a **Conclusion**. You may use headings to organize your paper if it helps. Number your pages. This paper should be 8-10 pages (**NO MORE**). Proofread your paper before submission. Due date: 9th session. **LATE PAPERS ARE NOT ACCEPTED**

### **ASSIGNMENT III – Presentation on Stages of Development: Due Date: Throughout the second half of the semester** (Students should be assigned a stage by class 4)

In this portion of the course students will teach the class about a stage of development as follows:

- In order to facilitate a productive experience for both the “teachers” and the class please identify two articles and send them to everyone, including your professor, at least one week prior to the class you teach. Have three (3) questions for the class following your presentation that will reflect both the readings and your presentation on the developmental stage that will stimulate a class discussion.
- You will be asked to use a real or imagined case as part of your presentation. There are also cases available in your textbook, but if at all possible, utilize a case from the field. Your professor is available to meet with you to discuss the appropriateness of your case.

The presentation should be approximately one hour, but may exceed that time. The following is an outline of the areas that should be addressed in your presentation. Remember, you are the ‘expert’.

1. Describe the stage of Development and expectations for this stage, ie. the developmental tasks (across biological, psychological, emotional, physical, spiritual)
2. What is the psychosocial crisis, according to Erickson?



3. What are the central themes during this stage of development?
4. What are the basic strengths/virtues, or possible positive outcomes that may arise as a result of the constructive resolution of this developmental stage?
5. What are some of the major challenges individuals may face at this stage? What environmental risks do we need to be more cognizant of at this stage? How about family risks?
6. What is the syntonic resolution/ the dystonic resolution?
7. What are the new coping skill that result from the resolution of the crisis?
8. How is this stage related to previous stages?
  - a. What aspects of previous stages do we see playing out in this stage?
  - b. How can the individual overcome issues that may have arisen as a result of a poorly resolved psychosocial crisis?
9. How is this stage related to later stages?
  - a. What aspects of this stage might we see playing out in later stages?
  - b. What may be expected if the psychosocial crisis is unresolved during in this stage?
10. The impact of chronosystems on the experiences of this stage
11. Utilize a real or imagined case study of an individual at this stage of development and address the following: (You may use yourself or a family member)
  - a. Please describe the central themes of Life Course Theory and how they apply to the individual and the circumstances.
  - b. How can Life Course Theory be used to understand this stage of development?
  - c. Are there any other theories that would be useful to us in understanding this individual at this life stage? Please give examples, along with an explanation of why you have chosen this theory why you believe it would be useful in your work with the client.
12. Discuss the possible outcomes for the individual and his/her circumstance and an intervention that would help the individual resolve a psychosocial crisis during this life stage.

You are welcome to include appropriate videos, small portions of film, role-plays, class exercises and other tools for engaging the class in discussion and creating a stimulating classroom experience. Students may work in pairs.

**All students must complete ALL class assignments, participate in class exercises, pass both midterm and final papers to receive a passing grade for the course. DO NOT make last minute requests for special accommodations for completion of work; if accommodations are necessary this must be thoroughly discussed with the professor with sufficient time to explore options and for the professor to plan.**

### **Competency 1- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior**

#### **Competency Measures**

**1A-Recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice.**

**1B- Make ethical decisions by applying standards of the NASW Code of Ethics.**

**1C- Tolerate ambiguity in resolving ethical conflicts.**

## GRADING RUBRIC FOR PAPERS

	<b>Competent</b> (A= 94-100; A- = 90-93)	<b>Developing Competence</b> (B+ = 87-89; B= 83-86)	<b>Emerging Competence</b> (B-=80-82; C+ = 75-79)	<b>Lacks Competence</b> (C=70-74 F<74)
<b>Intro &amp; conclusion</b>	The intro guides the reader smoothly and logically into the paper with a clear organized structure. The conclusion synthesizes key points suggesting perspectives relevant to the theme.	The intro identifies the central theme and provides a good organizational structure. The conclusion synthesizes key points.	The intro does not sufficiently identify the theme and does not guide the reader into the paper. The conclusion restates the same points as the intro paragraph without reframing.	The intro does not have a present and identifiable theme and does not guide the reader into the body of the paper. The conclusion is either missing or restates the intro paragraph verbatim.
<b>Content &amp; depth of analysis</b>	Paper explores the topic in depth and demonstrates an understanding of social work principles and demonstrating the application of theory to practice.	Paper meets the parameters of the assignment but does not adequately demonstrate application of theory to practice.	Paper does not address some aspects of the assignment; and/or demonstrates a basic application of theory to practice skills.	Paper does not address the assignment and demonstrates a poor application of theory to practice.
<b>Integration of literature &amp; class discussions</b>	Paper provides integration of professional literature & discussions.	Paper shows some integration of professional literature & discussions.	Paper shows little evidence of integration of professional literature & discussions.	Paper does not provide evidence integration of professional literature & discussions.
<b>Organization &amp; Clarity</b>	Organization is logical and apparent with connections among paragraphs clearly articulated. Transitions between paragraphs are smooth. Wording is unambiguous. Sentence structure is clear.	Organization is logical and apparent, but transitions between paragraphs are not consistently smooth; all but a few paragraphs connect with clarity. Paper is unambiguous. Sentence structure is mostly clear.	Organization can only be discerned with effort. Not all parts of the paper fit the organizational structure. There is no logical connection between many paragraphs. Wording is ambiguous Sentence structure confusing.	Organization of the paper as a whole is not logical or discernable. Throughout the paper, wording is ambiguous. Sentence structure is consistently confusing.
<b>Mechanics</b>	Paper is formatted well. Grammar is perfect. Quotes are all properly attributed and cited.	Minor spelling or grammatical errors. Quotes are all properly attributed and cited.	Many spelling and grammatical errors. In a few places, quotes are not attributed and cited.	Paper is unacceptably sloppy. And quotes are frequently not attributed or improperly cited.

### **VI. EVALUATION**

Students are provided opportunity to evaluate master courses. An evaluation form pertaining to the course and instructor will be conducted on-line. Evaluation is ongoing and students are encouraged to

**VII. OFFICE OF DISABILITIES SERVICES (ODS)** collaborates with students, faculty and staff to provide reasonable accommodations and services to students with disabilities. The purpose of reasonable academic accommodations is to assure that there is equal access to and the opportunity to benefit from your education at Wurzweiler. It is the student's responsibility to identify himself/herself to the Office of Disabilities Services (ODS) and to provide documentation of a disability. <http://www.yu.edu/Student-Life/Resources-and-Services/Disability-Services/>

### **VIII. E-RESERVES**

Access full text copies of most of the "on reserve" articles for a course from your home computer. You will need Adobe Acrobat to use this service. Your professor will provide you with a password. The link for e-reserves is <http://yulib002.mc.yu.edu:2262/er.php>. Most of the articles mentioned in the curriculum are available on electronic reserve (E-reserves). You can access the full text articles from your home or from a university computer at no charge.

## ACCESSING E-RESERVES

### FROM CANVAS

1. Go to your class Canvas page.
2. Click the link "Library Resources & E-Reserves" (no password required)\

### FROM CAMPUS

1. If you wish to access e-reserves from the library home page ([library.yu.edu](http://library.yu.edu)),
2. Use "wurzweiler" all lower case, as the password.
3. If you have problems accessing e-reserves, email: Stephanie Gross, Electronic Reserves Librarian: [gross@yu.edu](mailto:gross@yu.edu) or [ereserves@yu.edu](mailto:ereserves@yu.edu).

### FROM OFF-CAMPUS

1. Go to the library's online resources page: [http://www.yu.edu/libraries/online\\_resources.asp](http://www.yu.edu/libraries/online_resources.asp)
2. Click on E-RES; you will be prompted for your [Off Campus Access Service login](#) and password.
3. Use "wurzweiler" all lower case, as the password for all courses in all social work programs.
4. If you have problems accessing e-reserves, email: Stephanie Gross, Electronic Reserves Librarian: [gross@yu.edu](mailto:gross@yu.edu) or [ereserves@yu.edu](mailto:ereserves@yu.edu).

### USING E-RESERVES

1. Click on "Search E-RES" or on "Course Index," and search by instructor's name, department, course name, course number, document title, or document author.
2. Click on the link to your course.
3. When the article text or book record appears on the screen, you can print, email, or save it to disk. To view documents that are in PDF format, the computer you are using must have Adobe Acrobat Reader software. You can download it FREE at [www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html)

## IX. PLAGIARISM

All written work submitted by students is to be their own. Ideas and concepts that are the work of others must be cited with proper attribution. The use of the written works of others that is submitted as one's own constitutes **plagiarism** and is a violation of academic standards. The School will not condone **plagiarism** in any form and will impose sanctions to acts of **plagiarism**. A student who presents someone else's work as his or her own work is stealing from the authors or persons who did the original thinking and writing. **Plagiarism** occurs when a student directly copies another's work without citation; when a student paraphrases major aspects of another's work without citation; and when a student combines the work of different authors into a new statement without reference to those authors. It is also **plagiarism** to use the ideas and/or work of another student and present them as your own. It is **NOT plagiarism** to formulate your own presentation of an idea or concept as a reaction to someone else's work; however, the work to which you are reacting should be discussed and appropriately cited. If it is determined that a student has plagiarized any part of any assignment in a course, the student automatically **FAIL** the course. The student also will be placed on Academic Probation and will be referred to the Associate Dean for any additional disciplinary action which may include expulsion. A student may not submit the same paper or an assignment from another class for credit. If students or faculty are concerned that written work is indeed plagiarized, they can use the following "plagiarism checker" websites, easily accessible, and generally free on Google:

[www.grammarly.com/plagiarism\\_checker](http://www.grammarly.com/plagiarism_checker) [www.dustball.com/cs/plagiarism.checker](http://www.dustball.com/cs/plagiarism.checker)  
[www.plagtracker.com](http://www.plagtracker.com)

[www.plagium.com/](http://www.plagium.com/)

[www.plagscan.com/seesources/](http://www.plagscan.com/seesources/)

[www.duplichecker.com/](http://www.duplichecker.com/)

As a Wurzweiler student, maintaining good standing in the program is dependent on developing and maintaining high standards of ethical and professional behavior. Students are required to adhere to the Code of Ethics promulgated by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

## **X. HIPAA**

In line with HIPAA regulations concerning protected health information, it is important that you understand that any case information you present in class or coursework will need to be de-identified. What this means is that any information that would allow another to identify the person must be changed or eliminated. This includes obvious identifiers such as names and birth dates but may also contain other information that is so unique to the person that it will allow for identification, including diagnosis, race/ethnicity or gender. If diagnosis, race/ethnicity or gender is directly related to the case presentation, it can be included if it will not allow for identification.

## **XI. FERPA & OTHER UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

- Wurzweiler's policies and procedures are in compliance with FERPA regulations. Information about FERPA regulations can be found [here](#).
- Drug-Free University Policy can be found [here](#).
- Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination, Anti-Harassment, and Complaint procedures can be found [here](#).
- The University's Computer Guidelines can be found [here](#).

## **Course Outline**

### **Theme I- Orientation to the Course: Beginnings, Change, the Multidimensional Approach and the Life Course Perspective**

**Sessions 1-2: Beginnings and change:** Beginnings relate to the student and the client. We live in a systemic society and we develop across a continuum informed by different experiences, values, relationships and the environment. Beginnings may include conflicts, anxieties, losses, excitement, struggles and aspirations; these inherent dimensions are organized and informed by our life experiences.

Garbarino, J. (1992) *Children and Families in the Social Environment*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, New York: Aldine de Gruyter Chapter 2-"The Ecology of Human Development" 11-34

Golan, N. (1983). The nature of transitions and the change process, chapter 2 In *Passing Through Transition*, The Free Press: NY pp.11-22 CLASSIC ERES

Rogers (2016) Chapter 1 - "Human behavior and the Social Work Profession (p.1-23)

Stein, G.(1964) *The Making of Americans*, New York: Harcourt Brace & World, Inc. 40-49

Wheelis, A. (1995) Goodbye mama in Levitz, L. (Ed) *Reflections on Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Copley Publications

### **Session 3: Broad Definition of Systems: Development as Change including general systems theory, role theory and the ecological perspective**

The person in environment construct has been used as the foundation for developing a multi-dimensional approach. No one dimension of the person or the environment will tell the whole story; it is the interaction of all the dimensions folded into the construct of the person-environment relationship that tells the story. This story is told over time and within a specific time period; understanding the importance of time helps us to understand the constant changes in the person-environment transactions.

- Introduction of the Ecological perspective
- Environmental Press
- Radius of Significant Relationships
- Life Course Perspective

#### **Required Readings:**

Garbarino:

Chapter 1: Beginning at the end, or ending at the beginning? p.1-10.

Rogers:

Chapter 2: The person in the environment p.23-58.

**Theme II: Family as Social System: Sessions 4 & 5:** Family is the basic social institution and the primary social group the configuration of which varies from culture to culture. This unit explores identity formation within the context of family, the impact of change (developmental, illness, immigration, loss etc.) in and on the family and the family as the mediating system between the individual and society. The individual and his/her family are interdependent yet the family exists within and is impacted by the community, the larger society and socio-historic time period.

**Classroom Exercise:** An exploration of your own family - details to be provided by your professor.

#### **Required Readings:**

Garbarino Chapter 4: The Family as a Social System

Metzger, J. (2008). Resiliency in children and youth in kinship care and family foster care. *Child Welfare*, 87(6), p. 115-40. **E-Res.**

Fox, A., Berrick, J.D., & Frasch, K. (2008). Safety, family, permanency, and child well-being: What we can learn from children. *Child Welfare*, 86(1), p.67-90. **E-Res.**

Paquin & Bushorn. (1991, June) Family Treatment Assessment for Novices. *Families in Society*, pp. 353-359.

### **Theme III- The Self in an Environmental Context, Trauma, Risk & Resilience: Sessions 6**

Identification and exploration of Bronfenbrenner's ecological perspective of development provides a lens through which we understand our clients. All systems have inherent risks and developmentally we learn to negotiate the systems in spite of and because of the risks. All systems also include resources and the interaction between risks and resources help us to develop coping skills, change and grow. This occurs through the process of response to stress, crisis and trauma experiences.

#### **Required Readings:**

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Garbarino, J. (1992) *Children and Families in the Social Environment*, (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). New York: Aldine de Gruyter. Chapter 3- "Socio-cultural Risk and Opportunity" 35-70

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Chapter 9-"Social Construction" 232-270 ERES

Chapter 11-"Risk and Resilience Theory" 315-342 ERES

Herman, J. (1997). *Trauma and Recovery*, New York: Basic Books.

Chapter 2-"Terror" 33-50 ERES

Chapter 3-"Disconnection" 51-74

Chapter 5- "Child Abuse"

### **Learning Theme IV –Individual Person as a System**

#### **Session 7: Definition of the Person as a System Developing Through Different Stages**

**Introduction of the person as a system: Multiple Dimensions of a Person:** Understanding the different dimensions of a person from a bio-psychosocial perspective provides a way of understanding development throughout the life span. The Eriksonian paradigm is an excellent example of development over the life span.

**Choice and Will-** Socio-cultural factors inform our identification and understanding of our choices and the capacity to exercise our will. **The Biological Person:** Biological factors may restrict and/or enable and circumscribe the parameters of human development and individual abilities. **The Psychological Person:** Cognition, emotions and affect are dynamic dimensions of the personality. There is a special relationship between intelligence, coping and decision making across the life cycle. In addition, ego capacities are the focal points of our psychological development. **The Psychosocial Person and the Spiritual Person:** The psychosocial perspective is a traditional social work perspective important in understanding human behavior. However, it is important to add to this the person's spiritual understandings and yearnings This refers to one's search for meaning, purpose in life and the need to connect to others in the world. It is a process and therefore, develops over time. This is particularly important in understanding the traumatic responses of people. .

### **Required Readings:**

Bernstein, J. (1995) Taking Rachel Swimming in Levitz, L. (Ed.) *Reflections on Human behavior in the Social Environment*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Copley Publications

\*Belluck, Pam (2009). "Yes, looks do count", *New York Times*, 4/26/09

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Gross, J. (2006) "Learning to Savor a Full Life, Love Life Included," *New York Times*, 4/20/06

Haight, W.L. (1998) Gathering the spirit at first Baptist church: Spirituality as a protective factor in the lives of African American children, *Social Work*, 43 (3), 213-221 CLASSIC

Jones, M. (2006). "Shutting Themselves In," *New York Times*, 1/15/06

\*Poisson, Jayme, (2011) "Parents keep child's gender secret" *Toronto Star*, 5/21/11

### **Learning Theme V – A Life Course Perspective and Transitions in Human Development (sessions 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14)**

In these sessions the focus will be exploring the life course (life span) perspective and the necessary, universal transitions in developing through the different life stages within the environmental context for individual and family development. It will include exploration of the intersectionality of race-ethnicity, gender, social status, educational level, culture, nationality, age and previous experiences influences the way an individual negotiates transitioning into the next developmental stage.

#### **Session 8: Introduction to Stages of Individual Development, Conception, Prenatal Development & Childbirth, and Infancy**

Bretherton, I. (1992). The origins of attachment theory: John Bowlby and Mary Ainsworth, *Developmental Psychology*, 28(5), pp. 759–775.

Elder, G. (1998). The Life Course as Developmental Theory. *Child development*, Vol. 69(1), pp 1-12 ERES

Mahler, M., Pine, F. & Bergman, A. (2000). *The psychological birth of the human infant: Symbiosis and individuation*, New York: Basis Books, Part 1, 3-17.

Rogers, A.T. (2016). Chapter 6 and 7, Pre-Pregnancy and Prenatal Issues. 171-209.

Garbarino (1992) Chapter 6 The Ecology of Childbearing and Child Rearing

#### **Session 9: Toddlerhood and Early Childhood**

Rogers, A.T. (2016). Chapter 7, Development in Infancy and Early Childhood, 209-247.

Garbarino (1992) : Chapter 8 The Territory of Childhood

### **Session 10: Middle Childhood**

Rogers, A.T. (2016). Chapter 8. Development in Middle Childhood, 247-278.

Garbarino (1992). Chapter 7. Cultural Diversity and Identity Formation, 179-199.

Poisson, Jayme, (2011) "Parents keep child's gender secret" *Toronto Star*, 5/21/11

### **Session 11: Adolescence: Psychosocial Transitions, family and Community Transactions**

\*Chapin, J.R. (2000) Adolescent sex and mass media: A developmental approach, *Adolescence* 35, 140, 799-811.

\*De Goede, I.H., Branje, S.J. & Meeus, W.H (2009) Developmental changes in adolescents' perceptions of relationships with their parents, *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 38, 75-88.

\*Giovacchini, P.L. (2001) Dangerous transitions and the traumatized adolescent, *American Journal of Psychoanalysis, suppl. Special Issue: The Traumatized Adolescent*, (61) 1 7-22.

\*Kenyon, D.Y.B., Rankin, L, Koerner, S. & Dennison, R. (2007) what makes an adult? Examining descriptions from adolescents of divorce, *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 36,813-823.

Lapsley, D. & Stey, P. (2015), Separation Individuation in Adolescence.  
[https://www3.nd.edu/~dlapsle1/Lab/Articles%20&%20Chapters\\_files/Lapsley%20Stey%20Sep-Ind\\_1.pdf](https://www3.nd.edu/~dlapsle1/Lab/Articles%20&%20Chapters_files/Lapsley%20Stey%20Sep-Ind_1.pdf)

Rogers, A.T. (2016). Chapter 9 Development in Adolescence, 278-318.

### **Session 12: Emerging Adulthood and Early Adulthood**

\*McNamara Barry, C. & Nelson, L. (2005) The role of religion in the transition to adulthood for emerging adults, *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, (34), 3, 245-255.

\*Murphy, K., Blustein, D., & Bohlig, A. (2010) The college-to-career transition: An exploration of emerging adulthood, *Journal of Counseling and development:JCD*,88, 2, 174-181.

\*O'Connor, M., Sanson, A., Hawkins,M., Letcher, P. & Toumbourou, J. (2011) Predictors of positive development in emerging adulthood, *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 40, 7, 860-874.



\*Oesterle, S., Haekins, D., Hill, K., & Bailey, J. (2010). Men's and women's pathways to adulthood and their adolescent precursors, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 72, 5, 1436-1453.

Rogers, A.T. (2016). Chapter 10. Development in Early Adulthood, 318-354.

Salvatore, C., Travis, T., & Welsh, Wayne. (2012). Is emerging adulthood influencing Moffitt's developmental taxonomy? Adding the "prolonged" adolescent offender. *Western Criminology Review*, 13, 1, 1-15.

Schwartz, Cote, & Arnett (2005) Identity and agency in Emerging Adulthood: The developmental routes in the individuation process. *Youth and Society*, 37(2), 201-229.

\*Walsh, S., Shulman, S., Feldman, B. & Mauer, O. (2005). The impact of immigration on the internal processes and developmental tasks of emerging adulthood. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 34, 5, 413-426.

### **Session 13: Middle Adulthood**

Itzhaky, H. (1999) Gender, values and the work place: Considerations for immigrant acculturation, *International Social Work* 42 (2) 127-139.

Kobayashi, K. "Midlife Crises": Understanding the changing nature of relationships in middle age Canadian families, <https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/sedap/p/sedap212.pdf>

Rogers, A.T. (2016). Development in Middle Adulthood, 354-388

\*Smith, T. (2004), Coming of age in twenty-first century America: Public attitudes towards the importance and timing of transitions to adulthood. *Ageing International*, 29,2,136-148.

### **Session 14: The Elderly: Old Age and Very Old Age Summary and Conclusion**

#### **Required Reading:**

\*Arbaje, A., & Boonyasai, R.T. (2011), The older person in transition: Implications for pathways of transitions of care. *Annual Review of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 31, 15-XI.

\*Hooker, K., Hoppmann, C., & Siegler, I. (2010). Personality: Life span compass for health, *Annual Review of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 30, 201-XII.

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## Summary and Conclusion

### HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

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Altshuler, S.J. (1999) Children in kinship foster care speak out: "We think we're doing fine," *Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 16, (3), 215.

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Cancian, M. (2000) Work after welfare: Women's work effort, occupation, and economic well being, *Social Work Research*, 24 (2) 69-87.

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