

## S15-5011: Human Behavior

This course overview is being provided by the lead instructor and may be used for reference as you prepare for the Human Behavior proficiency exam. The exam is designed to measure your knowledge of the course domains and core competencies which are standard across sections of the course. Specific course content may vary by instructor, therefore course syllabi are not provided.

### COURSE OVERVIEW:

S15-5011 approaches human behavior in the social environment from an eco-systemic perspective, identifying human experience in both a bio-psycho-social and spiritual context as well as a life course developmental context. Foci include current theories of psychological and sociological behavior. Implications of gender, race, socioeconomics, and sexuality are considered.

### COURSE DOMAIN AND BOUNDARIES:

This course focuses on theoretical frameworks commonly utilized in practice to explain human behavior through a person in environment perspective and the biopsychosocial approach to life span development. The course examines several influences on life course development, including biology, genetics, cognition, family dynamic and the greater society and culture. The impacts of age, race, gender, class, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, and physical and mental ability on life course experiences will be highly emphasized. The underlying strengths and challenges of different theoretical perspectives will be examined based upon empirical data as well as cultural relevance.

### COURSE PEDAGOGICAL ELEMENTS:

Pedagogical elements common to all sections of this course include:

1. Discussion of the common psychological and sociological theories that explain human behavior and development
2. Connecting biology and environment as a way to explore human developmental experience.
3. Exploration of the wide range of personal and environmental conditions that can impact human development and experience
4. Exploration of difference or variation within human development and its impact on the individual and the larger society.

### CORE COMPETENCIES:

Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior	C1
Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice	C2
Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice	C3
Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice	C4
Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	C6
Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	C7

### READINGS:

Please note, these readings may vary across sections; this is a sample from the lead instructor's syllabus.

Zastrow, C. H., & Kirst-Ashman, K.K. *Understanding Human Behavior and the Social Environment*, 10th ed. Cengage

Hutchinson, E. (2017) *Essentials of Human Behavior: Integrating Person, Environment and the Life Course*. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed. Sage Publications