Child and Adolescent Development
TCSU FDEV 120

A. Description
   This course covers typical and atypical development of the whole child from conception through adolescence. Core components include the principles and applications of theories of cognitive, social-emotional, physical, and language development; the relationship of genetic and environmental influences on development (e.g., parents, family, and cultural influences); and processes that relate to academic achievement, peer relationships, and varying patterns of behavior.

B. Recommended Preparation
   None

C. Prerequisites
   None

D. Minimum Unit Requirement
   3 semester units

E. Course Topics
   1. Theoretical perspectives on cognitive, social, emotional, physical, and language development of children conception through adolescence;
   2. Genetic and environmental factors that influence development;
   3. Developmental milestones across domains from conception through adolescence;
   4. Research methods used in the study of children;
   5. Risk factors in childhood;
   6. Current issues relevant to human service and education professionals

F. Student Learning Outcomes
   Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
   1. Identify the major milestones in the areas of physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional and cultural development from conception through adolescence.
   2. Think critically about the various theories and accounts proposed to explain developmental change.
   3. Understand the effects of a broad range of influences on development including environmental (e.g., family, school, childcare, media, early intervention), cultural, economic, and gender.
   4. Recognize the interconnections among all aspects of human development and the importance of early experiences for later growth and functioning.
   5. Understand the importance of research in expanding our knowledge of child and adolescent development.
6. Observe, record, analyze and interpret behavior in a manner consistent with recognized research methods.
7. Think critically about current issues in human development with relevance for childcare, education, social service professionals, and related careers.
8. Identify sources of developmental risk (e.g., abuse and neglect, substance abuse) and describe their impact on development.