



Understanding child development: from synapse to society

End of 6th session, July - December 2018



Universiteit Utrecht

elevate

General information

	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
Enrolled learners	No information	1503	2542	3715	5488	7618
Active learners	No information	924	1641	2427	3436	4767
Course completers	No information	No information	132	161	202	188
Paid enrolments	No information	No information	87	120	138	282

Rating:



42 Ratings

4.6 out of 5

“It’s a really helpful course to lead you understand developmental psychology.” (14 September 2018)

“I have absolutely loved this course. Challenging but accessible. Every week has been engaging. I enjoyed the variety of research papers, video lectures and interviews.” (14 October 2018)

“Excellent content and very good presentation.” (15 October 2018)

Results evaluation form

Beyond Coursera’s general information, 38 participants have filled in Elevate’s evaluation form in the period July - half December 2018. 33 females, 4 men, 1 other.

1 with some high school but no degree, 2 with a high school diploma, 1 with some college but no degree, 1 with an associate degree, 15 students have Bachelor degree, 15 have a master’s degree, 1 has a degree from a professional school and 2 have a doctorate.

On the next pages you’ll find the results from the evaluation questionnaire students have filled in.

1. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following:

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent
Factual accuracy of content		1	7	10	20
Depth of content		5	4	9	20
Lecture videos		2	7	10	19
Assessments		6	12	8	12
Discussion forums	1	6	16	6	7
Overall course experience			9	12	16

2. 76% (29 people) said that the course workload was just right, 16% (6 people) said it was somewhat heavy. Three people thought the course was somewhat lighter than expected.
3. 76% (29 people) said that the course difficulty was just right, 8% (3 people) said the course was somewhat light and 16% (6 people) wrote that it was somewhat heavy.
4. They spent approximately 3 hours per week on the course. 63% (24 people) said that the number of hours spent on this course **was according to their expectations**, 16% (6 people) spent more time than expected and 21% (8 people) spent less time than expected.
5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
I found the material interesting.			1	9	28
The topic of the course is applicable to my current or potential career.	1	1	2	7	27
The course ran smoothly, with few technical difficulties.		1	4	7	26

6. How would you rate your understanding of the subject:

How would you rate your understanding of the subject	Before the course	After the course
Poor	6	
Fair	15	1
Good	13	14
Very good	3	19
Excellent	1	4

7. How would you assess the impact of the following potential changes to the course?

	Very Negative	Somewhat negative	Neutral	Somewhat positive	Very positive
Cover more topics	1	6	11	10	10
Include more practically relevant content		4	5	15	14
Split into multiple shorter courses	5	11	14	5	3

8. How likely would you be to:

	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Neutral	Somewhat likely	Very likely
Revisit the course materials in the future?	1		3	9	25
Take this course again	11	4	9	7	7
Take another course by the same instructor(s)?		2	4	17	15
Recommend this course to a friend?		1	3	13	21
Take another online course from the same university/institution - if you wouldn't have to pay?			1	10	27
Take another online course from the same university/institution - if you will have to pay?	4	5	8	12	9

The most liked aspects of the course:

- The interesting topic and explaining.
- Multidisciplinary approach which fits my own educational profile very well
- The topics were clear and there was enough to learn about each area without being overwhelmed. I found The Who course inspiring and hope to do a masters in a September 2019.
- I liked how the course was organized.
- Latest research findings and theories.
- Interviews with researchers in different fields. they showed the practical part of what we studied in the course.
- The clear presentations, variety of examinations and good structure of the course
- The practical examples used to demonstrate the content. It made it very relevant and easy to understand and apply.
- Materials
- Starting globally with an overview approach and then going into more detailed elements before wrapping it up again in a more holistic topic. I thought the articles to be read were relevant and of an appropriate level.
- About theories of child development
- Everything was very useful and helpful for me.
- The instructor was very professional and clear
- Covered a great breadth of information and provided starting points for further research. The inclusion of interdisciplinary research stories was interesting as well.
- Quality of presentations- Lecture video presentations - all were very simple, easy to understand and liked them the most! Thanks to the entire team for the preparations!
- The topic and the huge amount of lectures and point of views
- The various subjects in one course. All subjects had something to do with development and explained why it connected with the one before. It was also very interesting to watch the video's of professionals.
- the entire course is very well done
- The variation of video, reading and assignments. I liked the way of starting with a video to get into the topic. Good quality of articles. Nice that you can do the course at home.
- videos on research
- I learned how early development already starts.
- The content and the presentation were excellent
- The videos and the structure
- Quizzes

- e-learnings easy to understand and they had transcripts to make it possible to find information without having to watch the videos again
- The clear structure of the course was easy to follow.
- It covers many topics.
- The course provide indictable knowledge with co-responding materials from the beginning to the end.
- The professor was fantastic! Lectures were clear, concise, and very enjoyable. It's clear that he is very passionate about what he teaches and researches.
- as a teacher it has provided valuable information to help me empathize and develop more compassion toward my students. I liked the instructional delivery and clarity of the concepts expressed.
- The content
- Materials

The least liked aspects of the course and suggestions for improvement:

- Too much promotion. Also repetition of interdisciplinairy stuff and the many practical videos of the working field.
- The poor integration of models from different levels of analysis
- Sometimes the videos with the examples of Dynamics of Youth felt like an advertisement for the Dynamics of Youth project rather than explaining how it linked to the module.
- I wish the grading rubric had a point for every point of criteria instead of just one point for everything.
- There are no slides showing main points.
- Peer-graded assignments. I needed a self-paced course, and having a peer-graded assignment means I have a strict deadline, because after that peers may not be available to review my work. I had to retake the course in a later session, because I missed the first deadline
- Handing in an assignment only possible through the internet website and not the app
- The very strong focus on the dynamics of youth research project. Many of the videos from researchers from that project didn't contribute to my knowledge or understanding of the topic itself.
- Some chapters were loaded with a lot of technical language
- There was a bit too much of Utrecht marketing.
- The video presentations and discussions in the labs, experiments - not so useful.
- I needed more time than I was planning cause it was a little harder than I was expecting
- It took a lot of work to get through all the information, but it was all worth it.
- work load
- The reading was a bit long (but maybe that's because English isn't my mother language). The video's about the different researches within the dynamics of youth are boring. Video's about research are interesting if the scientist also tells something about the results of his research. Now it's just someone telling something about something he's doing.
- For some exercises you did not need to take effort, because you would Always get 100% score.
- Peer grading
- The lack of interaction with the reading material. It was as if I didn't have to read them. Would have been nice to have had some connection in the assignments.
- so many reference
- the peer-grading
- I'm a visual person so the lectures with just the instructor speaking and some illustrative bullet points were a bit boring for me.
- The interview videos. I haven't learned much from this material, it was too short and mostly focused on the discussion about what each professor likes while working with their colleagues, where the conclusion was always the same. Just waste of time.
- As an English as a second language speaker it is hard to follow through the lecture videos without key point shown for note taking aspect.

- Although I appreciated the simplicity of the peer-review system, it would've been helpful to have been assessed by the professor or someone else who is in the field of child development. Of course, I know that might not be realistic with an online course though.
- I found many of the videos from guest biologists etc mundane and they seemed to only really say the same thing - that working together in dynamics of youth is useful :) which is understandable, by I would have like more examples of their direct work and revelations with regards to childhood development.
- Het boerenkool Engels ;)
- Videos

Additional comments:

- Make the questions on what you learned more specific instead of asking for a summary let us synthesize
- I made some editing suggestions to errors in the transcript text as I went along.
- Add slides and ppt during videos.
- It sounds very snobbish, but the English spoken by many of the researchers wasn't very clear and in part due to that the automatic translator also didn't pick up the right transcription. It made it hard to follow sometimes. Perhaps have someone look at this before starting the next round?
- This course is very useful for who is trying to understand about child development.
- A textbook recommendation would be fantastic! As someone who likes to read into topics they care about, I would have benefited from a supplemental textbook. It's rather hard to find great ones for child development.
- It is extremely useful for parents!
- Additional reading materials may be given.
- Maybe some more visual support during the lectures. Now you just watching a man telling stuff. You remember more about the lecture if there are some more 'pictures' in it.
- For those who struggle with multiple choice tests, those assignments were a struggle
- More visual aids in the lessons would be nice.
- I would add more video lecture with more practical examples. More in-depth.
- It will be great if the professor can make the lecture into shorter sections with reviews and conclusions provided as well as simple examples.
- Great course. I really enjoyed it. Thanks so much!
- Maybe do subtitles for guest speakers instead of speaking English?

To sum up:

What went well

- The content of the course is highly appreciated. More than 70% found the material interesting and think the course is applicable to their current or potential career. The various subjects are highly appreciated.
- The course workload is overall just right.

What could be improved

- Some students found it unpractical that they had to receive a peer review to finish the course.
- More additional reading
- Conclusions or short summaries after each lecture

Other items to discuss

- Improvements for 2019
- Evaluation of last half year
- How can we make sure more participants will follow and complete the course in 2019?
- Social Impact Initiative; new options?