



Course Number	SOWK 363 S03	Classroom	Online
Course Name	Human Development and the Environments		
Day(s) & Time	Zoom sessions Friday afternoons from 1:00pm- 3:50pm		
Instructor	Jane Slessor		
U of C E-mail	Jane.slessor1@ucalgary.ca	Phone	Please contact instructor via email

SYLLABUS STATEMENT

This course explores the nature of human behaviour and development in diverse environments and contexts (personal, community, social and environmental) and explores the implications for social work theory and practice.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this class is to provide a basic conceptual framework for creating and organizing knowledge about human development across the lifespan as it interacts with various aspects of the larger environment. Culture and environment, as key influences on the behavioral expression of human development process, are stressed in this class through related readings and classroom activities, particularly as they relate to social work assessment and practice. A set of core fundamental theories of human behavior and development will be introduced, and the implication and application in social work practice with clients over the life course will be explored.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the history, focus and methods of the study of human development, while acknowledging the Western context of these theories.
2. Be introduced to leading models of human development and their application to social work practice.
3. Describe the major biological, psychological, environmental, social, economic and cultural factors influencing development and behaviors across the lifespan.
4. Explore human adaptation and resilience in individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities over the lifespan.
5. Consider how various cultural and environmental influences affect the perception and role of developmental norms and the experience of the lifespan.
6. Explore strategies, tools and questions to assess social work problems across the lifespan through the use of case studies and activities to apply learning to practice.
7. Develop a framework for social work practice through critical exploration of the application of models of human development in social work practice and personal and professional values.

LEARNING RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND/OR READINGS

Rogers, A.T. (2019). *Human behaviour in the social environment: Perspectives on development and the life course (5th ed.)*. Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

A D2L site is set up for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials. A laptop, desktop or mobile device with Internet access, microphone and speaker is required for D2L and Zoom access.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES

This course is a required course for students in the first professional social work degree program. It is a core course because it contributes to the scientific knowledge base necessary for understanding human growth and behaviour in dynamic interaction within a variety of environments. It is also important as it helps integrate one's own personal development with the growing knowledge base from this and other courses.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week/Date	Topic	Required Readings
Week 1: Jan. 15, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Review Course Outline• Review Assignments and Rubrics• Critical Thinking	Rogers (2019) - Ch.1
Week 2: Jan. 22, 2021	Lenses for Conceptualizing Problems and Interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Person in Environment• Biopsychosocial Approaches	Combs-Orme, T. (2013) Rogers (2019) - Ch.2 & Ch.3
Week 3: Jan. 29, 2021	Lenses for Conceptualizing Problems and Interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sociocultural Dimensions• Social Change Dimensions	Rogers (2019) - Ch.4 & Ch.5
Week 4: February 5, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applying Social Work Models• Indigenous Perspectives on Development• <i>Guest Speaker: Ruthann Linklater</i> <i>D2L Discussion Topic Introductions start</i>	Birch, J. et al. (2009) Makokis, L. (2009) Pazderka, H. et al. (2014)

Week 5: February 12, 2021	Midterm Exam	
Week 6: February 19, 2021	READING WEEK – no class!	N/A
Week 7: February 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnancy and Pre-natal Issues • Development in Infancy and Early Childhood <p>D2L Discussion Topic Introductions start</p>	Rogers (2019) - Ch. 6 & Ch.7
February 28, 2021	Paper Proposal Due (by midnight)	N/A
Week 8: March 5, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development in Middle Childhood <p>D2L Discussion Topic Introductions continue</p>	Larkin et al. (2014) Rogers (2019) - Ch.8
Week 9: March 12, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development in Adolescence • Development in Early Adulthood <p>D2L Discussion Topic Introductions continue</p>	Lines, L. (2019) Rogers (2019) - Ch.9 & Ch. 10
Week 10: March 19, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development in Middle Adulthood • <i>Guest speaker: Michelle Holubisky (Intimate Partner Violence)</i> <p>D2L Discussion Topic Introductions finish</p>	Rogers (2019) - Ch.11
Week 11: March 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development in Late Adulthood • <i>Guest speaker: Eric Storey</i> 	Rogers (2019) - Ch. 12
March 28, 2020	Last day for D2L discussions!	N/A
Week 12: April 2, 2021	No class - Good Friday!	
Week 13: April 9, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking forward: challenges and opportunities for social work • Complex social issues • Evaluation of participation • Evaluation of course 	Rogers (2019) - Chapter 13
April 11, 2020	Final Paper Due	

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND RELATED INFORMATION

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Faculty of Social Work acknowledges the inequities experienced by racialized people, Indigenous people, and other marginalized populations. We aim to foster an environment that recognizes and celebrates diverse perspectives. Therefore, we are committed to eradicating all forms of injustices based on race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, religion, and disability.

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS IN ONLINE CLASSES

Students are expected to participate actively in all Zoom sessions. If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected, if they are able, to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.). All students are expected to behave in a professional manner during the session.

ZOOM RECORDINGS OF ONLINE CLASSES

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

Assignment 1: Midterm Exam (20 %) - February 12, 2021

This open book exam will cover the content introduced in the first four classes of the course. A case study will be presented, and students will respond to short answer questions regarding the application of various theories to the case study. Students will be provided with 90 minutes in class to finish the examination. Instructions for submitting the exam will be given prior to the exam.

Aligned with course learning outcomes #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

Assignment 2: Paper Proposal (15%) - due February 28, 2020

Students will prepare a 750-1000 word proposal for their final paper (see Assignment 4 for more information). The proposal will include:

- An introduction and description of their topic, issue or area of interest.
- A brief introduction and description of the two approaches they are using to assess their topic.
- A brief introduction of two articles that they will be using for their final paper, including an annotation of each article.

Articles can be chosen from the D2L reading list, or the student can use their own articles. Ideally, articles will be academic and peer-reviewed, although exceptions can be made in some cases. Please consult if this is the case.

APA 7 format is expected.

A detailed grading rubric will be placed on the D2L site for students for more information.

Students will submit completed proposals to Dropbox by midnight on February 28, 2021.

Aligned with course learning outcomes #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

Assignment 3: D2L Introductions & Discussions – Total of 20 %

Part 1 (During Zoom Synchronous Sessions): Introduce Discussion Topic (10 %) – due dates will vary and will be assigned first day of class

Students will sign up for one section of the Rogers (2019) text in the first class. On their predetermined date, they will briefly (10 minutes *maximum*) present a topic they find, a) from their assigned section of the text, and b) that is of particular interest or relevance for their own social work practice, for subsequent discussion on D2L.

Students will generate a compelling question for discussion related to their chosen topic. Students will demonstrate through their choice of question that they have a critical understanding of their topic, the stage of development it is relevant for, and the social work approaches most suitable for viewing and assessing the topic. Questions presented in class will be added to the appropriate D2L forum *on the same day the student presents their topic for discussion!*

Part 2 (On D2L): D2L Discussion (10 %) – last day for responses/discussions: March 28, 2021

Students will additionally be expected to respond to, and engage in discussion with, a minimum of 2 other D2L threads started by their classmates. Responses should be respectful, thoughtful, additive, and helpful, and demonstrate a critical understanding of both the issues presented and the social work approaches utilized to understand them. Responses will be between 250-500 words. APA 7 format is not required for this assignment.

A detailed grading rubric will be placed on the D2L site for students for more information.

Aligned with course learning outcomes #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

Assignment 4: Case Study Paper (30%) - due April 11, 2020

Students will prepare a 1750-2000 word paper exploring the issue introduced in Assignment 2 through the use of a case study they will create. The issue will be

- one that social workers may experience in their work with individuals, families or communities;
- related to human development over the life span; and,
- either identified by Rogers (2019) in the text and/or of particular interest to the student.

The student will present a short case study to demonstrate their ability to utilize theory to assess the issue their service user is facing. In the case study paper, the student will complete the following elements:

- Identify their fictional service user, their stage of development, some of the main characteristics of that stage of development, and other relevant information about the service user that may impact the issue;
- Briefly describe the chosen issue the service user is facing, including how the issue can impact service users;
- Include some of the key messages that academic literature states about the issue and its impacts;
- Identify two separate social work approaches through which to view and assess the issue. The student will select their two approaches from two of the following: Person in Environment (Rogers, 2019, Chapter 2), Biopsychosocial Dimensions (Rogers, 2019, Chapter 3), Sociocultural Dimensions (Rogers, 2019, Chapter 4), and Social Change Dimensions (Rogers, 2019, Chapter 5). The student will briefly describe their two chosen approaches, using literature to support their descriptions;
- Describe how they would apply their two chosen approaches in order to assess the issue. (E.g. What questions would they ask? What information would they need to know?);
- Provide a comparison of the two approaches and how they would be applied differently or similarly when assessing the issue and the implications this might have for the resulting plan for action; and,
- A personal reflection regarding the two approaches (Did one “fit” better for the student? Did the approaches complement each other? Will one approach lead to a more comprehensive assessment? Were there challenges associated with the chosen approaches and/or with integrating them?)

This assignment must include at least five academic, peer-reviewed references in addition to the Rogers (2019) text.

APA 7 format is expected.

A detailed grading rubric will be available on the D2L site for students for more information.

Student will email completed papers to Dropbox by midnight on April 11, 2021.

Aligned with course learning outcome #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

Assignment 5: Participatory activities (15%) - Due throughout the term

Students are expected to attend and participate in class synchronous sessions by critically analyzing and sharing experiences, asking meaningful questions, engaging in courteous listening skills, responding to questions and issues raised by their peers and guest speakers, offering feedback, sharing insights from the readings, and engaging in small and large group discussion. Additionally, students will be asked to participate in on-line participatory activities as part of the course. Participation marks will be determined based on overall participation. More information, and a detailed rubric will be provided on D2L. Aligned with course learning outcome #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Because of the **participatory nature** of this class, attendance and punctuality for synchronous Zoom sessions are expected. **Please connect via email with the instructor ahead of class if you are unable to attend class, will be late, or required to leave early. Make up assignments can be given.** Students are encouraged to see this participation assignment as a way to practice and deepen their abilities to use their voice and honour the voices of others they will journey with as social workers. Students' active participation in thoughtful; small and large group discussions will be evaluated along with their class attendance in assessing the class participation final grade.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Please submit all assignments electronically through their respective Dropbox in D2L. Assignments may be submitted in Word or PDF format. Assignments should have a file name as follows: "Full name and assignment number" (e.g., Jane Smith Assignment 2). Assignments are due before midnight on their due date. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor and assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with a grade reduction. **Please email the instructor PRIOR to the assignment due date if you expect that you will need an extension.**

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All assignments will be assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented and referenced in APA format. If you need writing support, please connect with the Student Success Centre, at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

It is expected that all work submitted in assignments is the student's own work, written expressly by the student for this course. Students are reminded that academic misconduct, including plagiarism, has serious consequences, as set out in the University Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

GRADING

A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

The University of Calgary **Undergraduate Grading System** and Faculty of Social Work Percentage Conversion will be used.

Grade	Grade Point	Description	Percentage Range
A+	4.0	Outstanding	95 - 100
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter	95 – 100
A-	3.7		90 – 94
B+	3.3		85 – 89
B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete	80 – 84
B-	2.7		75 – 79
C+	2.3		70 – 74
C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of subject matter	65 – 69
C-	1.7		60 – 64
D+	1.3		55 – 59
D	1.0	Minimal Pass – marginal performance	50 – 54
F	0.0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements	Below 50

WITHDRAWAL

No refunds for withdrawal from **winter courses** after January 21, 2021. The last day to add or swap winter session courses is January 22, 2021. The last day to withdraw with permission from courses is 4:00 p.m. on April 15, 2021. The Undergraduate Academic Schedule for 2020-2021 can be viewed at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>. The online version of the academic schedule supersedes the information on this course outline.

COURSE EVALUATION

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University and Faculty of Social Work course evaluation forms and through anonymous formative feedback directly to the instructor. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED READINGS

The readings below are the core readings, identified in the class schedule. A more comprehensive reading list will be provided and posted on D2L. Students can review the reading list on D2L and read articles that may be of interest or relevant to them.

Birch, J., Ruttan, L., Muth, T. and Baydala, L. (2009). Culturally competent care for Aboriginal women giving birth in hospitals. *Journal of Aboriginal Health*, 4(2), 24-34.

<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/ijih/article/view/28970/23955>

Combs-Orme, T. (2013). Epigenetics and the social work imperative. *Social Work*, 58(1), 23-30.

<https://academic-oup-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/sw/article/58/1/23/1886977>

Larkin, H., Felitti, V. J., & Anda, R. F. (2014). Social work and adverse childhood experiences research: Implications for practice and health policy. *Social Work in Public Health*, 29(1), 1-16. <https://www-tandfonline-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/doi/full/10.1080/19371918.2011.619433>

Lines, L. Yellowknives Dene First Nation Wellness Division & Jardine C.G. (2019). Connection to the land as a youth-identified social determinant of Indigenous Peoples' health. *BMC Public Health*, 19(176), 1-13. <https://go-gale-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ps/i.do?p=HRCA&u=ucalgary&id=GALE%7CA581363158&v=2.1&it=r>

Makokis, L. (2009). Disordered dependencies: The impact of language loss and residential schooling on Indigenous Peoples. *Rural Social Work and Community Practice*, 14(2), 6-11.

[http://web.a.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=17b98f1e-](http://web.a.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=17b98f1e-b6c5-4147-ab52)

[b6c5-4147-ab52](http://web.a.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=17b98f1e-b6c5-4147-ab52)

[d05f1f257dfb%40sessionmgr4007&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWWhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=51409063&](http://web.a.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=17b98f1e-b6c5-4147-ab52)

[db=sih](http://web.a.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=17b98f1e-b6c5-4147-ab52)

Pazderka, H., Desjarlais, B., Makokis, I., MacArthur, C., Steinhauer, S., Hapchyn, C., & Bodor, R. (2014). Nitsiyikkason: The brain science behind Cree teachings of early childhood attachment, *First Peoples Child and Family Review, Interdisciplinary Journal*, 9(1), 53-65.

<https://fpcfr.com/index.php/FPCFR/article/view/194/217>

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

As members of the University community, students and staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Students and staff are also expected to demonstrate professional behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. Consistent with the aims of the Social Work Program and the University of Calgary, all students and staff are expected to respect, appreciate, and encourage expression of diverse world views and perspectives; to offer their fellow community members unconditional respect and constructive feedback; and to contribute to building learning communities that promote individual and collective professional and personal growth. While critical thought and debate is valued in response to concepts and opinions shared in class, feedback must always be focused on the ideas or opinions shared and not on the person who has stated them.

Students and staff are expected to model behaviour in class that is consistent with our professional values and ethics, as outlined in the Canadian Association for Social Workers, Code of Ethics (2005) and the Alberta College of Social Work Standards of Practice (2019). Both can be found online at:

<https://acsw.ab.ca/site/practice-resources?nav=sidebar>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS). SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

RESEARCH ETHICS

"If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics Website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is

prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

SAFEWALK

Safewalk provides a safe and reliable alternative to walking alone at nights around and on the U of A Campus located at 0-22 SUB, phone (780) 492 5563 or 4-WALK-ME. In addition to the UofA's Safewalk Program, security personnel at Enterprise Square will provide an escort from the main lobby between 6:00 pm and 11:00 pm any day that the building is open. Arrangements to be accompanied can be made at the security desk opposite to the elevators on the main floor at the time the escort is required; reservation ahead of time is not possible. Security will escort you within a two- block radius of Enterprise Square.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**
- **Student Success**
- **Student Ombuds Office**
- **Student Union (SU) Information**
- **Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information**
- **Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (Calgary)**
- **Safewalk (Calgary)**

- **UA Counselling & Clinical Services (Edmonton)**
- **UA ACCESS Open Minds (Edmonton)**