
Common Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2314

Course Name: Lifespan Growth and Development

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

Satisfies a core curriculum requirement? Yes, Behavioral or Social Science

Prerequisites: TSI reading compliance for INET

Available Formats: conventional; INET; ITV

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, ATC, Plainview, INET

Textbook: *Human Development: A Cultural Approach, 2e* by Jeffrey Jensen Arnett

Course Specific Instructions: go to Blackboard Learn 9 for INET classes

Course Description: This course is a study of the relationship of the physical, emotional, social, and mental factors of growth and development of children and throughout the lifespan.

Course Purpose: The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major theories and concepts in life span development including the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that occur from conception till death.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to successfully complete this course, the student should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments in a timely manner, and complete all examinations including the final exam. Internet courses require the work to be completed in specific time periods.

Course Evaluation: Please see the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluation student performance.

Attendance Policy: Whenever absences become excessive, and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student may be withdrawn from the course. The typical view of excessive absences is when a student misses more than two weeks of the course.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who have successfully completed this course will be expected 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.

Core Objectives addressed:

- **Communication 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 skills-** to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

Specific Course Policies

Contacting the Instructor

Name Dr. Will Crescioni
Office Location RC405A, Reese Campus

Email	wcrescioni@southplainscollege.edu				
Office Phone	(806) 716-2468				
Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	10:00 – 12:00 1:00 – 2:00	2:30 – 4:00	10:00 – 12:00 1:00 – 2:00	2:30 – 4:00	10:00 – 12:00
Additional office hours available by appointment.					

Student e-mail

SPC has given all students access to a free email account. Email will be the primary means of communication in this course, and I expect you to check it regularly. **ALL EMAIL COMMUNICATON MUST BE CONDUCTED USING YOUR OFFICAL SPC EMAIL.** We will often be discussing sensitive or confidential issues over email (e.g. grades). As such, I will not respond to any email other than your official SPC email address. Emails from gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo!, etc. will not receive a response.

Email Etiquette

It is important in this class, in all classes, and in your professional life to practice good email etiquette. This means, among other things, addressing your instructors professionally, using good spelling and grammar, and practicing good self-reliance before falling back on email. There are many excellent guides to email etiquette, but I recommend this as a starting point:

http://writingcenter.emory.edu/resources/writing_tips_resources/email_etiquette.html

In addition, all emails must include a meaningful subject line, must include the class and section you are referencing, and must include your full name as it appears on Blackboard. I teach multiple classes at SPC, as well as classes at other colleges in the area. If you do not clearly identify yourself and the class you are asking about, I have no way of answering your question. For example, an email that simply reads “When is the test?” is useless. Which test? For which class? My general class? My lifespan class? The experimental class I teach at LCU? Therefore, if you do not provide the information I need to help you, you will not get help. Here is an example of a well-composed email:

Hello Dr. Crescioni,

My name is Student McStudentson, and I am in your PSY 2301 MW class at 1:00. I was looking at the syllabus and it said that our second test was next Monday, but I thought I remembered you saying in class that it had been delayed until Wednesday. If you could let me know for sure I'd really appreciate it.

Thanks,
Student McStudentson

That email will get a quick response.

The Course at a Glance

- Thirteen weekly quizzes worth 25 points each and due each Sunday (beginning 9/3) by 11:59 PM
- A book report rough draft, worth 25 points and due Sunday, 10/27 by 11:59 PM
- A book report final draft, worth 75 points and due Sunday, 11/19 by 11:19 PM
- A cumulative final exam, worth 100 points and due Wednesday, 12/6 by 11:59 PM

Course Expectations

Time Commitment

In general, a student can expect that one credit hour of coursework will require about three hours of total work each week. Because this class is three credit hours, you should expect to spend at least nine hours each week completing the readings and assignments for this course. This is only an estimate; some students may require more or less time to complete each week's tasks. You should expect, however, to spend several hours each week on this course, and you are encouraged to plan accordingly.

Timely Completion of Work

All due dates for this class are available in this syllabus. Any changes will be announced via Blackboard. It is your responsibility to keep track of these dates and to ensure that you submit your assignments in a timely fashion. Late work will not be accepted without documentation of an injury, illness, or death in the family that would have substantially impaired the student's ability to complete the assignment in a timely fashion.

Administrative Drop Policy

Due to Financial Aid and South Plains College requirements for participation/attendance, students who fail to maintain satisfactory course participation may be dropped with a grade of "X" from the course. A student who meets the following criteria may be dropped from the course at the discretion of the instructor:

- Having a grade of "C" or lower on the class and one of the following:
 - Missing five or weekly quizzes.
 - Failing to complete an adequate number of assignments. A student who misses two or more tests without an approved absence, or who fails to complete the research paper, may be dropped from the not logging in for 14 consecutive days.
 - Failing to turn in the book report rough draft.
 - Failing to turn in the book report final draft.

Assignments

All work in this course will be completed via Blackboard. You will not submit any work in person or via email. Refer to individual assignments for specific instructions.

Chapter Quizzes

(12 @ 25 points each)

There are a total of 13 learning modules in these course. Each module covers the material from one chapter of the book. After completing the readings for each module, you will complete a quiz that covers the material from that chapter. Chapter quizzes will consist of 20 multiple choice questions. You will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz. You will have two attempts for each chapter quiz, and only your highest attempt will count toward your final grade.

For each attempt, the computer will randomly select 20 questions from a larger question pool. As such, your two attempts are unlikely to be identical.

You are not required to complete both attempts in one sitting. If you wish, you may space out your two attempts. Both attempts must be completed by the posted due date, however.

At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest chapter quiz grade. Therefore, only your 12 highest chapter quiz grades will count toward your final grade.

Book Report

(100 points)

You will select one book from the following list to read during the semester. At approximately the midpoint of the semester, you will submit a rough draft of your report. Toward the end of the semester, you will submit your final draft.

Rough Draft

(25 points)

Your rough draft should be 2 – 3 pages, double spaced. In your rough draft you will briefly summarize the main ideas of the book. Your rough draft will be graded based on completion and accuracy of the information contained. Please see Blackboard for detailed instructions and grading rubric.

Final Draft

Your final draft will be a 3 – 5 page double spaced document that addresses the following points:

1. What is the main idea of the book? Summarize, in a few paragraphs, the main points the book makes. Consider the following as guides for this section.
2. Select one study or example from the book and explain it in detail. Why do you think this study or example is important?
3. What is one thing you learned from this book that you think you could incorporate into your own life?
4. What is one thing you learned in this book that you think everyone should know? Why?

Book Choices

Choose one of the following books for your book report:

- *Brain Rules for Baby*, by John Medina
- *Brain Rules*, by John Medina
- *Popular*, by Mitch Prinstein
- *The Teenage Brain*, by Frances E. Jensen
- *Make it Stick: The Science of Successful Learning*, by Peter C. Brown, Henry L. Roediger III, and Henry L. Roediger III
- *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*, by Carol Dweck

Final Exam

(100 Points)

The final exam is a 50-question multiple choice exam. A study guide for the final exam will be posted prior to finals week. The final exam is cumulative, meaning that material from all 13 previous chapters will be covered on the final. You will have 75 minutes to complete the final, and you will have only one attempt.

Make-ups and Late Work

Weekly Quizzes

Make-ups for weekly quizzes will only be given under the following conditions:

- The student provides documentation of a personal illness or injury that incapacitated them on the day an assignment was due.
- The student provides documentation of the death of loved one (obituary, funeral program, etc.).

Book Report

Book report rough drafts turned in after 11:59 PM on the due date will lose 10 points each day until submitted. Thus, a rough draft that is one day late will be worth no more than 15 points a report that is two days late will be worth no more than 5 points. Book reports more than two days late will not be accepted without documented illness, injury, or death of a loved one.

Book report final drafts will follow the same basic rule, but point deductions will be 25 points for the first day late and 50 points for the second day late.

Final Exam

The final exam must be submitted by the posted date. Because grades are due soon after the final, makeups for the final are not possible. Students with approved, documented absences may be given a grade of “incomplete” in the class, at the instructor’s discretion.

Grading

Your grade in this class will be based entirely on your quizzes, book report, and final exam. Extra credit may be offered to the entire class at the instructor’s discretion, but individual extra credit and artificial grade boosts (e.g. “I just need *one more point* to get an A! Please! Pretty please!”) will never be offered.

Your current grade will always be accessible to you via Blackboard; I strongly encourage you to monitor your grade throughout the semester and to contact me as soon as you have any concerns. If you get in touch with me early, we can work together to help overcome the obstacles you may be facing; if you wait until the end of the semester it may be too late. Remember, I am here to help – you just need to ask!

Chapter Quizzes	300 points
Book Report Rough Draft	25 points
Book Report Final Draft	75 points
Final Exam	100 points
Total	500 Points

Tech Support

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have a working computer with a stable internet connection throughout the course.

Technical Requirements

In order to successfully participate in the course, your computer must meet the following requirements:

- Modern operating system (Windows 7 or later strongly recommended; most content should be compatible with Mac OS and older versions of windows down to XP; Linux is not recommended).
- Modern web browser. I strongly recommend you use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome to access the content in this course. Internet Explorer may not interact well with the course content.
 - You can download Mozilla Firefox [here](#).
 - You can download Google Chrome [here](#).
- A modern word processor to complete Unit Projects, such as Microsoft Word. All SPC students receive free access to Microsoft Office 365; go [here](#) for more information.
- A stable, reliable internet connection. High-speed internet (e.g. Cable, DSL, fiber) is strongly recommended.
- For the purposes of Weekly Quizzes, it is strongly suggested that you use a computer with hardwired (e.g. not WiFi) internet access, as this will minimize the risk of an interruption. DO NOT use your browser's forward or back buttons. It is highly recommended that you close all other windows and programs before beginning an assignment. Unless your assignment is interrupted for a reason that affects the entire class (e.g. the server goes down), interruptions will not be considered grounds for a retake of any assignment.
- DO NOT attempt to take any class assignments using a phone or tablet, as your grade will not be recorded.

Should you encounter difficulties technical difficulties throughout the course, please refer to the following sources of help:

Blackboard Technical Support

Support for issues relating to Blackboard can be obtained via the "Blackboard Support" link in the course Blackboard page, by visiting https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Student, or by calling (800) 424-9299. Issues for which you should use this route include, but are not limited to:

- Inability to access Blackboard page (e.g. page will not load)
- Inability to access specific content within the Blackboard page (e.g. assignments, lecture videos)

Other Technical Issues

- If you do not see a grade for an assignment you believe you completed, contact me directly.

- If your computer breaks or your home internet goes out, contact the relevant business (e.g. Best Buy, Office Depot, as well as several local outlets provide computer repair services; your internet service provider can provide troubleshooting related to your home internet service.

Tech Contingency Plans

You are responsible for maintaining access to a working computer with a stable internet connection throughout the course. As it is very possible for a compute to break, you should have contingency plans in place in cast this happens to you. These can include (but are not limited to):

- Identify at least one friend, family member, or neighbor who has a computer you can borrow if needed.
- If you are a local student, the South Plains College Levelland and Reese Center campuses have computer labs which offer free access to students.
- Most public libraries have at least a few computers that are available to the public.
- Inexpensive replacement computers can be obtained from sites like edealinfo.com, the Amazon marketplace, Newegg, and eBay.
- If you are travelling, many hotels have a small computer lab available to their guests.
- If you know that you will be out of town/without internet access for a certain period of time, be sure to work ahead and complete any assignments that are due during that time before you leave.

ADA Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office.

For More information Contact

Levelland

Linda Young

Disability Accommodations Specialist

1401 S. College Ave.

Levelland, TX 79336

Phone: 806-716-2577

Fax: 806-897-0371

lyoung@southplainscollege.edu

Reese

Dawn Valles

Coordinator of Disability Services Reese

819 Gilbert Drive

Lubbock, TX 79416

Phone: 806-716-4675

dvalles@southplainscollege.edu

Diversity Statement

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Accessibility Statements

Blackboard

<https://www.blackboard.com/platforms/learn/resources/accessibility.aspx>

Course Schedule

Date	Day	Reading	Assignments Due
3-Sep	Sun	Chapter 1: A Cultural Approach to Human Development	Chapter 1 Quiz
10-Sep	Sun	Chapter 2: Generics and Prenatal Development	Chapter 2 Quiz
17-Sep	Sun	Chapter 3: Birth and the Newborn Child	Chapter 3 Quiz
24-Sep	Sun	Chapter 4: Infancy	Chapter 4 Quiz
1-Oct	Sun	Chapter 5: Toddlerhood	Chapter 5 Quiz
8-Oct	Sun	Chapter 6: Early Childhood	Chapter 6 Quiz
15-Oct	Sun	Chapter 7: Middle Childhood	Chapter 7 Quiz
22-Oct	Sun	Chapter 8: Adolescence	Chapter 8 Quiz; Book Report Rough Draft
29-Oct	Sun	Chapter 9: Emerging Adulthood	Chapter 9 Quiz
5-Nov	Sun	Chapter 10: Young Adulthood	Chapter 10 Quiz
12-Nov	Sun	Chapter 11: Middle Adulthood	Chapter 11 Quiz
19-Nov	Sun	Chapter 12: Late Adulthood	Chapter 12 Quiz; Book Report Final Draft
26-Nov	Sun	No Assignments - Thanksgiving	N/A
3-Dec	Sun	Chapter 13: Death and Afterlife Beliefs	Chapter 13 Quiz
6-Dec	Wed	Final Exam Due	Final Exam