Course Description: A study of human development based on the theory that primary caregivers have the greatest influence on the growth and development of both children and adolescents. The course covers the development of children and youth with a strong orientation to the contexts of family, parenting, school, community programs, and other vehicles of socialization.

Intended Audience: Fulfills one Doane Plan Contemporary Issues requirement. If not used to fulfill that requirement, may be used to fulfill one course requirement for Doane Plan Liberal Learning.

Textbook: No textbook is required. Students will read a variety of online research journal and internet site articles.

Upon completion of this course students will:
- Research, learn and write about basic human development theory
- Research, learn and write about the influence of parents, family and family circumstances on the development of children and adolescents
- Research, learn and write about the community resources available to families in the community
- Research, learn and write about the influence of other socialization processes on the development of children and adolescents
- Students will demonstrate writing competence and show improvement in writing skills through intensive writing assignments.

Learning Strategies: Reading, research, reflection, assimilation of information into written assignments; discussion board participation.

Course Structure:
This course will be conducted via Blackboard through the Doane website. All students will be required to access their Doane e-mail account regularly. The one-time class meeting will prepare students to navigate Blackboard resources for class and discuss expectations. Attendance at the one-time class meeting is mandatory.

Students will complete an interview with an agency that provides services to children and/or families as a part of this class. This interview must be done over the phone or in-person. Interviews conducted via email will not be accepted. Students will be required to make contributions to one or more discussion boards each week on pertinent topics posted by the instructor. Some discussion boards will be weighted more heavily than others, based on requirements to do additional research on the topic before posting. This will be noted in the original post by the instructor.
This is a “W” class, meaning writing-intensive. You will receive feedback about your writing during the course, and the quality of your writing will count towards you grade. See handout from one-time class meeting for details about writing expectations.

**Grading & Due Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency interview due November 26</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eight discussion boards (regular)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three discussion boards (weighted)</td>
<td>45</td>
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**Important information about late work:** Two points will be taken off for each day the agency interview paper is late. Late discussion board contributions will not be credited towards your grade. The title of each discussion board will indicate when it closes. Discussion boards close at noon on Mondays throughout the course.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All contributions must represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.