

LIFE CYCLE DEVELOPMENT
PSYCHOLOGY 2310 (CRN: 21965) Spring 2020
Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00 – 1:20 p.m.
Undergraduate Learning Center (UGLC) Room 346

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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. or by appointment

Textbook: Invitation to the Life Span (2019, Fourth Edition)
by Kathleen Stassen Berger: Worth Publishers
(available at the UTEP Bookstore in loose leaf format, e-format, as well
as Amazon.com, etc.)

WELCOME!!! This course will introduce you to many of the major research findings in human development. The material and ideas that we will review this semester are very exciting and include studies of infant sensory and cognitive capacities, moral reasoning in children, adolescent brain development and its implication for understanding teenage behavior, and intellectual and social development during adulthood. The course has several goals, including 1) increasing your knowledge of key research findings in the study of human development, 2) increasing your ability to draw connections between research findings and your everyday life, and 3) increasing your empirical orientation towards knowledge. The topics and reading assignments for each class are provided below. We may deviate from this schedule, so the dates are intended as approximate guides for where we will be throughout the semester.

Strategies for Success in this Course

1) You can increase the likelihood of success in the course by spending time discussing the course material with classmates, reading the assigned chapters, and reviewing the material aloud. Students sometimes earn low grades in PSYC 2310 because they do not invest the time needed to succeed in the course. **Please note: you should spend, on average, 7.5 hours per week studying for this class in addition to spending 3 hours per week attending this class.** Thus you should commit approximately 10.5 hours per week to succeed in this course. You should be reading all of the assigned chapters, and you should be reading these chapters more than once (that is, twice, three times, or more). Most importantly, you should interact with the material! Write comments in the margins of the text, type up additional notes, discuss the material with friends (or even enemies), or just close the door to your room and review the material aloud. Actively engaging material is absolutely critical for your success in any course. Passively reading a chapter once is useless. At the University level, you are expected to master material in a non-trivial way. Hence the need to genuinely commit the type of time and energy that I described above in order to get the payoff that you desire.

2) You can also increase your likelihood of success in the course by identifying a ‘backup-buddy’; that is, someone who you can contact via email or phone to get the class notes for any day that you

miss class due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances. The backup-buddy system has been very useful for students in past semesters and should also be useful for you this semester. If you miss a class then please first contact your 'back-up buddy' to get class updates and class notes before contacting me for the information. If your classmate cannot provide you with the information then I will be happy to do so... but I would like you to first make the effort to interact with classmates (and give them the opportunity to discuss the material with you, which will benefit them as well as you!).

Examinations

There will be four hourly exams and one final exam. The hourly exams are tentatively scheduled for the dates listed below. **The exam dates are tentative, so please do not plan business trips or other obligations around the latter dates.** Each exam (including the final exam) is worth 16% of your course grade. Thus your exam grades comprise 80% of your final course grade. If you miss one hourly exam then you will have the opportunity to take a comprehensive make-up exam at the end of the semester. There will be no individual make-up exams except for health emergencies (e.g., hospitalization) or other extreme problems. You will not be admitted to an exam if you arrive after the first student departs from the exam room. **Please bring a #2 pencil and three scantron sheets to each exam.**

Quizzes

There will be five (5) quizzes during the semester. I will drop your lowest quiz grades when computing your final course grade. Thus I use your four (4) highest quiz grades when computing your course grade. Each quiz is worth 5% of your final course grade (thus the quizzes comprise 20% of your course grade). The quizzes are intended to help keep you on track and attentive to the readings and class material. The quizzes are tentatively scheduled for the dates listed below. The quizzes will typically be administered at the beginning of class (so make certain that you arrive to class on time). If you arrive 5 minutes after the quiz is distributed then you will not be administered a quiz (so, again, please arrive to class on time!). **Please bring a #2 pencil and two scantron sheets to each quiz.** I know that many students may miss a quiz due to family obligations, work obligations, commute difficulties, or related problems. **Because I drop your lowest quiz grade when computing final course grades I will not administer make-up quizzes, regardless of the reason for missing a quiz.**

Extra Credit I: Research Opportunity: The Psychology Department strives to help students develop an empirical orientation towards knowledge; that is, to 'think in terms of evidence' when evaluating claims about human behavior. Towards this end, students in this class have the opportunity to earn an extra 12 percentage points on one exam by participating in eight (4) hours of research conducted in the Psychology Department. Your participation will help you learn about the research methods and techniques that are used in psychological research. Three (3) percentage points will be added to one exam score for each hour of research participation (maximum research credit: 12 percentage points). Three points will be deducted from an exam score for each hour of credit that you sign-up for but fail to attend without notifying the experimenter sufficiently in advance. The attached sheet ("*SONA System policies – Participant Guide*") provides instructions

for identifying and signing-up for studies that are conducted in the Psychology Department this semester.

If you are unable to participate in research studies but you would still like to earn extra research credit then you can write four (4) 2- page papers **based on research articles that I will assign to you**. Each paper should summarize the research article that you read. Specifically, your paper would describe the research question that was addressed in the article, the research methods that were employed to answer the research question, and a summary of one or two of the main research findings. May 4th 2020 is the last day for retrieving the research articles from me. Note that participation in either type of research opportunity is voluntary and not a class requirement.

Extra Credit II: In-Class Activities: Throughout the semester I will ask you to participate in a variety of dyad- and small- group activities. I will grade three of the latter activities (periodically collected). You will earn 3 percentage points on one exam for each in-class activity that you complete successfully and I collect from you during class. Thus you have the opportunity to add 9- points to one exam grade by completing these activities. If you are absent on the days that I assign and collect work then you will be unable to earn the extra in-class credit for that day.

Class Attendance and Participation

Class attendance is required and class participation is encouraged. **If you miss more than three classes then you must make an appointment to see me; otherwise I reserve the right to lower your final course grade by one grade level.** Please turn off your cell phones when attending class. Reading or responding to text messages distracts other students, even when you think you are quiet and unobtrusive! Laptop computers can only be used for taking notes (thus no surfing the web). I reserve the right to lower your course grade by one grade level if the latter requests and policies are violated.

Classroom Accommodations

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, then please contact the *Center for Accommodations and Support Services* (CASS) by phone at 747-5148 or by email at cass@utep.edu or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

A NOTE REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY, INTEGRITY, AND DISHONESTY

Academic integrity and academic honesty are highly valued at UTEP. The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>) notes the following: “...students are expected to maintain absolute integrity and a high standard of individual honor in scholastic work undertaken at the University. At a minimum, you should complete any assignments, exams, and other scholastic endeavors with the utmost honesty...”

“Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable to another person.

“Cheating: Copying from the test paper of another student; communicating with another student during a test; giving or seeking aid from another student during a test; possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during tests (i.e. Crib notes, class notes, books, etc.); substituting for another person to take a test; falsifying research data, reports, academic work offered for credit.

“Plagiarism: Using someone’s work in your assignments without the proper citations; submitting the same paper or assignment from a different course, without direct permission of instructors

“Collusion: Unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments”

Academic dishonesty will result in disciplinary actions that can include a failing grade for the course or expulsion from the University (without a refund for tuition costs). So please do your own work.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

NOTE: Do not fall behind in your readings or your class attendance. If you have questions about the readings or class material then please come see me - **I enjoy meeting with students!**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Jan. 22	Introduction & Research Methods	Chapter 1
Jan. 27	Research Methods & Theory	Chapter 1
Jan. 29	Research Methods & Theory	Chapter 1
Feb. 3	Prenatal Development	Chapter 2
Feb. 5	Quiz #1 on Chapters 1 & 2 & lectures	
	Infancy: Perceptual & Cognitive Development	Chapter 3
Feb. 10	Infancy (con’t)	Chapter 4
Feb. 12	Infancy (con’t)	Chapter 4
Feb. 17	Quiz #2 on Chapter 3 & 4	
	Infancy: Social & Personality Development	Chapter 4

Feb. 19	Infancy (con't)	Chapter 4
Feb. 24	Exam #1.....	Chapters 1-4 & lectures
Feb. 26	Early Childhood:	Chapter 5
March 2	Early Childhood	Chapter 6
March 4	Early Childhood	Chapter 6
March 9	Quiz #3 on Chapters 5 & 6 & lectures Early Childhood	
March 11	Middle Childhood	Chapter 7
March 16 & 18	NO CLASSES: SPRING BREAK	
March 23	Middle Childhood	Chapter 7 Chapter 8 (pp.296-307)
March 25	Exam #2.....	Chapters 5-7 as noted & lectures
March 30	Adolescence: Physical Development	Chapter 9
April 1	Adolescence: Psychosocial & Cognitive Development	Chapter 10
[April 3	[Fall Drop/Withdrawal Deadline. Note: Student- initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either W or F.]	

April 6	Quiz #4 on Chapters 8 & 9 (pages noted) & lectures	
	Adolescence: Cognitive Development, Risk taking	Chapter 10
April 8	Adolescence Adulthood	Chapter 11 (383-402)
April 13	Adolescence	
April 15	Exam #3.....	Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11 as noted & lectures
April 20	Adulthood	Chapter 11
April 22	Adulthood	Chapter 12
April 27	Adulthood	Chapter 13 (461-482)
April 29	Quiz #5 on Chapters 12 & 13 & lectures	
	Late Adulthood: Physical & Personality	Chapter 14
May 4	Exam #4.....	Chapters 12-14 as noted & lectures
May 6	"Comprehensive Make-up Exam" (last day of class)	
May 15	Final Exam, 1:00 - 2:20 p.m. (Note: Exam begins at 1 p.m.!!)	All chapters & material covered this semester