Human Development Program

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The Human Development Major

The scientific study of human development focuses on issues of growth, development, and behavioral change across the lifespan. The Human Development Program is interdisciplinary, incorporating courses from the Departments of Anthropology, Biology, Cognitive Science, Communication, Ethnic Studies, History, Linguistics, Literature, Psychology, Sociology, Teacher Education Program, and Urban Studies and Planning Program. The curriculum is designed to emphasize the idea of development as an essential perspective from which to understand human behavior. The courses cover a broad spectrum of issues in human development, from brain and perceptual development, to reasoning and problem solving, to social interaction and the evolution of cultural systems. The Human Development Program unifies and coordinates the excellent research and teaching resources currently available on campus in this area and profiles the factors that influence the ways in which humans develop and change.

Human development is a very large field, but there is a set of basic questions which serve to define and integrate it: What underlies the development of human knowledge? To what extent is the capacity to know, indeed the concepts themselves, encoded in the genes? How is the role of learning and environmental influences accounted for? How do we learn? What are the ways in which children become competent participants in their social groups? What is the origin and nature of social interaction and organization?

The study of human development has become increasingly central to a wide range of important issues affecting infants, young children and adolescents, as well as the changing structure of the American family and public policy on children and education. An understanding of the processes which underlie human development is crucial to our evaluation of these issues and to our ability to offer avenues for remediation of the attendant problems. The three major areas of study within the Human Development Program are: Biological Development, Ontogenetic Development, and Socio-Cultural Development. These areas consider issues which pertain to development of specific neural and cognitive processes and development within a larger social and cultural context.

Career Guidance

A degree in human development offers training of special interest to those considering admission to graduate or professional schools and careers in medicine, law, education, counseling, clinical psychology, public health, public policy, public administration, or social work.

Students who are interested in these areas are advised to see a Human Development Program adviser for assistance in selecting elective and major courses. A major in human development is designed to impart fundamental skills in critical thinking, comparative analysis, research analysis, and written expression.

A human development major can offer preparation for teaching in elementary schools. However, if you are interested in earning a California teaching credential from UCSD, contact the Teacher Education Program (TEP) for information about prerequisite and professional preparation requirements. It is recommended you contact TEP as early as possible in your academic career.

Education Abroad

Students are often able to participate in the UC Education Abroad Program (EAP) and UCSD’s Opportunities Abroad Program (OAP) while still making progress towards the major. Students interested in studying abroad should see a Human Development Program adviser to discuss curriculum plans and appropriate courses. It is strongly recommended that students obtain HDP pre-approval for EAP courses that are intended to count toward the major. Information on EAP/OAP is detailed in the Education Abroad Program section of the UCSD General Catalog. Interested students should contact the Programs Abroad Office in the International Center and visit the Web site at http://www.icenter/pao. Financial aid is applicable and special study abroad scholarships are available.

Prerequisites for Human Development Majors

A bachelor of arts degree in human development will be given to students who satisfactorily complete the general-education and graduation requirements of Marshall, Muir, Revelle, Roosevelt, Sixth, or Warren College in addition to the Human Development Program requirements. In accordance with UCSD academic regulations, upper-division courses used to satisfy major requirements cannot be applied towards minors (please note there is some overlap permitted for double majors). See college adviser and major adviser for questions and restrictions.
Applying for the HDP Major
Students who wish to declare the Human Development Program major must meet pre-major requirements and apply for entrance into the major. All lower-division requirements must be fulfilled before applying for the major. All lower-division courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. The cumulative GPA for the eight lower-division courses must equal or exceed 2.75. Students must meet with an HDP adviser and obtain approval to declare the human development major, no later than the second quarter of the student's junior year.

Grade Requirements for the Major
A minimum grade-point average of 2.0 is required in the major. Students must receive a grade of C- or better in any course counted toward fulfillment of the major requirements. All courses taken to satisfy the program's lower- and upper-division requirements must be taken for a letter grade. HDP 1, HDP 150, HDP 181, and HDP 191 must be taken in residence. No substitutions will be approved.

Lower-Division Requirements
1. **Introduction to Human Development:** HDP1
2. **One statistics course** selected from the approved list: PSYC 60, COGS 14, or BIEB 100, ECON 120A
3. **One formal skills course** selected from: the approved list: PHIL 10, PHIL 12, MATH 10 sequence, MATH 20 sequence
4 & 5. **Two biological sciences courses** selected from the approved list: ANLD 2, BILD 1, BILD 2, BILD 3, BILD 7, BILD 10, BILD 12, BILD 20, BILD 26, COGS 11, COGS 17, PSYC 2
6 & 7. **Two social sciences courses** selected from the approved list: ANLD 1, ANLD2, ANLD 3, COGN 20, COGS 1, COGS 11, HILD 7A, LIGN 4, LIGN 7, LIGN 8, LIGN 101, MMW 1, MMW 2, PSYC 1, PSYC 3, PSYC 6, Soc/L 1A, Soc/L 20
8. **One computer literacy course** selected from the approved list: MAE 5, COGS 3, CSE 5A

Upper-Division Requirements for the HDP Major:

A. **Three Methods Courses**
B. **Three Core Series courses**
C. **Six Development courses**
D. **HDP 150**
   (Full information follows)

A. **Methods Courses**
1. HDP 181 (Students are encouraged to take this course their junior year.)
2. HDP 191 (Students are encouraged to take this course their junior year.)
3. One course selected from the following approved list*
   - ANGN 172. Life History Seminar and Practicum
   - BICD 131. Embryology Laboratory
   - BICD 133. Developmental Biology Laboratory
   - HDP 115/COMT 115. Media and Design of Social Learning Contexts
   - HDP 131. Fifth Dimension for Elementary Schools
   - HDP 135/COMT 116. Practicum in Child Development
   - PSYC 111A or B. Research Methods I or II
   - Soc/A 104. Field Research: Methods of Participant Observation
   - Soc/A 110A or B. Qualitative Research In Educational Settings

*Completion of HDP 194 A, B, and C (Honors Thesis) can be used to replace the third methods course (not HDP 181 or HDP 191).

B. **Core Series**
   (3 courses selected from the approved list required, one from each DOMAIN)
   - **Domain 1:** The biological basis of human development
     - ANBI 140. The Evolution of the Human Brain
     - ANBI 161. Human Evolution
     - COGS 115. Neurological Development and Cognitive Change
     - HDP 110. Brain and Behavioral Development
   - **Domain 2:** The social/cognitive basis of human development
     - COGS 156. Language Development
     - HDP 121. Developing Mind
     - LIGN 171. Child Language Acquisition
     - LIGN 179. Second Language Acquisition
     - PSYC 167. Social and Emotional Development
     - PSYC 187. Development of Social Cognition

C. **DEVELOPMENT COURSES**
   (6 courses required; at least 1 from each area of focus)
   - Biological Development
     - ANBI 140. The Evolution of the Human Brain
     - ANBI 159. Biological and Cultural Perspectives on Intelligence
     - BICD 100. Genetics
     - BICD 130. Embryology
     - BICD 132. Molecular Basis of Development
     - BICD 134. Human Reproduction and Development
     - BIPN 144. Developmental Neurobiology
     - COGS 115. Neurological Development and Cognitive Change
     - COGS 184. Modeling the Evolution of Cognition
     - PSYC 168. Psychological Disorders of Childhood
   - Ontogenetic Development
     - COGS 113/PSYC 136. Cognitive Development
     - COGS 154. Communication Disorders in Children and Adults
     - COGS 156. Language Development
     - COHI 100. Introduction to Communication and the Individual
     - COHI 114. Bilingual Communication
     - COHI 119. Learning to Read
     - COHI 121. Literacy, Social Organization, and the Individual
     - LIGN 171. Child Language Acquisition
     - LIGN 179. Second Language Acquisition
     - LTWL 114. Children's Literature
     - LTWL 116. Adolescent Literature
     - PSYC 122. Aging
     - PSYC 156. Cognitive Development in Infancy
     - PSYC 167. Social and Emotional Development
     - PSYC 168. Psychological Disorders of Childhood
     - PSYC 172. Psychology of Human Sexuality
     - PSYC 180. Adolescence
     - PSYC 187. Development of Social Cognition
Socio-Cultural Development

ANBI 159. Biological and Cultural Perspectives on Intelligence
COCU 149. Youth, Culture, and Media
COHI 123. Children and Media
HILA 117. Indians, Blacks, and Whites: Family Relations in Latin America
LTWL 114. Children’s Literature
LTWL 116. Adolescent Literature
PSYC 167. Social and Emotional Development
PSYC 180. Adolescence
Soc/B 117. Language, Culture, and Education
Soc/B 118A. Gender and Language in Society
Soc/C 129. The Family
Soc/B 131. Sociology of Youth
Soc/C 159. Special Topics in Organizations and Institutions (Only when topic is approved for HDP major)
TEP 115. Cognitive Development and Education
TEP 117. Language, Culture, and Education
USP 145. Aging—Social and Health Policy Issues

D. HDP 150. Advanced Human Development
(HDP students should enroll in this course in their senior year.)

Advanced Human Development Requirement HDP 150
Seminar for graduating HDP seniors. Readings and discussion of special topics in human development. Provides advanced-level study on subfields of human development. Topics vary quarterly. Prerequisites: HDP 1, HDP 181, HDP 191, senior standing, and department approval one quarter prior to enrollment.

Field Research Requirement HDP 191
This course provides students with the opportunity to participate jointly in a research project in conjunction with a mentor/collaborator from a local service site. This applied research experience allows students to design and conduct research projects in a variety of settings ranging from laboratory research settings to service oriented placements. In addition to literature research and a final paper at the end of the quarter, students will participate at an off-campus site for a minimum of four hours per week. Research sites are prearranged one academic year in advance (see the student affairs office or the HDP Web site for enrollment information).

Students’ interests and future career plans are considered for site placement. Various research orientations and methodologies are reviewed in class. Prerequisites: HDP 1 and department approval one academic year prior to enrollment.

Honors in Human Development HDP 194A-B-C
The Human Development Program offers an honors option for those students who have demonstrated excellence in the human development major. The honors program allows eligible undergraduates to explore advanced issues in the field through an honors thesis on a topic of their choice and under faculty supervision. In order to be admitted to the honors program, students must have 1) junior standing and 2) maintained a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 3.2, and a 3.5 GPA for courses taken in the human development major. Interested students need to apply for departmental honors in spring quarter of their junior year. Students in the honors program are expected to complete the following additional requirements:
1. An advanced course in statistics or methods design (see the HDP student affairs office for more information).
2. HDP 194A-B-C, a year-long independent research project, which results in an Honors Thesis.
3. Weekly attendance of the Center for Human Development Seminar and participation.

Petitioning Courses
There are three circumstances under which petitions to receive credit for courses not explicitly approved for the major will be considered (all approved courses are detailed in the UCSD General Catalog, HDP section): Requests from transfer students, requests from students planning to study abroad, and exceptional courses identified by a student. In all cases, students are required to submit a petition in writing that clearly describes the course for which they wish to receive HDP major credit, and to attach to the petition as much information as possible about the content of the course (e.g., syllabus, course description, etc.). With the exception of courses petitioned by transfer students, ALL REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL OF COURSES NOT EXPLICITLY LISTED IN THE UCSD GENERAL CATALOG SHOULD BE SUMBITTED BEFORE THE COURSE IS TAKEN BY THE STUDENT.

Transfer students. Students transferring from a community college, or other university must petition for HDP credit for courses taken at their previous institution. For students transferring from the California Community College System, articulation agreements for many courses have been developed that facilitate the petition process. Transfer students should make an appointment with an HDP adviser to review courses for which they will most likely receive credit and fill out a written petition for each course.

Education Abroad. Students planning to study abroad may receive credit toward the major for courses taken in another country. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS RECEIVE PRELIMINARY APPROVAL (BEFORE LEAVING THE COUNTRY) FOR COURSES THEY ARE CONSIDERING TAKING DURING THEIR TIME ABROAD. While the preliminary approval does not guarantee that the actual course will be approved, the great majority of courses for which preliminary approval has been obtained are approved when the actual petition is submitted upon the student’s return.

Other courses. Occasionally students identify a UCSD course that has the potential to fulfill an HDP requirement. Students may petition in writing to request credit for such courses. However, it is important to note that very few such petitions are successful, and students are strongly cautioned to petition and receive approval for such a course BEFORE ENROLLING IN THE COURSE.

Note: Courses are not officially approved for credit until the written petition has been approved by the HDP Executive Committee and signed by the HDP director.

The Minor Program
A total of seven courses are required to complete a minor in human development. These include Introduction to Human Development (HDP 1), and six developmental courses, one from each major area of study from the developmental course list.

FINISH-IN-FOUR PLAN
Students interested in a particular career field should see the student affairs office for more specific Finish-in-Four plans for their particular college.
COURSES

LOWER-DIVISION

HDP 1. Introduction to Human Development (4)
This course introduces students to the central issues in the basic areas in human development. The course will explain relationships between biological, cognitive, social, and cultural aspects of development. Offered once per year. (F)

HDP 87. Freshman Seminar (1)
This seminar is designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic in a small seminar setting. Topics vary from quarter to quarter. Enrollment is limited to fifteen to twenty students, with preference given to entering freshmen. (F,W,S)

HDP 110. Brain and Behavioral Development (4)
The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with basic mechanisms of brain and behavioral development from embryology through aging. Multiple levels of analysis will be discussed, including the effects of hormones on behavior, developmental events at the level of cells, structures, and neural systems, and the neural basis of cognition, social, perceptual, and language development. Prerequisite: HDP 1 or PSYC 101.

HDP 115. Media and Design of Social Learning Contexts (6)
(Same as COMT 115.) A combined lecture/lab course cross-listed in communication and human development. Students attend lecture, write field notes, and spend three hours per week in specially designed after-school setting working with children and designing new educational media and producing special projects. Prerequisite: HDP 1 or COHI 100.

HDP 121. The Developing Mind (4)
This course examines changes in thinking and perceiving the physical and social world from birth through adulthood. Evidence of significant changes in encoding information, forming mental representations, and solving problems is culled from psychological research, cross-cultural studies, and cognitive science. Prerequisite: HDP 1 and declared human development major.

HDP 131. Fifth Dimension for Elementary Schools (6)
Students will participate four hours per week in classrooms at Torrey Pines Elementary School integrating the Fifth Dimension model of collaborative exploratory learning. Outside work will include readings and class preparation, as well as responding to children's written inquiries, writing field notes, and writing a paper. Prerequisite: HDP 1. (F,W,S)

HDP 133. Socio-cultural Foundations of Human Development (4)
This course will provide students with an understanding of the social and cultural foundations of human development. The topics will be explored with both national and international comparisons from infancy through adolescence. Prerequisite: HDP 1 or PSYC 1.

HDP 135. Practicum in Child Development (6)
(Same as COMT 116.) A combined lecture and laboratory course for students in psychology, communication, and human development. Student backgrounds should include a background in general psychology or communication. Students will be expected to spend four hours a week in a supervised practical after-school setting at one of the community field sites involving children. Additional time will be devoted to readings and class prep, as well as six hours a week transcribing field notes and writing a paper on some aspect of the fieldwork experience as it relates to class lectures and readings. Prerequisite: HDP 1 or COHI 100 or PSYC 101. (F,W,S)

HDP 139. Preparation for Project Development (2)
This course is designed to help students to prepare a three-quarter research project. Students will explore various aspects of research projects, provide feedback on project proposals, and discuss project development. Prerequisites: HDP 1, HDP 181, HDP 191, senior standing, and departmental approval. (F,W,S)

HDP 150. Advanced Human Development (4)
Seminar for graduating HDP seniors. Readings and discussion of special topics in human development. Provides advanced-level study on subfields of human development. Topics vary quarterly. Prerequisites: HDP 1, HDP 181, HDP 191, senior standing, and departmental approval. (F,W,S)

HDP 181. Experimental Projects in Human Development Research (6)
This laboratory course in human development is designed around a variety of intensive experimental projects. With lectures providing background information on research methods and child development, each assignment will include data collection and/or analysis, and a written laboratory report. Prerequisites: HDP 1 and departmental approval. (F,W,S)

HDP 191. Field Research in Human Development (6)
This course combines lectures on research methodology (three hours/week) with an applied field research experience (four hours/week) conducted at a pre-approved study site. Required: Completion of a field notebook, review paper, oral presentation, and final paper. Prerequisites: HDP 1. Students must submit the pre-enrollment questionnaire one academic year prior to enrollment. See HDP Web site for details. (F,W,S)

HDP 194A-B-C. Honors Thesis (4-4-4)
Students will take part in a weekly research seminar. In addition, they will plan and carry out a three-quarter research project under the guidance of a faculty member. The project will form the basis for their senior honors thesis. Prerequisites: overall GPA of 3.2, and a 3.5 GPA for courses taken in the human development major; an advanced course in statistics or experimental design, and consent of instructor.

HDP 199. Independent Study in Human Development (4)
Independent study and research under the direction of a faculty member. Pass/No Pass only. Prerequisites: consent of the instructor, completion of at least ninety undergraduate units with a minimum of 2.5 GPA, and a completed and approved Special Studies Form.