

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2314 (Lifespan Growth and Development)
Spring 2024 – Sections 156 and 452

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

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

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.

Textbook: *Lifespan Development: A Psychological Perspective*, Lally, M. & Valentine-French, S. (2017). This textbook can be accessed for free at the following web address: <http://dept.clcillinois.edu/psy/LifespanDevelopment.pdf>

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 are expected 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.

RELEVANT SPC POLICIES & PROCEDURES

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. Dr. McCourt is also the person responsible for entry of the data into Weave 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 Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. For this online course, attendance will be based on a student completing work by the due date for each item. 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.' 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. Simply logging into class before the official attendance date does not count as attending – at least one assignment must also be submitted. 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.

Academic Integrity Policy: 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.

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.

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 \(southplainscollege.edu\)](http://southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements) OR www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/index.php

Instructor's Course Information: PSYC 2314: Lifespan Growth and Development – Spring 2024

Name: Dr. Andrea McCourt	Phone Number: (806)716-2458
Levelland Campus: Admin. Room 127 Lubbock Downtown Campus 2005/2017	Email Address: amccourt@southplainscollege.edu
Course Website: Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)	Preferred Contact Information: Because I teach on both the Levelland and Lubbock campuses, email is typically the fastest way to contact me.
Final Exam Time: Students must take the final exam online in Blackboard during Finals Week (see course schedule for the exact dates)	
Office Hours: Mondays: 8:45-9:30 a.m. and 2:15-3:30 (Levelland Campus) Tuesdays: 8:15-9:30 and 12:15-3:00 p.m. (Lubbock Downtown Campus) Wednesdays: 8:45-9:30 a.m. and 2:15-3:30 p.m. (Levelland Campus) Fridays: Virtual and On-Campus Office Hours by Appointment	

Textbook Information: Lally, M. and Valentine-French, S. (2017). Lifespan Development: A psychological perspective. This textbook can be accessed at: <http://dept.clcillinois.edu/psy/LifespanDevelopment.pdf>. You can purchase a print version of the book at: <http://www.lulu.com/shop/martha-lally-suzanne-valentine-french/lifespan-development-a-psychological-perspective/paperback/product-24183108.html>

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> with your SPC username MySPCusername@southplainscollege.edu (please note the @students has been dropped)

All new student correspondence will be sent to their new 365 email account (student1234@southplainscollege.edu).

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: Do your best to be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful environment in all aspects of classroom behavior. 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)

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.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING INFORMATION

Online Discussion (200 points or 20% of overall grade in the course)

The Online Discussion component of this course is comprised of weekly Discussion Questions (DQs) and is an important part of class. Most weeks there will be discussion related to the course material. The faculty member posts weekly main discussion questions for the class to discuss. Students are expected to respond to ALL Main DQs. As a general rule, Main DQ responses should be at least 150 words in length.

Online discussion is a very important part of online learning. Through your responses to weekly Main DQs, you will learn to integrate class material into your thoughts and learn more about how others view human development. Additional discussion with classmates and the professor help us all learn more about the material. As such, each week you are also expected to make at least 2 thoughtful and substantial responses to classmates.

I suggest that class members participate in the online discussion at least two times per week. It is a good idea to check in early in the week and again closer to Sunday (the last day of each week of class, except as noted in the Course Schedule). This assures that you are an active member of the class throughout the week and have ample opportunity to interact with other class members. Weekly Discussion will be closed at 11:59 p.m. Central Time on Sunday nights, unless otherwise noted below.

For each Main DQ, you will be graded on (1) your response to the question and (2) your responses to classmates' discussion of that same discussion question (at least two responses required per discussion question).

Weekly Online Discussion Will Be Graded as Follows:

Responses to Main DQs should:

- be made in a timely fashion that gives others an opportunity to respond
- include accurate information and be on topic
- be thoughtful, organized, and analyze the information and/or question
- Incorporate and cite information from the textbook, outside academic sources, credible websites, etc.
- utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

Responses to Classmates' Postings should

- for each Main DQ, include at least 2 responses to classmates
- be constructive
- add to the overall value of the discussion (simply posting a statement of "I thought this week's ideas were neat" or "I agree") will not count towards your participation points
- utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

Quizzes (each quiz is worth up to 30 points for 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 – the Blackboard app does not always work well for quizzes and/or exams.

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 100 points or 10% 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.

Adult Development Analysis (worth up to 100 points or 10% 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 Blackboard assignment related to the analysis. More details on this assignment will be provided in class.

Midterm Exam (worth up to 100 points or 10% of the overall course grade)

This online, objective (true/false, matching, multiple choice) exam will cover the material from the first half of the semester. This exam will be posted in Blackboard. Please remember you must take the Midterm in one sitting, you cannot start it and save it to finish later. You must take the exams individually.

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 Discussion	200
Online Quizzes	300
Writing Assignment	100
Adult Development Analysis	100
Midterm Exam	100
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 Tuesday, January 16 – Sunday, January 21	Overview of Lifespan Growth and Human Development	Online Discussion
Week Two Tuesday, January 22 – Sunday, January 28	Introduction to Lifespan Development READ: Chapter 1	Online Discussion
Week Three Monday, January 29 – Sunday, February 4	Introduction to Lifespan Development READ: Chapter 1	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 1
Week Four Monday, February 5 – Sunday, February 11	Heredity and Prenatal Development READ: Chapter 2	Online Discussion WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE
Week Five Monday, February 12 – Sunday, February 18	Birth READ: Chapter 2	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 2
Week Six Monday, February 19 – Sunday, February 25	Infant/Toddler Development READ: Chapter 3	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 3
Week Seven Monday, February 26 – Sunday, March 3	Early Childhood Development READ: Chapter 4	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 4
Week Eight Monday, March 4 – Sunday, March 10	Middle/Late Childhood Development READ: Chapter 5	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 5
SPRING BREAK – March 11 – 17		
Week Nine Monday, March 18 – Sunday, March 24	Midterm Exam	MIDTERM EXAM
Week Ten	Adolescent Development	Online Discussion

Monday, March 25 – Sunday, March 31	READ: Chapter 6	Online Quiz over Chapter 6
Week Eleven Monday, April 1 – Sunday, April 7	Development During Emerging and Early Adulthood READ: Chapter 7	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 7
Week Twelve Monday, April 8 – Sunday, April 14	Development During Middle Adulthood READ: Chapter 8	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 8
Week Thirteen Monday, April 15 – Sunday, April 21	Development During Late Adulthood READ: Chapter 9	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Chapter 9
Week Fourteen Monday, April 22 – Sunday, April 28	Development During Adulthood	ADULT DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS (submitted as a Blackboard Quiz)
Week Fifteen Monday, April 29 – Sunday, May 5	Death and Dying READ: Chapter 10	Online Discussion Online Quiz over Ch. 10
Final Exam Week Monday, May 6 – Tuesday, May 7		The Final Exam will be taken online during the two days of finals week (May 6 and 7)

IMPORTANT DATES

First day of class	January 16
12th class day (non-attending students will be dropped)	January 31
Spring Break (all campuses are closed)	March 11-15
Easter Break	March 29
Last day to drop/withdraw from a class	April 29
Final Exams Week	May 6-9

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.