

## A Closer Look at Research Clusters

### DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCES

<b>Overview</b>	Developmental sciences entail the investigation of progressive changes that occur over the life span of individuals. The field is concerned with both describing the characteristics of change over time, the underlying principles and causes of these changes, and the health outcomes that may occur as a result of the changes.
<b>Focus of Research at UMass Boston</b>	<p>A range of scientific disciplines contributes to the advancement of developmental sciences. UMass Boston has many programs that investigate neural/behavioral psychology across the life span including genetic and social impacts on behavior and health. The institution also has other programs that could support these studies on a more integrated basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Early childhood development (autism, Down Syndrome, infant mental health, disruptive behavior in children, and cultural sensitivity)</li><li>• Adolescent to adult transition</li><li>• Adult schizophrenia</li><li>• Effects of war trauma</li><li>• Elder care and behavior</li></ul>
<b>UMass Boston Departments Involved</b>	<p>Psychology, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Sociology, McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, Gerontology Department, Gerontology Institute, Institute for Community Inclusion, Center for Social Development and Education, Counseling and School Psychology</p> <p>Potential support: Applied Linguistics</p>
<b>Collaborations Established and Potential</b>	Children’s Hospital Boston, Boston Public Schools, national centers for disability policy and research. Potential in future to expand and broaden local and national efforts.
<b>Distinctive UMass Boston Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A comprehensive investigative approach to the effects of the urban environment on development, behavior, and health</li><li>• Emphasis on cultural aspects</li><li>• Focus on translation to advance systematic changes based on science and evidence-based outcomes.</li></ul>