

Syllabus  
Psychology 545 and Counseling 545  
Fall 2015  
Monday 4:30

**Instructor:** Gail Johnson, PhD LP

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If you wish to reach me between classes please use email.

**Course Description:** This course is an overview of developmental psychology and the implications for practice.

**Learning Goals:**

1. Students will be able to understand and compare major developmental theories.
2. Students will know basic terminology related to each theory.
3. Students will understand human development and the implications for practice.

**Textbook:** Life Span Development: A Topical Approach. Robert S. Feldman

**Tentative Schedule of Readings and Exams:**

August 31	Introductions
September 7	Labor Day
September 14	Genetics and Development. Chapter 2
September 21	Growth, Chapter 3
September 28	Health and Wellness Chapter 4
October 5	Piaget and Vygotski Chapter 5
October 12	Exam
October 19	Family life Chapter 13

October 26	Work Day. Developing guides.
November 2	Moral Development Chapter 11
November 9	Challenges for our families and ourselves. Your reports on challenges facing adults today, aged 25 to 65.
November 16	Exam 2
November 23	Development of the Self Chapter 10
November 30	Work and Career Chapter 10 module 3
December 7	Aging in America. Your reports on Older Adult Interviews
December 14	Final Exam

**Your Grade Will be Based on the Following:**

1. 3 Exams
2. An Interview of an Adult over the age of 65 and 2 page summary with discussion in class. You will be given further details in class.
3. An Interview with 3 Adults between the ages of 25 and 65. Further details in class.
4. You will prepare an outline of a particular area of development that is commonly covered on comprehensive exams. This list for your selection will be provided for you. After you have completed and turned in your outline, you will meet with others in class who have worked on the same area and compile a review outline to share with your class members on a key area of development.

**Student Conduct and Absences:** “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” Students are expected to follow the code of conduct in class described in the Student Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct). Violation of the code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary processes described in the Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic honesty. This means that neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated and students who engage in either will be subject to the disciplinary processes described in the Code of Student Conduct). Plagiarism essentially means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving them credit. Therefore, “quotation marks should

be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author you will need to credit the source in the text” (APA, 2001, p. 249). If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please see me. A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained. Students are expected to attend all symposia unless they have excused absences as described in the Student’s Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Academics). When students are absent from the symposia they are responsible for making up the work covered in class and speaking with me about these arrangements.

**Students with Disabilities**: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination 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](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu)