



**BAKER COLLEGE**  
**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**SWK 2110 Human Behavior in Social Environment**  
**3 Semester Credit Hours**

---

**Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives**

1. Explore the unique perspective that social work has in viewing the relationship between the individual person and environment in comparison to other helping professions.
  - a. Discuss the ecological frame of reference for describing human behavior which is based on the foundation of systems theory.
  - b. Explore the relationship between individual growth and development and the larger systems in which it occurs, particularly families, groups, neighborhoods and communities.
  
2. Examine the common theoretical frameworks for understanding human behavior and development from birth to adolescence.
  - a. Explain basic principles of learning theories and the systems/ecological and psychosocial frameworks.
  - b. Analyze individual, family, group, organizational, community, and societal dynamics from each of these perspectives.
  - c. Describe biological, social, cultural, psychological, and spiritual aspects of developmental states, from birth to adolescence, within the context of the broader environment.
  - d. Explore the dynamics of social groups, organizations, communities, and societies, and the ways that they can impact individual development and behavior from birth to adolescence.
  
3. Examine ways that ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, class, disability, and other factors contribute to human development and their implications for social work practice in assessment, intervention, and evaluation.
  - a. Describe relevant research and research needs relating to human behavior and the social environment.

- b. Apply information and theories related to human behavior and the social environment to life situations in a manner consistent with social work values and the promotion of social and economic justice.
- c. Determine the ways social systems promote or deter people in maintaining or achieving health and well-being.
- d. Explore specific human diversity factors (i.e., memberships in racial and ethnic groups, gender issues, and sexual orientation) which have influence from birth through adolescence and can affect an individuals' ability to cope with difficulties or changes in his/her environment.

## **Big Ideas and Essential Questions**

### **Big Ideas**

- Systems Theory
- Developmental Theory and the Environment
- Cultural Factors, Development, and the Environment

### **Essential Questions**

1. How does systems theory explain the interaction between an individual's development and the interaction with their environment?
2. How do social dynamics and institutions impact the development of the individual?
3. How do social institutions influence the maintenance of healthy development?
4. How do diversity factors potentially influence healthy development of the individual and their social interactions with larger groups/systems?

---

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

**Effective: Spring 2025**