

The basic Principles of Developmental Psychology in Greece

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Life-span developmental psychology is the field of psychology which involves the examination of both constancy and change in human behavior across the entire life span, that is, from conception to death. Developmental psychologists are concerned with diverse issues ranging from the growth of motor skills in the infant, to the gains and losses observed in the intellectual functioning of the elderly. The goal of study in developmental psychology is to further our knowledge about how development evolves over the entire life span, developing a knowledge of the general principles of development and the differences and similarities in development across individuals. The range of topics comprising the study of modern psychology is vast, and encompasses sub-areas as diverse as social psychology, comparative psychology, the study of learning, neuropsychology, abnormal psychology, and cognitive psychology. However, the study of development is possible within each of these areas.

The text focuses on a narrower portion of the life span, specifically, on the time development between conception and adolescence in Greece. This area of study is known as the study of child development. The study of children is obviously important in its own right but it also has the potential to significantly inform us about the nature of human development.

By studying the earlier forms of a behavior and the changes which behavior undergoes, we can gain a better understanding of the 'end product', that is, adult behavior. While this text does focus specifically on children's development, the wider principles of life-span developmental psychology (which we discuss shortly) apply equally to this area as they do to the study of development across the life span.

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