Psy322 51E Lifespan Development
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2018

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Qingwei Wang, Ph.D.

Class Location: CHEC
Office Hours: by email

Psychology Office Phone: 903-886-5940
Psychology Office Fax: 903-886-5510

University Email Address: qingwei.wang@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: The primary means of communicating with the instructor during the course will be to exchange emails.

Communication Response Time: I typically answer emails within 24 hours, however, please allow 24 to 48 hours for a reply.

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Text and Readings:


eCollege: Course materials, including an electronic version of the syllabus and supplementary information, will be posted on eCollege.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.
Course Description

Understanding Human Development is a developmental psychology course that examines the changes, both growth and decline, across the human lifespan from conception to death. It includes physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that help to shape our lives. Topics include the importance of the prenatal environment on development, formation of language, self-esteem and identity, romantic relationships, retirement, and dying.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the students will be able to:

1. Understand the physical, cognitive, and socioemotional changes that occur across the eight major stages of development – prenatal, infancy, early childhood, mid-late childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood
2. Recognize the importance of lifespan development research along with understanding how this research is conducted, including research methodology and ethical issues
3. Identify the impact of culture and diversity on development
4. Further develop communication skills to discuss and critique psychological research
5. Relate knowledge learned in this course about human development to the real world

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed:
You should be comfortable with the following:
Using a word processor (changing font, spell check, formatting, etc.)
Using email for communication
Sending an email attachment
Navigating the internet
Using an internet search engine
Using the learning management system (eCollege)
Using Microsoft Word and Power Point

Instructional Methods

Primarily via lecture, with supplemental material that will be provided via eCollege.

Attendance Policy

(1) Attendance is mandatory and will be taken each class. Most of my lectures and our discussions will go beyond the required readings and include materials not found in the text. In some cases I shall disagree with the author and be critical of the text. As a result, a good set of class notes will be extremely helpful to you – indeed, they are essential if you plan on excelling in this course.

(2) I shall allow students—with good reasons—to arrive late or depart early. Attending for only one-half of a class on a given day is better than not attending at all. If you need to either arrive late or depart early, please do so unobtrusively with a minimum of disruption.

==> Excessive unexcused absences (3 classes or more) will likely cost you a letter grade.

Students who have zero absences will receive a 5 point bonus at the end of the semester.

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GRADING

Method of Evaluation

This class will include four exams, five quizzes, and one research paper.

Exams: There will be four exams (each worth 100 points) during the semester. Exam with the lowest score will be dropped when calculating the final grade. All the exams will consist of multiple-choice questions and cover the designated textbook chapters. I will provide review questions to help you prepare for the exams so that you can test yourself.

Quizzes: There will be five quizzes (each worth 20 points) during the semester. The quizzes will cover all the materials discussed in the class.

Research Paper: Another major graded assignment for the course is a research paper (100 points). The purpose of this assignment is to enhance critical thinking skills as well as appreciation for the various areas of developmental psychology. The detailed requirements for the research paper will be provided later in class and posted on eCollege.

All written assignments must be typed and submitted as a word document (not notepad, PDF, etc.) unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to turn in quality work, i.e., meets course requirements, grammatically correct and free of spelling errors.

Group work and Participation: Students are encouraged to actively participate in classroom discussion. Students will be provided team work opportunities throughout the semester.

Extra Credit: There are a couple of opportunities to earn extra credits toward the final grade in addition to full attendance. A maximum of 20 points can be earned. These extra credits are determined at the discretion of the instructor.

Late Work:
Late work (including exams) will not be accepted without a verifiable excuse. Regardless of the reason, points will be deducted on all late work.

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Research Exposure

All students will be exposed to laboratory-based research either by a) participating in research studies within the Psychology participant pool, or, b) writing a summary on a research article related to developmental psychology. You must participate in six hours of research studies by signing up for studies via the Experiment Management System, or complete an equivalent number of reading summaries, with one summary equaling 1 hour of research participation. Failure to complete the research exposure requirement results in a deduction of one full letter grade at the end of the term. To incentivize you to show up on time for the research studies, if you show up on time for every study you sign up for, you only need to complete a total of four (rather than six) hours of research. If you complete your research summaries before the final week, you only need to complete four (i.e., you are incentivized by submitting them early) rather than six. You may do a combination of research study participation and research summaries (e.g., two research credit hours and two-four research summaries). Please note that some studies are in the form of online surveys, and up to half of your participation can be done online.

If you fail to complete this portion of the class, your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an “A” in the class but fail to complete your research participation, your final grade in the course will drop to a “B”. This is a psychology department requirement.

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Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20x5=100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A = 500 - 450  
B = 449 - 400  
C = 399 - 350  
D = 349 - 300  
F = <300

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**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following technological resources are required:

- Internet access (high speed preferred)
- Word Processing software (Microsoft Word preferred)
- A myLeo email account

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**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

*Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information*

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to myLeo and from the top menu ribbon select eCollege. Then on the upper left side of the screen click on the My Courses tab.  [http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx](http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx)

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You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

**Note**: It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the My Courses tab, and then select the Browser Test link under Support Services.

**Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support for the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24/7 (24 hours, 7 days a week).

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/)

**LearningStudio Notifications**

Students can be alerted to course activities via text on their mobile phones or up to two email addresses.

Based on their preferences, students can automatically receive a push notification with every new: course announcement, threaded discussion post, grade, and/or assignment without having to login to the course. Enrolled students will automatically receive email notifications for announcements and can opt out of this feature. To receive text notifications, students must opt in.

To begin setting up notifications, go into your course in LearningStudio and click on the bell-shaped Notifications icon on the main menu ribbon.

By default the student’s university email address will appear. This cannot be changed in LearningStudio. Additional email addresses may be added by clicking the Add button. After all of the other selections are completed be sure to click the Save and Finish button.

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor: Please feel welcome to contact me by email (qingwei.wang@tamuc.edu). All email should receive a response within 48 hours. If you have not received a response then assume your email did not go through and please try again to make contact.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Student Conduct and Respect:

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). The classroom is a scholarly environment and students are expected to behave accordingly. Expressions of ideas, thoughts, opinions, etc are encouraged, but have to be done in a scholarly and respectful manner. Email your instructor whenever you have any problems or concerns regarding this course. Your feedback (both positive and negative) is more than welcome. We should strive to respect and value the diversity that exists in TAMUC classrooms (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, geographic, backgrounds, political orientation, sexual orientation).

Academic Honesty:

Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to, one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions.

Plagiarism is the use of an author’s words or ideas as if they were one’s own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.

Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else’s work for

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the assignments as if it were one’s own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

**Collusion** is intentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate during an examination; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers.

**Academic dishonesty could result in a “zero” grade on the particular assignment or test.**

**Withdrawing from/dropping Psy322:**
Students are responsible for following University procedures to drop a class. If you stop participating in the class for any reason, you must initiate the process of dropping, or you will receive a failing grade. DO NOT wait until the last minute to drop the class. Plan to take care of this several days ahead of time, so that you will have the time required to get the forms signed, submitted, etc.

**Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

**ADA Statement**

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

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

**Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-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.

**Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
[http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The Course Calendar will be distributed in class and also posted on eCollege.

Course Calendar/Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>01/16 – 01/19</td>
<td>Syllabus/Introduction/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>01/22 - 01/26</td>
<td>Chapter 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>01/29 - 02/02</td>
<td>Chapter 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>02/05 - 02/09</td>
<td>Chapter 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>02/12 – 02/16</td>
<td>Chapter 5 &amp; Exam 1</td>
<td>Exam 1 covers Chapter 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>02/19 - 02/23</td>
<td>Chapter 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>02/26 – 03/02</td>
<td>Chapter 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>03/05 – 03/09</td>
<td>Chapter 9 &amp; Exam 2</td>
<td>Exam 2 covers Chapter 5, 6, 7, 8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>03/12- 03/16</td>
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<td>Spring Break/No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>03/19- 03/23</td>
<td>Chapter 10 &amp; 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>03/26 – 03/30</td>
<td>Chapter 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Research Paper Topics</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>04/02 – 04/06</td>
<td>Chapter 13 &amp; Exam 3</td>
<td>Exam 3 covers Chapter 9, 10, 11, 12</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>04/09– 04/13</td>
<td>Chapter 14 &amp; 15</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>04/16 – 04/20</td>
<td>Chapter 15 &amp; 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>04/23 – 04/27</td>
<td>Chapter 16 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Research Paper Due on 04/29 Midnight (eCollege)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>04/30 – 05/04</td>
<td>Chapter 17 &amp; Course Wrap up</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>05/07-05/11</td>
<td>Final Week</td>
<td>Exam 4 covers Chapter 13, 14, 15, 16, 17</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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