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# Psychology: Developmental (Life Span) (Quick Study: Academic)



**Quick Study**  
ACADEMIC

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## PSYCHOLOGY

### Developmental

Essentials of development over human lifespan including physical, cognitive, social and personal development through stages and more

#### FOUNDATIONS OF DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY THROUGHOUT THE LIFE SPAN

THE THEMATIC COMPONENTS OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

- **Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Studies:** The same individuals are studied over a prolonged interval (longitudinal) or many different individuals over discrete intervals (cross-sectional).
- **Quantitative and Qualitative:** Development may be incremental and linear (continuous) (e.g., height, weight) and less linear (discrete) (e.g., puberty or menopause).
- **Genetic and Environmental:** The interaction between genetic and environmental factors is a complex one, expressed in different interactive ratios for different developmental milestones.
- **Culture:** Developmental influences can be context-dependent. For instance, family, community, culture and historical events. (This is to say, environmental factors may play a more dominant role in personality development in a particular culture than in a different personality culture.)
- **Cumulative Effect:** Many developmental influences are best understood as the outcome of a cumulative developmental process.
- **Maturation Dynamics:** The rate of change in the longevity of populations, better health and mental development, the maturation and stage of developmental thresholds need to be recognized as being a dynamic continuum. For instance, contemporary adolescents are maturing sexually much earlier than their grand-grandparents did, and due to increased longevity and better general health, adults in their 60s are far more active and energetic than adults of the same age a century ago.
- **Ethical Considerations:** The experimental and scientific validity of most theories of development cannot be clearly established due to ethical constraints. For instance, it would be greatly unethical to compare naturally adopted groups of newborn infants to experimentally adopted or genetically altered, that is, as a result of adopting parents, how such factors negatively impact on personality development.

THE THEMES OF DEVELOPMENT

- **Psychosocial:** Emphasizes the role of subconscious factors in personality development. **Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Alfred Adler and Karen Horney** are representative of this tradition.
- **Psychoanalytic:** A subset of psychoanalytic approaches, advance social and cognitive components in the thought to be the main contributors to development. **Sigmund Freud and Wilhelm Reich** are representative of this tradition.

- **Psychosexual:** Characterized by the view that development is the outcome of biological, psychological and social interaction. **Sigmund Freud** is representative of this theory.
- **Freud's:** Focus is upon stages of cognitive development, frequently stated as qualitative, discrete processes. **Jean Piaget** is representative of this tradition.
- **Information Processing:** A more approach influenced by the models suggested by research in the field of cognitive engineering where emphasis is upon memory, perception, memory and problem solving at various stages of development. **David Broadbent's book, Attention and Communication**, published in 1958, laid the foundation for this theory.
- **Systems Theory:** Holds the proposition that humans cannot be fully understood in isolation of the relationship that they form with family, community and culture. The operational understanding of the individual is greater than the sum of its parts taken in isolation. The work of **Roger Barker, Gregory Bateson and Humberto Maturana** is representative of this tradition.
- **Sociocultural:** This is an evolutionary approach to the process of human behavioral development, in that behavior is seen as the outcome of the process of social selection and neurobiological adaptation to various social settings. **John Paul Scott and Edward, Wilson** are representative of this tradition.
- **Cultural Role:** Views culture as the primary determinant of personality development. In contrast, cultural traditions of the responsibilities and roles of parents and children play a crucial role in defining developmental milestones. **Richard Shweder** is representative of this tradition.
- **Social Role:** Takes the view that the development of personality is best understood in the context of the social roles a person participates in. **Eric Fromm, Victor Frankl, Abraham, Maslow, Sigmund Freud, and so on, Irving Guttmann and Kenneth Burke** are representative of this tradition.
- **Behavioral:** Outlook primarily based upon the study of operant conditioning theory, but also incorporated with aspects of cognitive behaviorism, as the basis for explaining personality development. **Burr H. Skinner** is representative of this tradition.
- **Biological:** Focuses on individual participants in different levels of environmental context, with some attention to the effects, but of achieving the individual's development. **Law B. Buss** is representative of this tradition.

The role of genetic factors in determination of physical and personality traits is variable, due to a complex interaction between genetic predispositions and environmental variables. Some traits may be completely genetically predetermined, such as the color, whereas others are only marginally genetically determined, such as height or weight.



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#### INFANCY & TODDLERHOOD (AGE 0-3 YEARS)

##### PHYSICAL & COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Senses, motor and perceptual functions, visual sensory capabilities (color discrimination, facial recognition, depth perception, locomotion) are formed but develop rapidly.

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Sensorimotor intelligence, utilization of mental images, object categorization, language development and fixation phase.
- **Jean Piaget** was the first to systematically investigate cognitive development and identified several distinct stages.

SOCIAL & PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Erik Erikson:** If infants needs are adequately met, a sense of trust is developed, if not, mistrust may develop.
- **Attachment:** May be secure, insecure, ambivalent, disorganized/controlled. There is a complex interaction between parental and child attachment styles, and a child's attachment style has long-term consequences extending into adulthood.
- **Separation Anxiety:** Most pronounced between 12 and 18 months.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- Initial communication by infants is by means of facial gestures, crying and gurgling.
- Vocalization of words begins around 2 months, vocabulary expands rapidly around 18 months.
- The development and sophistication of parents linguistic expressions greatly affects the child's language abilities.

##### COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT STAGES

Stage	Starting at Age	Ability	Example
Reflexes	0-1 years	Reflex responses	Crawling
Early Infants	2 years	Object relations	Drop toys
Crawling	4 years	Can manipulate actions to achieve limited goals	Drop blanket and pull it self
Manipulative Exploration	8 months	Directed use of actions to achieve two goals	Cover face with blanket to play
Experimental	11 months	Action modification to reach one goal	Use milk to bring a block
Self-Recognition	18-24 months	Recognizes self's reflection in mirror	"Rough day"
Imagery	18 months	Cognitive incoherence	Hide milk, reach blanket
Object Permanence <sup>1</sup>	18 months	Recognize that objects may exist even when no longer perceived	Frankie is hidden, nonetheless it still exists

\* Object permanence is related to the development of thinking with the concrete domain, if the mother denies the milk object's existence, an object is perceived that she mother still has.




## DOWNLOAD EBOOK

## Synopsis

Our 3-panel (6-page) guide provides a detailed review of a principal area of mental health care: developmental psychology. A perfect resource for nursing students or those already in the field who want to brush up on their skills, this guide covers the key concepts, skills, theories and their proponentsâ•all essential knowledge for the successful psychology student. Jam-packed text is enhanced by graphic elements and tables are used to provide ease of use.

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This chart is perfect for quick tips and explanations and makes for a perfect reference guide for Developmental Psychology. The laminated pamphlet is perfect for a binder and can be reviewed without removal. I recommend this for anyone who loves Psychology or who is majoring in the course.

Helps me with school, I am going into nursing and everything helps. so thank you, it came in a timely fashion and in really great condition

Love Psychology: Developmental (Life Span) it's a great quick reference guide.

Very helpful for psychology classes!

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