Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2314

Course Title: Lifespan Growth and Development

Available Formats: conventional and online

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Online, and Online Dual-Credit

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.

Prerequisite: none

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Textbook: *Lifespan Development: A Psychological Perspective, 4th Ed.,* Lally, M. & Valentine-French, S. (2022).

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 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.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: Dr. 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 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: Individual instructors will create an attendance policy that is consistent with the "Class Attendance" policies stated in the *SPC General Catalog*: *Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.*
When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

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.

South Plains College policies concerning Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation), Intellectual Exchange, Campus Concealed Carry, COVID-19, and AI (Artificial Intelligence) can be found here: **https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/.**

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.

Instructor's Course Information: PSYC 2314.005 – Spring 2026

PSYC 2314, Lifespan Growth & Development: a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of a developing human from conception to death.

Instructor: M. Miller, MA, Associate Professor of Psychology

Instructor Office: SS117, Student Services Building, Levelland Campus, 806-716-2967

I am available by phone or walk-in during the office hours listed below. I can be available for virtual meetings via Collaborate upon request during these times as well.

    Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am – 10:45 am

    Tuesday and Thursday: 1:30 – 2:00 pm

    Friday: 9 am – 11 am

Email Address: mamiller@southplainscollege.edu

Blackboard: You may contact me using Messages in Blackboard.

Textbook Information: *Lifespan Development: A Psychological Perspective* is an Open Educational Resource funded by a grant from the College of Lake County Foundation. It is available for free online or in a PDF with your Blackboard course.

Instructor's Classroom Policies:

- **Respect for Fellow Students**: In this course, it is important to understand and respect that we may all have different perspectives and experiences. All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates,' regarding both our similarities and our differences. Be respectful and treat others with civility.

- **Disruptive Behavior**: Do your best to be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful environment. "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)
    - **Be a Polite Classmate**: Avoid 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, such as phones. These behaviors are disruptive to your fellow classmates and are therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy above.
    - **Be Responsible with Electronics**: Phones must be silenced and ideally put away during lecture. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others.
    - **Be on Time**: Do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter as quietly as possible and take a seat as close to the door as you can get. <u>Being late</u>

to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates and your instructor, and is therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy above.

- **Attendance & Withdrawal Policy:** It is in the student's best interest to attend all class lectures when possible and to submit all coursework to the best of their ability. The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is **April 30.** It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course if they wish. Otherwise, students will earn a letter grade at the end of the course based on their performance. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php.

- **Academic Integrity**: The expectation in this course is that students generate their own written ideas and work. It should be understood that students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism of any kind will earn a zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an 'F' should a second offense occur. **Any amount of dishonesty is subject to these consequences**, whether a lot or a little.

    Violations of Academic Integrity can include but are not limited to one copied sentence in an essay, a missing or incorrect citation, an entire paper copied from someone/somewhere else (including AI generated content), one plagiarized idea or post on a discussion board, a copied exam or exam item, other coursework completed by someone other than yourself, or unethically using Internet searches or AI generated content to complete your work.

    You have also committed academic dishonesty when *sharing* course content, assignments, items, or answers. This includes sharing course content with other students, sharing or posting course content on websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, or similar "study applications," **and feeding course content into AI generators.** The information and assignments in this course are proprietary and are not yours to share. For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide, or refer to www.plagiarism.org.

- **Late work: Late work is not accepted for full credit in this course.** However:
    o On a case-by-case basis, quizzes and some coursework may be submitted late for a maximum half credit. You will need approval from your instructor and may need to provide documentation.
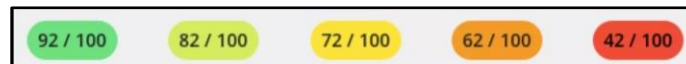
Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation:

It is possible to earn up to 600 points in this course. At the end of the semester, all points earned by you this semester will be added up for a grand point total. Your Point Total will determine your final letter grade by using the following scale/point ranges:

A: 537-600 points
B: 477-536 points
C: 417-476 points
D: 357-416 points
F: 356 (or below) points

Blackboard Gradebook: All grades and feedback will be posted in the Blackboard Gradebook. Grades and feedback are available for each item of coursework. Students are responsible for staying informed about their grading progress throughout the term.

- **Overall Grade** provides an indication of how many points a student has earned out of how many they have attempted. For example, if a student's Overall Grade shows "312/400" this means that the student has attempted 400 points in the course and has earned 312 of those points, or about 78% of the attempted points. As the student completes more work, both numbers should increase accordingly (more attempted, more earned). If the same student later completed an exam, which is worth 100 points, and earns a 72 on that exam, their new Overall Grade will be "384/500."
- **Grading Color Scheme (Blackboard)**: You will notice that each graded item presents in a color pill. The overall grade does as well: > 90% = green, 89–80% = yellow/green, 79–70% = yellow, 69–60% = orange, 59–50% = red (as shown below).

Coursework Items: All coursework will be submitted through Blackboard. Below is a brief description of all coursework that will be submitted for credit in this course:

- **Reading Quizzes (10 points each)**: A reading quiz will be assigned for each chapter. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the reading. You will have the opportunity to attempt each quiz two times and keep your highest score. All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. There are 10 quizzes assigned. See Course Calendar for all specific deadlines.
- **Lifespan Project (100 points):** Over the course of the semester you will be building an essay, which we will refer to as your "Lifespan Project." The objective of the essay is to compare and contrast two periods of the lifespan. This will include selecting two periods of the lifespan, summarizing the development that occurs in each period, and identifying ways in which these two periods of the lifespan are both similar and different.

  You will submit individual pieces of this project during the session and in the end, you will put those pieces together in a final essay. The breakdown of each piece is as follows:
  Selection of Periods of Lifespan for Compare/Contrast – 10 points
  Summary of Period of Lifespan 1 – 20 points
  Summary of Period of Lifespan 2 – 20 points
  Submission of Lifespan Project Essay – 50 points

This project is designed to assess your ability to understand and explain concepts related to lifespan development and accurately communicate your understanding. Your final Lifespan Project should be in traditional essay format (i.e., an introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, a conclusion paragraph, complete sentences, proper grammar/spelling/capitalization that follow the guidelines of Standard Written English, citing sources). More specific instructions & information about evaluation will be given in class and in your Blackboard course; deadlines can be found on the Course Calendar.

- **Exams (4 exams; 100 points each):** Throughout the semester 4 (four) exams will be administered. Exams will consist of both multiple choice and short answer items. See Course Calendar for all exam deadlines.

  - All exams will be administered on Blackboard and are timed at 75 minutes. On the day of an exam deadline, we will not have a class meeting. Students may take their exam at a location of their choosing; this will require access to a computer and stable internet connection.
  - **Honorlock:** All exams will utilize Honorlock, SPC's proctoring service. While taking an exam, the browser extension will restrict your ability to copy/paste, limit browser activity (only specific URLs will be allowed), and disable printing abilities. This does **NOT** require the use of a webcam and will not record your activity, but will require use of a computer device, and use of Google Chrome with the Honorlock extension to be downloaded.
  - **Makeup Exams**: Students should make every effort to take exams by their scheduled deadlines. If necessary, students can make up one regular exam. In the event that a student misses an exam deadline, they will earn a zero for that exam until their makeup exam is completed. The makeup exam is a comprehensive exam and will be taken during final exams week.