

## DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

<b>Credit points</b>	<b>6 CP</b>		
<b>Study course annotation</b>	Conversance with the main theories of mental development, main facts and methods, acquisition of developmental content in childhood, adolescence and adulthood, and acquisition of research skills in developmental psychology.		
<b>Aim of the study course</b>	Acquisition of understanding on human mental development and study methods, as main regularities of life-long mental development in childhood, adolescence and adulthood.		
<b>Objectives of the course</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate with main theories of mental development.</li> <li>• Initiate with main facts and problems on different life stages.</li> <li>• Initiate with main methods in developmental psychology.</li> <li>• Acquisition of consultation approaches to mainstream developmental problems.</li> </ul>		
<b>Study course results</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Skills</b>	<b>Competences</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematic knowledge about theories on mental development, the ability to analyse, compare and critically evaluate major theories and methods in the context of developmental psychology and related disciplines;</li> <li>• knowledge of the methodological basis of developmental psychology, as well as basic knowledge of methods of psychological research and its evaluation;</li> <li>• knowledge how psychological phenomena can be explored and explained from different perspectives;</li> <li>• knowledge about socialization and internalization processes;</li> <li>• knowledge about delinquences in ontogenesis;</li> <li>• knowledge of the ethical principles that underpin the work of a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ability of demonstrate understanding of key concepts and regularities of developmental psychology.</li> <li>• The ability to critically analyse and evaluate original texts on developmental psychology, research results and projects, as well as to discriminate between the acquired knowledge resulting from scientific and pseudoscientific facts;</li> <li>• The ability to use analytical and critical thinking as well as scientific approaches and effective strategies for problem solving on development;</li> <li>• The ability to carry out a specific research project according to methodological and ethical principles of developmental psychology, as well as to submit a report in written and verbal form;</li> <li>• The ability to observe ethical principles when conducting research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ability to independently obtain, select, analyse and critically evaluate information on developmental psychology from various sources and use it;</li> <li>• the ability to critically approach knowledge in developmental psychology;</li> <li>• the ability to make decisions and solve problems based on empirically based knowledge in developmental psychology;</li> <li>• the ability to study in the field of developmental psychology independently correctly and consistently with basic principles and ethics of psychology;</li> <li>• the ability to understand the difference between scientific knowledge and people opinions;</li> <li>• the ability to assess the impact of their professional activities on</li> </ul>



	developmental psychologist; • knowledge about all adult's life stages	on development; • to take responsibility and show initiative by working individually, in a team, or by leading other people; • to take responsibility and initiative working individually, in a team or leading other people.	environment and society. • The ability to demonstrate a scientific approach to problem solving on developmental aspects.
<b>Study course content</b>	<b>Topics</b>		
	1	The subject-matter of developmental psychology and its history.	
	2	Methods of developmental psychology.	
	3	Theories of development by Shtern and Verner. Theories of development in Psychonalysis. Theories of development in Gestaltpsychology.	
	4	Theories of development by Piaget. Behavioral theory of development. Socio-cultural theory of development.	
	5	Emotional and cognitive development of infant.	
	6	Attachment theory and data. Studies of attachment.	
	7	Sensomotor stage. Development of temperament and self-regulation.	
	8	Imitation and imitating. Imagination of toddlers and preschoolers by Shtern." Field behavior".	
	9	Development of speech. "Egocentric speech" and „Cognitive egocentrism". Thinking of preschoolers.	
	10	The role of play in mental development.	
	11	Development of ethnic and gender identity.	
	12	Psychological readiness to school. Self-esteem and selfregulation. Attention and self-control. The role of a teacher.	
	13	Adolescence. Development of identity and self-esteem. Reference groups.	
	14	Aggression and violence in schools. Delinquency in adolescence.	
	15	Development of friendship and romantic relationships in adolescence.	
	16	Emergent adulthood. Cohabitation.	
	17	Stages of family development.	
	18	Early adulthood.	
	19	Middle adulthood.	
	20	Parenting and single-parent family.	
21	Aging and loneliness		
<b>Form of assessment:</b>	Exam		
<b>Obligatory literature:</b>			
1. Breslavs, G. (2009-2023). Attīstības psiholoģija. Lekcijas kurs. Power Point programmā. 2. Craig, G. J., & Baucum, D. (2012). Understanding Human Development. Pearson Education. 3. Sebre, S., & Miltuze, A. (2022). Attīstības psiholoģija. Cilvēka attīstība visas dzīves garumā. Rīga:Zvaigzne ABC.			



4. Slater, A., & Bremner, G. (2011). An Introduction to Developmental Psychology. 2nd edition. Wiley-Blackwell

**Additional reading:**

1. Arnett, J. J. (2004). Emerging Adulthood: The Winding Road from the Late Teens through the Twenties. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2. Breslavs, G. (2010-2018). Attīstības psiholoģijas piezīmes. Manuskripts.
3. Breslav, G. (1990). Emocionalnīje osobennosti formirovanija licnosti v destve. M.: Pedagogika.40
4. Shaffer, D. R. (2009). Developmental Psychology: Childhood and Adolescence. 8 edition. Wadsworth Publishing.
5. Slater, A., & Lewis, M. (2006). Introduction to Infant Development. Oxford: OUP.
6. Vigotskis, L. (2002). Domāšana un runa. Riga: EVE

**Other sources of information:**

1. European Journal of Developmental Psychology
2. Developmental Psychology.
3. International Journal of Behavioral Development
4. Journal of Adolescence
5. Child Development
6. Journal of Marriage and the Family
7. Psychology and Aging

**Changes and additions to the program and literature list are possible during the study process**