



**College of Education and Human Development
Department of Counseling, Health & Kinesiology
EDCG 5335 Human Development
Fall 2026**

Instructor: Isanely Guerrero Kurz, PhD, LPC

Class Time | Location: Tuesdays 5:30 – 6:45 PM | Classroom Hall 307

Email: ikurz@tamusa.edu

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 1-5PM or by appointment

Office Location: Classroom Hall 214G

Required Textbook:

Papalia, D., & Martorell, G. (2024). *Experience human development* (15th ed.). McGraw Hill.

Recommended Reading:

Siegel, D. J., & Bryson, T. P. (2011). *The Whole-Brain Child*. Random House Publishing Group.

Hajdu, G., & Hajdu, T. (2016). The impact of culture on well-being: Evidence from a natural experiment. *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 17, 1089–1110. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-015-9633-9>

Illeris, K. (2018). An overview of the history of learning theory. *European Journal of Education*, 53(1), 86-101. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejed.12265>

Livesley, W. J., & Jang, K. L. (2005). Differentiating normal, abnormal, and disordered personality. *European Journal of Personality*, 19(4), 257-268. <https://doi.org/10.1002/per.559>

Martin, T. F. (2018). Family development theory 30 years later. *Journal of Family Theory & Review*, 10, 49-69. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jftr.12237>

Prince-Embury, S. (2013). Translating resilience theory for assessment and application with children, adolescents, and adults: Conceptual issues. In S. Prince-Embury and D. Saklofske (Eds), *Resilience in children, adolescents, and adults* (pp. 9-16). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-4939-3_2

Course Description: This course provides a comprehensive overview of cognitive, physical, and psychological development aspects across the lifespan. Various theories associated with the developmental process will be explored and discussed. Special emphasis will be devoted to linking theory with practice across multiple settings (school, agencies, home).

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Students will learn the influence that biological factors have on the development of a fetus.
2. Students will learn the influence that diseases, nutrition, and physical injuries have on the development of an individual over his/her lifetime.
3. Students will learn to the influence of the environment on the individual as he/she develops over their lifetime to include the role of education and social interaction.
4. Students will learn to understand the effect that not only society in general has on the development of an individual over his/her lifetime, but they will also understand the unique effect each individual's culture also has on his/her development.

5. Students will be able to develop treatment programs for individuals taking into consideration the role that human development has on the approaches used.
6. Students will learn the different theoretical approaches to understanding human development including psychodynamic, behavioral, and cognitive approaches.
7. Students will learn the effect of human development on an individual's ability to work and will learn how work influences human development.

CACREP Standards:

Section 2: Professional Counseling Identity
F. Counseling Curriculum

3. Human Growth and Development
 - a. Theories of individual and family development across the lifespan
 - b. Theories of learning
 - c. Theories of normal and abnormal personality development
 - e. Biological, neurological, and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning, and behavior
 - f. Systemic and environmental factors that affect human development, functioning, and behavior
 - h. A general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differentiated interventions
 - i. Ethical and culturally relevant strategies for promoting resilience and optimum development and wellness across the lifespan

TEA School Counseling Standards:

Domain I – Understanding Students

Competency 001 – Human Development

The school counselor understands processes of human development and applies this knowledge to provide a developmental guidance program, including counseling services that meet the needs of all students.

Competency 003 – Factors Affecting Students

The school counselor understands factors that may affect students development and school achievement and applies this knowledge to promote students' ability to achieve their potential

Key Performance Indicator:

CACREP CORE OR SPECIALITY AREA: HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

The application of the Human Growth & Development Paper will be used to apply the theories taught in the class to a case study with specific counseling situations.

3. Human Growth and Development
 - a. Theories of individual and family development across the lifespan
 - b. Theories of learning
 - c. Theories of normal and abnormal personality development
 - e. Biological, neurological, and physiological factors that affect human development, functioning, and behavior
 - f. Systemic and environmental factors that affect human development, functioning, and behavior
 - h. A general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differentiated interventions

Human Growth and Development Paper

In this paper, the student will:

1. Apply theories of human growth and development top a situation that will deal with a counseling relationship
2. Demonstrate how they would educate the participants in the counseling relationship dealing with human growth and development
3. Discuss how to develop intervention strategies based on human growth and development
4. Discuss how to measure a successful outcome

This paper will be at least four full pages of text (not including cover page and reference page). Students will choose a topic from instructor's list of acceptable counseling situations. Three professional journal reference articles will be the minimum. The paper must be in APA style.

Student papers will include the following:

1. Cover page
2. Reference page – APA style
3. Three professional counseling journal articles related to the topic. These three articles are to be turned in with the paper.

Grading Rubric: Human Growth and Development Paper

Criteria	RATINGS			
	4 Points	3 Point	2 Points	0-1
Identification/explanation of counseling problem identified	Identifies a specific human developmental issue and its impact on counseling cases	Demonstrates average understanding of the problem	Demonstrates minimal understanding of the case/theory	Fails to demonstrate an understanding of the case/theory
Applicable human growth & development theories	Includes all appropriate developmental theories applicable to issue/case Above average detail/analysis	Outlines appropriate theories/has good understanding and elaborates on most applicable theories	Applies partial theories to the case or applies incorrect theories, fragmented application	Fails to apply appropriate theories to the case
Development of a treatment strategy	Fully develops an effective treatment plan over numerous domains of human development	Outlines an average treatment plan for developmental issue	Develops incomplete/partial treatment plan	Fails to develop appropriate treatment plan
Counseling journal references	Extensive research (3+) on issue /development/case, current	Utilizes 3 references relevant to developmental issue/case	Utilizes 2 or less references or not journal references	No references
Writing style	Excellent narrative, appropriate use of APA, good organization and flow	Demonstrates good quality of writing and appropriate use of APA format	Writing has many grammatical, spelling errors and/or problems with APA style	Fails to demonstrate quality of writing and proper use of APA style
Total/Notes				

EVALUATION PROCESS:

The professor will complete the following rubric to assess (final submission) and presentation of the Human Growth and Development Paper.

Points	Overall Rating	Rating Scale	Description
19-20	Mastery	4	Able to perform at a high level without supervision on a consistent basis
16-18	Proficient	3	Able to perform without supervision on a consistent basis
14-15	Developing	2	Able to perform with supervision on a consistent basis
11-13	Beginning	1	Able to perform with supervision on an inconsistent basis
0-10	Inadequate	0	Unable to perform with supervision

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: _____

Students who score 0-2 on a key performance indicator assignment will meet with the instructor to discuss remediation with the possibility of a Fitness to Practice referral.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via university email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-HELP (4357). If you don't hear back within 48 hours, contact them again. They have many requests during the first part of the semester, so you may need to follow up with them.

Academic Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, Disability Support Services is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us at the [website](#) or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. All students are encouraged to discuss their academic accommodation with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

Academic Learning Center: All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202. Online tutoring is also available for after hours and weekend assistance. While tutoring hours may change based on tutor schedules and availability, the current tutoring hours for MATH in the ALC are as follows.

Appointments available MATH Walk in Tutoring – No appointment needed

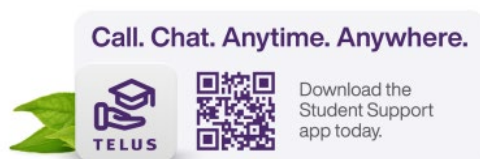
	Appointments available	Walk in Tutoring – No appointment needed
MONDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
TUESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
WEDNESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
THURSDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
FRIDAY	8 am – 5 pm	11 am – 4 pm

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the

Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, visit our website, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. *Crisis support is available 24/7/365 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 or through the TELUS student support App.*

The TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including 24/7/365 support for in the moment distress, crisis support, an anonymous peer-to-peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.



Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification system. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>. More information on emergency response may be found at: [Emergency Operations Plan](#) and the [Emergency Action Plan](#). Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended by the published Census Date (the first week of class). Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend prior to the published Census Date (the first week of class) will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Jaguar Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center (WLDCC): The WLDCC provides support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. The WLDCC offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. Students can schedule appointments with the WLDCC in JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. Students wanting to work in realtime with a tutor can schedule an "Online Appointment." Students wishing to receive asynchronous, written feedback from a tutor can schedule an "eTutoring" appointment. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our [website](#). The WLDCC can also be reached by emailing wldcc@tamusa.edu.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a CARE report for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources. A food pantry is available on campus; click [here](#) for hours and contact information.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to visit the Office of Military Affairs for any question involving federal or state VA Education Benefits. Visit the Patriots' Casa building, room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the wide variety of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual on our campus and within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees are to be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the University's Civil Rights Officer at 210-784-2061 or titleix@tamusa.edu.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking based on sex, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related sex-based misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide such reasonable accommodations to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status (titleix@tamusa.edu; 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

Texas A&M-San Antonio has also designated the Title IX Coordinator as the liaison officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The Title IX Coordinator can provide students with information regarding support services and other resources.

Young Jaguars can support parenting students with daycare if students meet this criteria: (1) must be enrolled in classes at Texas A&M-San Antonio in the current semester, (2) must be Pell eligible or a single parent, (3) child(ren) must be aged 3 to 12-years-old, and (4) child(ren) must be enrolled in Pre-K-3 through 6th grade. Hours of operation is Monday-Thursday 3:30pm-9:00pm. For more information, please contact Young Jaguars at youngjaguars@tamusa.edu or call (210) 784-2636.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, and pregnancy/parenting or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty, and administration.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, on our website, and University Catalog, and to comply with them, as well as with federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.

4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide a safe environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notifications.

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, or disability. Conduct that infringes on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the [Student Code of Conduct](#) or visit the resources available in the [OSRR website](#)

Important Fall 2026 Dates:

Dates	Event
August 20	Tuition & Fee Payments deadline
August 24	First day of class
September 7	Labor Day Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
September 9	Census Date – Students not paid in full or enrolled in a payment plan by 4:59 pm may be dropped for non-payment
October 5 – October 16	Midterm grading period
November 13	Last day to drop with an automatic “W”
November 25	Study Day – No classes
November 26-November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
November 30	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
December 4	Last day of classes
December 5 – December 11	Final exams
December 15	Commencement

The complete [academic calendar](#) is available online

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

[Insert Course Number] assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Grading Policy

90-100 total points = A

80-89 total points = B

70-79 total points = C

60-69 total points = D

Course Requirements

CACREP Standards	Requirement/Assignment	Due Date	Points
CMH 2:F.3a, 3b, 3c, 3e, 3f, 3h, 3i; TEA 001; TEA 003	Test 1	09/29	20
CMH 2:F.3a, 3b, 3e, 3f, 3h, 3i; TEA 001; TEA 003	Test 2	11/03	20
CMH 2:F.3a, 3b, 3e, 3f, 3h, 3i; TEA 001; TEA 003	Final Exam	12/08	30
CMH 2:F.3a, 3b, 3e, 3f, 3h	Human Growth and Development Paper	11/17	20
CMH 2:F.3a, 3b, 3e, 3f, 3h, 3i;	Modules	Ongoing	10

Tests

Students are responsible for all information in text, PowerPoints, lectures, and class discussions. Since class is hybrid, students are to read/review content outside of class. Tests will be multiple choice and short answer.

Modules

Students are responsible for completing reading materials and modules outside of class time. You will be asked to complete a module prior to class that asks a question related to the assigned material that will count towards your participation grade.

Human Growth and Development Paper

Students will write a paper that deals with a topic in the field of human development. This paper will be according to APA style and will consist of a cover page and will be at least 4 full pages of text (this does not include the cover page) and will be based upon at least three (3) professional counseling journal articles related to the issues covered. The student will select a situation or topic in which an individual is seeing a counselor to deal with an issue that relates to the field of human development. The student will demonstrate how the issue can be examined from a standpoint dealing with human development, how the client(s) can be educated using theories of human development, and/or how the client(s) can be helped to deal with or resolve this issue. This is an opportunity for the student to research a topic relevant to their field that they feel strongly about. This assignment will be evaluated using the previously shown rubric within TEVERA.

Schedule of Course Activities

Date	CACREP	Topic	Due
08/25	2.F.3a, b, e, f ; TEA 001; TEA 003	Introduction to Course	
09/01	2.F.3a, b, e, f ; TEA 001; TEA 003	The Study of Human Development; Theory and Research	Read Ch. 1-2 Module 1: Ch. 1-2
09/08	2.F.3a, b, c, e, f; TEA 001; TEA 003	Beginnings: Forming a New Life; Birth and Physical Development	Read Ch. 3-4 Module 2
09/15	2.F.3a, b, e, f ; TEA 001; TEA 003	Beginnings: Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development	Read Ch. 5-6 Module 3
09/22	2.F.3a, b, e, f; TEA 001; TEA 003	Early Childhood: Physical and Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development	Read Ch. 7-8 Module 4
09/29		TEST 1	Available from 12:00AM to 11:59 PM
10/06	2.F.3a, b, e, f, h; TEA 001; TEA 003	The Whole-Brain Child	Listen: https://youtu.be/Gkfv6oU4nEA?si=EVP4EwBZGetDbUsk
10/13	2.F.3a, b, e, f, h; TEA 001; TEA 003	Middle Childhood: Physical and Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development	Read Ch. 9-10 Module 5
10/20	2.F.3a, b, c, e, f, h; TEA 001; TEA 003	Adolescence: Physical and Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development	Read Ch. 11-12 Module 6
10/27	2.F.3a, b, e, e, h.; TEA 001; TEA 003	Emerging and Young Adulthood: Physical and Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development	Read Ch. 13-14 Module 7
11/03		TEST 2	Available from 12:00AM to 11:59 PM
11/10	2:F.3a, b, c, e, f ; TEA 001; TEA 003	Middle Adulthood: Physical and Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development	Read Ch. 15-16 Module 8
11/17	2.F.3a, b, e, f, i; TEA 001; TEA 003	Late Adulthood: Physical and Cognitive Development; Psychosocial Development; Dealing with Death	Read Ch. 17-19 Module 9 PAPER DUE
11/24		NO CLASS – STUDY DAY	
12/01	2.F.3a, b, e, f, i; TEA 001; TEA 003	Ethical and culturally relevant strategies for promoting resilience and optimum development and wellness across the lifespan	Read articles listed under Recommended Reading Module 10
12/08		FINAL EXAM	Available from 12:00AM to 11:59 PM