# Human Development and Learning

EDS 248 Stephen E. Brock, Ph.D., NCSP 916-278-5919 brock@csus.edu http://www.csus.edu/indiv/b/brocks/

# Expectations of Graduate Students

- Increased responsibility for own learning.
- Students are more motivated.
- There is an increased work load.

## **Course Overview**

- Attendance
- Weekly independent study
- Developmental/Health History
  Questionnaire
- Sample Questionnaire
- Learning Theory Paper

#### Small Group Discussion

- What is Educational Psychology?
- Why is it important for special educators and other educational professionals to understand educational psychology?

#### Educational Psychology

- The study of learning, learners, and learning environments.
- An understanding of human development and learning are essential to educational psychology

#### **Small Group Discussion**

- What is human development?
- Why is it important for special educators and other educational professionals to understand human development?

# Human Development

- Gradual changes (or growth) that are relatively permanent, age related, and influenced by the environment.
- Developmental theories try to make sense about when and how these changes occur.
  - The give us general guidelines about what is typical.
  - They help us to identify exceptional learners.

#### **Small Group Discussion**

- What is learning theory?
- Why is it important for special educators and other educational professionals to understand human learning?

## Human Learning

- Relatively permanent changes in behavior (external responses) and/or mental associations (internal processes) brought about by experience
  - Understanding of learning theory allows one to optimize learning environments and facilitate student achievement.

