

Developmental Psychologist

Background –

Developmental Psychologists study human growth and development over the lifespan. Their work duties may vary depending on where they are employed. Researchers at universities and colleges may focus on research and teaching. While other Developmental Psychologists may work in more applied settings like a clinic, health care facility or in home-based care capacity. Daily job duties of a Developmental Psychologist are very much dependent on the environment in which they work. Duties might include creating educational plans with other professionals, consulting private practices, conducting research and teaching undergraduate courses, or educating parents during home visits regarding their child's development.

What can I expect to make in this career?\$75, 230*

What classes at GVSU may help prepare me for a career in this field? Discuss with your advisor which courses among those on this list, along with other courses not listed here, and would best serve your career goals.

1. **PSY 300** – Research Methods in Psychology
2. **PSY 301** – Child Development
3. **PSY 302** – Psychology of Adjustment
4. **PSY 331** – Adolescent Development
5. **PSY 364** – Life Span Development
6. **PSY 366** – Perspectives on Aging
7. **PSY 400** – Advanced Research in Psychology

For More Information – APA Division 7: http://www.apadivisions.org/division-7/index.aspx?_ga=2.143442813.994929413.1518029961-258236886.1507744915

What skills may be applicable to this career?Skills that may be useful for a Developmental Psychologist to have are compassion and understanding, communication (written and oral), interpersonal communication skills and organizational skills. In addition, analytic skills, as well as strong statistical knowledge is important in this career field.

Employer Possibilities –Many Developmental Psychologists work for colleges or universities, completing research and/or teaching students. However, some Developmental Psychologists may be hired at hospitals, developmental clinics, schools or private practices.

*Bls.gov (2016) Median Salary for “psychologist”