



The Life Span: Human Development for Helping Professionals (4th Edition)

By Patricia C. Broderick, Pamela Blewitt

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The Life Span: Human Development for Helping Professionals, 4/e, provides an in-depth look at the science of human development, highlighting theories and research that have useful applications for individuals working in fields such as education, counseling, and social work. The main purpose of this book is to provide the reader with information that can be translated into professional “best practice” applications. Throughout, the text reflects the contemporary view that life span development is a process deeply embedded within and inseparable from the context of family, social network, and culture.

Because the book is designed for graduate students, most topics, especially those that have special relevance to helping professionals, are covered in greater depth than in a typical life span text. The expanded coverage of research in these areas will enhance students’ understanding of the scientific basis for application to practice. The Enhanced Pearson eText features embedded video to illustrate key concepts and pop-up assessments to help students assess their proficiency.

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From reviews of the book:

“This book is unique in that it is research-based, includes comprehensive coverage of important course topics, and offers helping professionals information about human development that will enhance service provision to clients across the lifespan.”

--Mary M. Chittooran, Saint Louis University

“The writing style is clear, interesting and engaging and is at a level appropriate for my students. Nicely done. . . . [The] case studies [and] developmental psychopathology sections are strengths. . . . [The book is] well organized, well-written, broad-based . . . , [and] insightful. [I] especially liked the authors' focus on practical and applied therapies, as well as their emphasis on research-based therapies that incorporate sound principles of human developmental.”

--Rosalie A. Rohm, Ball State University

“This readable, well organized text addresses the depth and scope of development. The text extends students knowledge of the material by providing a wealth of applicable information for those who are or will be in a helping profession. . . . [Compared to other available texts, this one is] far superior in terms of the balance of scope and depth.”

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Editorial Review

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--Bridget A. Walsh, University of Nevada, Reno

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Patricia Broderick, Ph.D. is a Research Associate with the Prevention Research Center at Penn State University and former director of the Stress Reduction Center at West Chester University of PA. She holds a Master's degree in Counseling from Villanova and a Ph.D. in School Psychology from Temple University. She is a licensed psychologist, certified school psychologist (K-12), certified school counselor (K-12), and certified teacher. She was trained in Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) at the Center for Mindfulness (CFM) at UMASS Medical Center and has taught MBSR since 2003. Her research interests include mindfulness in education, gender differences in coping styles of early adolescents, and relationships between rumination and the development of depression.

Pamela Blewitt, Ph.D. is a professor of Psychology at the Villanova University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A leading authority on how young children acquire vocabulary, she has researched the basic cognitive processes that support word learning while delving into environmental factors that enrich verbal expression such as shared book reading and adult-child conversation. Blewitt can also address how the quality of child care affects early language and literacy and discuss how to make developmental science accessible to parents, caregivers and helping professionals. She has a B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Rochester and an M.A. from Teachers College, Columbia University.

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Mildred Ortiz:

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