Lifespan Development
PSY 322.01E
Spring 2013

Days/time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Instructor: Nancy Lamphere
Email Address: nancy.lamphere@tamuc.edu

Office Location: Binnion 218 (Health Psychology Lab)
Office Hours: Tues/Thur 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Wed 2 – 3 pm, and by appointment
Department phone: 903-886-5594

COURSE INFORMATION


Internet access: This is a web-enhanced course, which means that students must be able to access the Internet. Course assignment instructions, lecture outlines, and supplemental materials will be posted in eCollege, and several quizzes will be taken in eCollege. (See section below for information on Technology Requirements.)

Course Description: This course follows the life span development of the individual, emphasizing the theoretical and experimental approaches to the study of cognitive, personality, social, perceptual, and physical components of development from conception to death.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, students will have an understanding of:

- the major physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that occur during the life stages (prenatal, infancy, early childhood, mid-late childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood)
- how research is conducted by developmental psychologists, including research methodology and ethical issues, as well as how to critically assess the validity of information reported in the media
- the impact of culture and diversity on development
- how knowledge of lifespan development is personally beneficial
Grading: There are 1000 points possible, broken down as follows:

**Online Quizzes** (10 pts each; 100 pts total)
- Syllabus quiz worth 10 points (all or none)
- Pre-lecture quizzes: There are 11 pre-lecture quizzes, of which the top 9 scores will count towards the final grade.
- **There are absolutely no make-up quizzes!**

**Discussion Leader/Participation** (150 pts)
Each student will find a recent article relating to human development from a mainstream media source (magazine, newspaper, blog, etc) that references a research study published in a peer-reviewed journal. The student will locate the journal article referred to in the mainstream piece. Both articles must be approved by the instructor.

Grading for this assignment has three parts:
- Leader: Present brief summary of both articles and lead class discussion
- Summary: Written summary of both articles
- Participation: Take active part in other student-lead discussions

Detailed instructions will be provided.

**Cultural Influences on Development Poster** (150 pts)
Design a conference-style poster with 3-4 other students to be printed in the Pride Shop (cost around $10). Detailed instructions will be provided.

**Research Participation** (50 pts)
This requirement is fulfilled by participating in psychology department research studies. Alternative assignments (written summaries of journal articles) are available for students who do not wish to be research participants.

**Exams** (100 pts each; 400 pts total)
There are four (4) in-class exams, each covering specific developmental stages: prenatal/infancy, childhood, adolescence/early adulthood, and middle/late adulthood. **No make-up exams** unless due to a university-approved absence. I understand that things do come up, so exceptions are considered if prior arrangements are made.

**Final Exam** (150 pts)
The final exam is comprehensive, and will take place during finals week.

**Extra-credit**
- There will be several unannounced opportunities for extra points during class (**must be present to win**). These will only be for a few points each, but could add just enough to increase the course grade!
- There will also be one optional assignment that corresponds with Chapter 17—those interested must **notify me via email no later than the date of Exam #4.**
Grade Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

This course will also utilize certain aspects of eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To access eCollege, go to [https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx](https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx). You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

**eCollege Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e., how to submit to Dropbox, how to post to Discussions)

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course.

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).
Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better.

Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

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**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Class announcements:** Important class announcements are sent out via email, so check your LeoMail daily, including at least once on the weekend!

**Communication with the instructor:** Email is the best way to reach me outside of class. If you don’t use eCollege to email me, then include the course number in the subject (PSY 322). I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours to emails received on Mondays - Thursdays, and on Mondays to emails received on Fridays and over the weekend. If I haven’t responded within those timeframes, please send a gentle reminder.

*Always send an email follow-up to any in-person conversations we have that require further action.*

Email etiquette:
- Do include the course title and number in the subject
- Don’t treat an email exchange with an instructor like a conversation with your friends.
- Do remember that emails to instructors reflect your ability to express yourself in a professional manner.
- Do use complete sentences with correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Do not use texting acronyms!
- Do include your first and last name within the email
- Do reread your email before you send to be sure it makes sense, it doesn’t have any major typos, and it says what you mean.
- Do remember that emails can be saved, reread, and forwarded

**University Academic Support**

Texas A&M-Commerce has several programs in place to help students succeed academically (this list is not all-inclusive).

- Academic Success Center (ASC; [http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/studentLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/default.aspx](http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/studentLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/default.aspx))
- Writing Center ([http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx](http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx))
- TRIO (for those who qualify) ([http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/studentLife/campusServices/trioPrograms/default.aspx](http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/studentLife/campusServices/trioPrograms/default.aspx))
- JAMP Room (Science building)
- Math Lab (http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/academics/colleges/scienceEngineeringAgriculture/departments/mathematics/mathLab.aspx)

### COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

**Course Specific Procedures:**

- If you must come in late and class has started, quietly take a seat that does not disturb other students (i.e., near the door).
- Turn cell phones off during class.
- No recording or photos during class (this includes with your phone!) without prior permission.
- My PowerPoint slides are not provided to students, but lecture outlines will be available in Doc Sharing that can be downloaded, printed, and brought to class for taking notes.
- Late assignments are not accepted – PLAN AHEAD! Internet problems are not an excuse!
- No make-up exams unless due to a university-approved absence. I understand that things do come up, so exceptions are possible if prior arrangements are made with me.

**University Specific Procedures:**

**Students with Disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

**Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook). I recommend that students read the Code of Student Conduct because there are some pretty dire consequences for offenses, which can include expulsion without return. The Guide can be found at http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/studentLife/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf and the Code of Conduct is on pages 39-44.

**Academic Integrity:** The most serious offense in an academic sense is plagiarism, which is presenting the work or ideas of others as your own. Many students do not realize that in addition to the obviously unacceptable copying and pasting off the internet into a paper, plagiarism includes using
another person’s idea without citing that fact, copying another student’s homework, and even collaborating on out-of-class assignments (like homework) without instructor permission. Don’t believe anyone who says that the university doesn’t do anything about students who are caught cheating – it does. And ignorance about what constitutes plagiarism is not a defense! Take the time to know what your responsibilities are so that all your hard work gets you what you want – your degree!

**TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximate dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Approximate exam date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/15 to 2/5</td>
<td>Prenatal &amp; Infancy</td>
<td>Chapters 1-4</td>
<td>Thursday, 2/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/7 to 2/26</td>
<td>Childhood</td>
<td>Chapter 5-8</td>
<td>Thursday, 2/28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/5 to 3/26</td>
<td>Adolescence &amp; Early adulthood</td>
<td>Chapters 9-12</td>
<td>Thursday, 3/28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2 to 4/9</td>
<td>Middle &amp; Late adulthood Generations in the Workplace</td>
<td>Chapters 13-16 &amp; supplemental reading</td>
<td>Thursday, 4/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16 to 4/18</td>
<td>Death &amp; Dying</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
<td>Included on final exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The remainder of the semester will be used for the poster project.

**NOTE:** A more detailed syllabus and class schedule will be provided on the first day of class.