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 be able to:
- Identify connections between human development theory and parenting, school settings, and community programs
- Identify the influence of parents, family, and family circumstances on the development of children and adolescents
- Identify various community resources available to families in the community
- Reflect about the influence of socialization processes on the development of children and adolescents
- Demonstrate writing competence and show improvement in writing skills through writing assignments.

Learning Strategies: Reading, research, reflection, assimilation of information into written assignments, classroom presentations, classroom discussion, and online discussion board participation.

Course Structure:
This class will be a blend of classroom experiences, speakers from various community organizations, and online work through Blackboard. Students will also be required to do an interview with a non-profit agency. This interview must be done in person or over the phone. Email may not be substituted. Students must have access to the internet throughout the course for discussion boards. The meeting schedule for class will be handed out during the first class meeting on Wednesday, March 20th.

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 your grade.

Grading & Due Dates:
- Agency interview and presentation = 20 points
- Eight discussion boards = 40 points
- Class attendance and participation = 40 points
Important information about late work: Late discussion board contributions will not be credited towards your grade. Discussion boards close at noon on Tuesdays 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.