

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2314 (Lifespan Growth and Development)
FALL 2023– Section 604 and 605

Department: Behavioral Sciences	Prerequisite: TSI reading compliance for Online
Discipline: Psychology	Available Formats: conventional and online
Course Number: PSYC 2314	Campuses: Levelland, Plainview, Lubbock Campus & Downtown Center, Online & Online Dual-Credit
Course Title: Lifespan Growth and Development	Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

Course Description: Life-Span Growth and Development is a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of a developing human from conception to death.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who have successfully completed this course should be to be able to:

1. Describe the stages of the developing person at different periods of the life span from birth to death.
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual.
3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting.
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.
5. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic and psychodynamic).
6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.
7. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the developmental process.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: Andrea McCourt is the faculty member who is responsible for the assessment of the student learning outcomes. She will be sending a list of which SLOs will be assessed for each semester. There are 7 outcomes and these are rotated. Dr. McCourt is also the person responsible for entry of the data into Task Stream for documentation.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor’s course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance. However, all courses will have multiple exams and written work that is designated by the instructor of record.

Attendance/Engagement Policy: Students are expected to engage in class each week in order to be successful in a course. “Engagement” includes learning activities such as attending class, submitting weekly online assignments, completing make-up work, etc. Due to South Plains College attendance policies, any student who fails to engage in three consecutive weeks during the semester or fails to attempt a minimum of two major grades may be dropped from the course with an ‘X’ or ‘F.’

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another’s work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student’s work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student’s;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else’s paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others’ behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Please refer to the follow in link for information on SPC policies regrading Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, the Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation (CARE) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](https://southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements) OR www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/index.php

Instructor's Course Information: PSYC 2314: Lifespan Growth and Development – FALL 2023

Name: Dr. Andrea McCourt	Phone Number: (806)716-2458
Office: Levelland - Administration Room 127 Lubbock Downtown Campus Room 2005/2017	Email Address: amccourt@southplainscollege.edu
Course Website: Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)	Preferred Contact Information: Because I teach on multiple campuses, email is typically the fastest way to contact me.
Section 604: This class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-10:45 in Lubbock Downtown Campus Room 2009	Section 605: This class meets from on Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:15 in Lubbock Downtown Campus room 2009
Final Exam Time: Students must take the final exam during Finals Week	
Office Hours: Mondays: 8:45-9:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 (Levelland Campus) Tuesdays: 8:15-9:30 and 12:15-1:00 p.m. (Lubbock Downtown Campus) Wednesdays: 8:45-9:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. (Levelland Campus) Fridays: Virtual and On-Campus Office Hours by Appointment	

Textbook Information: All reading materials are posted in Blackboard. You will not need to purchase a textbook for this class.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

Respect for Fellow Students: It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations. In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." (Student Guide)

Disruptive Behavior: Please be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful educational environment. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to creating distractions, talking out of turn, talking with classmates during lecture, wandering in and out of class, chronically showing up late, chronically leaving early, or improper use of technology. "Failure to comply with lawful directions of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course." (See Student Guide)

Electronic Devices: Cell phones must be silenced and put away while in the classroom. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others. Headphones will not be allowed during class.

Attendance & Administrative Drop Policy: Attendance will be taken during each class meeting. Students will be responsible for material presented and discussed in class. Due to South Plains College attendance policies, any student who fails to attend two consecutive weeks during the semester or fails to attempt a minimum of two major grades may be dropped from the course with an 'X' or 'F.'

Tardiness: Please do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter the room quietly and take a seat as close to the door as you can get. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates and is therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy.

Academic Integrity: See College Catalog “Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism...” For further information and examples please see www.plagiarism.org. Handing in work that was submitted for completion of another course will not be permitted. Students found guilty of such academic dishonesty in any form will receive a zero the work in question and will be dropped from the course with an ‘F’ should a second offense occur.

Late work: All assignments are considered late if they are not submitted by 11:59 PM CST on the day they are due. For each week that assignments are late, a 10% deduction in the overall grade for that assignment will be enforced. Assignments will not be accepted after two weeks past the original due date, except with instructor permission. Assignments other than the Final Exam will not be accepted after the last official day of class.

It is the student’s responsibility to plan ahead to submit assignments on time. If you are traveling, etc. and are unsure of your access to the internet, it is strongly recommended that you plan ahead and submit assignments and take quizzes early. If for some reason the Blackboard system is down and the class has trouble accessing the quiz (this is rare but has been known to happen) I will work with the class to create a new due date. The key is this: internet access is required for this course, if you are unsure of your potential access submit early!

At times, extraordinary circumstances (death in the family, verified illness, etc.) may occur in student’s lives that impact their assignment submission. In these circumstances, course assignments (e.g., quizzes, written assignments, etc.) might be granted an extension from the instructor. If you feel your circumstances warrant an extension, please email the instructor within one week of the original due date.

Assignments will not be accepted after the last official day of regular classes (in other words, assignments cannot be submitted for credit during Final Exams Week)

Methods for Assessing Expected Student Learning Outcomes: Quizzes, writing assignments, midterm exam, final exam.

Student Access to Office 365

Microsoft Office 365 is now available to all SPC students. Students will have access to email, file storage, and Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher, Outlook, Skype and OneDrive by logging into <https://office.com> or <http://portal.office.com/account/#installs> for more apps.

All new student correspondence will be sent to their new o365 email account (student1234@southplainscollege.edu) and also forwarded to their Gmail account that will remain active.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING INFORMATION:

Quizzes (collectively quizzes will be worth a total of 300 points or 30% of the overall course grade):

There will be ten (10) quizzes over the assigned readings and course materials. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the course materials. You will have the opportunity to take each quiz two times and keep your highest score.

All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. Once you start a quiz, you must complete it. You will not be able to log back into a quiz once you have opened it. Please make arrangements to take each quiz on a computer with a secure internet connection. You must take the quizzes individually.

Please see the course schedule for due dates. Generally speaking, you should expect to have one quiz most weeks that is due in Blackboard by 11:59 pm on Sunday evening.

Writing Assignment (worth up to 150 points or 15% of the overall course grade):

You will be required to complete a written assignment on a specific topic pertaining to course content. This assignment should be double-spaced with 12-point font and use 1-inch margins. Content of the assignment should be an in-depth explanation/ of the assigned topic.

Including personal experience with the topic is optional, but it must be relevant to the topic if it is included and it should not be the main focus of the composition. Assignments must be typed and correctly submitted through Blackboard. Your composition should follow the guidelines of standard written English, and should follow basic essay format including an introduction, logical paragraph flow, and a conclusion. Papers cannot be submitted through email.

See Course Calendar for all specific deadlines. More specific instruction will be given in class during the semester.

Midterm Exam (worth up to 200 points or 20% of the overall course grade)

This online, objective (true/false, matching, multiple choice exam) will be taken in class. This exam will be cumulative for the first half of the semester.

Adult Development Analysis (worth up to 150 points or 15% of the overall course grade)

For this assignment, students will analyze a modern film that features adults at different life stages (emerging adulthood, young adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood). This analysis involves viewing the film and completing a Blackboard assignment related to the analysis. More details on this assignment will be provided in class.

Final Exam (worth up to 200 points or 20% of the overall course grade)

This online, objective (true/false, matching, multiple choice exam) will be taken during the time allotted for final exams. This exam will be cumulative. This exam will be posted in Blackboard and must be taken during the time allotted for final exams at South Plains College. Please remember you must take the Final Exam in one sitting, you cannot start it and save it to finish later. You must take the exams individually.

Make-up exams: Students should make every possible effort to take each exam on the scheduled date and time. If necessary, students may only take one make-up exam during the entire semester. If you will be missing an exam, you must inform the instructor at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled exam time. If students fail to notify the instructor 24 hours prior to the exam, the make-up exam will automatically be scheduled during finals week. If you fail to attend your scheduled make-up, your grade for that exam will be a zero, no exceptions.

Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:

Summary of Assignments

Assignment	Possible Points
Online Quizzes	300
Writing Assignment	150
Adult Development Analysis	150
Midterm Exam	200
Final Exam	200
Total Points Possible =	1000

Final Grades will be determined by calculating the total amount of points earned by you this semester. Using the scale below, your instructor will determine the corresponding letter grade.

A = 900-1000 points

B = 800-899 points

C = 700-799 points

D = 600-699 points

F = 599 (or below) points

TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR/OUTLINE

Calendar Week/Dates	Course Topics and Assigned Readings	Assignments <i>(due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on Sundays unless otherwise noted)</i>
Week One Monday, August 28 – Sunday, September 3	Overview of Lifespan Growth and Human Development	
Week Two Tuesday, September 5 – Sunday, September 10	Theories of Development	CAMPUS CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPT 4 FOR THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
Week Three Monday, September 11 – Sunday, September 17	Cognitive Theories and Brain Development	Online Quiz 1 (overview, theories, and brain development)
Week Four Monday, September 18 – Sunday, September 24	Research in Lifespan Development	Online Quiz 2 (research)
Week Five Monday, September 25 – Sunday, October 1	Heredity and Prenatal Development	Online Quiz 3 (heredity and prenatal development)
Week Six Monday, October 2 – Sunday, October 8	Birth	
Week Seven Monday, October 9 – Sunday, October 15	Infant/Toddler Development	Online Quiz 4 (birth and infant/toddler development)
Week Eight Monday, October 16 – Sunday, October 22	Early Childhood Development	CAMPUS CLOSED ON FRIDAY, OCT. 20 FOR FALL BREAK Online Quiz 4 (early childhood)
Week Nine Monday, October 23 – Sunday, October 29	Review and Midterm Exam	MIDTERM EXAM
Week Ten Monday, October 30 – Sunday, November 5	Middle/Late Childhood Development Intelligence and Creativity	Online Quiz 5 (middle childhood)
Week Eleven Monday, November 6 – Sunday, November 12	Adolescent Development and Emerging Adulthood	Online Quiz 6 (adolescence and emerging adulthood)

Week Twelve Monday, November 13 – Sunday, November 19	Development During Early Adulthood, Personality, and Vocational Development	Online Quiz 7 (early adulthood)
Week Thirteen Monday, November 20 – Sunday, November 26	Development During Middle and Late Adulthood	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY FROM NOVEMBER 22-24 Online Quiz 8 (middle and late adulthood)
Week Fourteen Monday, November 27 – Sunday, December 3	Development During Adulthood (in-class film analysis)	ADULT DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS (submitted as a Blackboard Quiz)
Week Fifteen Monday, December 4 – Sunday, December 10	Living Well: Stress, coping, and life satisfaction in adulthood End of Life Issues/Topics (Review for the final exam)	Online Quiz over Chapter 10
Final Exam Period in this Class Monday, December 11 – Wednesday, December 13		The Final Exam will be taken during the first three days of this week (December 11-13)

IMPORTANT DATES:

First day of class	August 28
Labor Day Holiday (all campuses are closed)	September 4
12th class day (non-attending students will be dropped)	September 13
Fall Break (all campuses are closed)	October 20
Thanksgiving Break	November 22-24
Last day to drop/withdraw from a class	November 30
Final Exams Week	December 11-14

This is a tentative course schedule. The instructor reserves the right to make changes as needed throughout the semester.