

COU 510 Data Journal Guidelines and Rubric

Overview: Understanding and working with human development across the lifespan is essential for counselors. Learning how biological, psychological, social, and cultural factors contribute to the lifespan developmental process is key to helping counselors conceptualize client cases. Grasping the human developmental process with all the contributing factors requires a strong insight into developmental theories. Applying foundational knowledge of developmental theories is the guide to conceptualizing clients from multiple perspectives.

In this final project journal, you will be tasked with applying a developmental theory to one of the two client scenarios listed in the Final Project Guidelines and Rubric. The developmental theory you choose will give you a specific lens for understanding the client and presenting issue(s). This assessment will assist in strengthening your understanding of human development across the lifespan and developmental theories and shape your professional identity as a counselor and how you work with clients.

Prompt: In this final project journal, you will explain foundational information about your chosen developmental theory, including information about its founder. You will then apply the theory to the case scenario client to begin conceptualizing the case from a counseling perspective. This final project journal is a draft and should address the critical elements so that you may receive feedback prior to your final submission in Week Nine.

Specifically the following critical elements must be addressed:

I. Data

- A. Establish context for your case note by briefly describing the **client** based on the information that you are presented within his or her case scenario.
- B. Describe the basic **elements of the theory** that you are applying to the client's case. Does the theory include developmental stages or other unique characteristics?
- C. Explain **foundational information** about the theory, including information about its founder.
- D. Explain why this is an **appropriate theory** to apply to the client. Include supporting evidence from across the client's lifespan.

Rubric

Guidelines for Submission: Your draft of the Data portion of the Data Assessment Plan (DAP) Case Note should be 3–4 pages, double spaced, include one-inch margins, use 12-point Times New Roman font, and adhere to the latest edition of APA formatting.

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (90%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Data: Client	Meets “Proficient” criteria, and description demonstrates an advanced ability to extract a thorough and accurate client description from a narrative	Describes the client based on the information presented within his or her case scenario	Describes the client based on the information presented within his or her case scenario, but description is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not describe the client based on the information presented within his or her case scenario	20
Data: Elements of Theory	Meets “Proficient” criteria, and description demonstrates a sophisticated awareness of the developmental theory	Describes the basic elements of the theory being applied to the client’s case	Describes the basic elements of the theory being applied to the client’s case, but description is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not describe the basic elements of the theory being applied to the client’s case	20
Data: Foundational Information	Meets “Proficient” criteria, and explanation demonstrates a nuanced understanding of the foundation of the developmental theory	Explains foundational information about the theory, including information about its founder	Explains foundational information about the theory, but explanation is cursory, contains inaccuracies, or is missing information about the theory’s founder	Does not explain foundational information about the theory	20
Data: Appropriate Theory	Meets “Proficient” criteria, and explanation makes cogent connections between the focus of the developmental theory and the needs of the specific client case	Explains why the theory is appropriate to apply to the client and supports response with evidence from across the client’s lifespan	Explains why the theory is appropriate to apply to the client, but explanation contains gaps in logic or inaccuracies or lacks supporting evidence from across the client’s lifespan	Does not explain why the theory is appropriate to apply to the client	30
Articulation of Response	Submission is free of errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, and organization and is presented in a professional and easy-to-read format	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	10
Total					100%