**Study Guide**

**Human Growth & Development**

**This study guide is for your use in focusing on material and understanding that will be most profitable to know on the test. You need not turn it in, and it is not graded or extra-credited.**

**Chapter 1: Introduction/Orientation**

**\* You will not be asked to name or define the age periods of development.**

**You do not need to know the theories.**

1. What is “development” in this context; does it imply improvement only?

2. What is the concept of life expectancy? How does it differ from lifespan? How did the life expectancy change in North America in the 20th Century?

3. What is the difference between age-graded and history-graded developmental influences?

4. What are the four historical views of children/human nature?

5. What philosophers or group names are associated with the historic views of children? What theoretical perspectives in psychology go with the *tabula rasa* and *innate goodness* positions?

6. In the nature-nurture debate, what do we mean by the word “nature?” What is meant by “nurture?” How does epigenetic theory approach this debate?

7. What is a “social clock?” Does the frequency of reported happiness increase or decrease with age?

8. Who was Erik Erikson? What was his theory about and how much of the lifespan did it cover? Also, what “school of thought” did he belong to?

What are three kinds of research designs? Which one gives evidence of cause-effect?

9. What is the difference between cross-sectional and longitudinal research? How does sequential (or cross-sequential) research combine them?

10. What does it mean to be “information dependent”? How do we know most of what we know? Could we personally prove that most of what we know is true?

11. According to Dawes, what are two major factors in choosing to believe information?

12. What are the characteristics of an authoritative source?

13. What is the fallacy of consensus? What happens if the same misinformation is repeatedly told?

14. What are two important limitations of data?

15. What is the post-modern mindset? What is *socially constructed reality*?

16. What is the first step to practical critical thinking?

17. What does over-reliance on data bias us against?