

# Instructor Guide HDFS 313: Adolescent Development

Advanced theories and research on physical, social and psychological development during adolescence; emphasizes influences of family, peers, schools and community. Beyond that formal description, this course introduces classic and contemporary issues in adolescence as well as the transition to adulthood.

Over the next 10 weeks, we will examine a wide range of theories and empirical research to gain a better sense of what goes on in the second and third decades of life. Change will be a central theme throughout the term. We will discuss problems such as homelessness, immigration, drug use, pregnancy, and suicide but our focus will emphasize “normal” and even positive experiences of young people. A central goal of this course is to investigate the ways in which adolescence is a universal experience and the ways in which it is uniquely shaped by the chance of birth that located each of us in a family, social class, neighborhood, society, and culture. The class will involve interactive discussions, interesting films, provocative readings, and guest speakers. By the end of the term, I hope you will have a better grasp on the issues related to youth and young adulthood in the US and globally, and a better understanding of yourself.

## Course Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge about the key developmental transitions occurring during adolescence including biological, social, cognitive, and identity changes;
2. Understand the micro and macro contexts influencing development in adolescence including the family, school, peers, culture, and technology;
3. Become familiar with the leading theories of adolescent development;
4. Utilize and critically analyze research regarding adolescent development in an area of interest to the student;
5. Relate course material and theoretical concepts to the application of working with and understanding adolescents.

## Course Scope and Structure

This course utilizes a variety of methods to deliver course content, including readings, in-person lecture, videos, quizzes, discussion forums, guest presenters, online assignments, and reflective essays. Overview

- Theme/topic
  - Module level learning outcomes
  - Task list, including learning activities, assignments, and readings
- Learning materials
  - List of assigned and supplemental resources, pre-recorded lectures and lecture slide decks.
- One additional assignment to be completed by the end of the week, such as a discussion, article summary, or documentary review.
- Module quiz

Notes to Future Instructors: