

PSYS 220 Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology
Western Kentucky University, Online Course
Fall 2020

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Course materials available on blackboard.wku.edu

LECTURE TIME: Online Course

TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Text: Kail, R. V., & Cavanaugh, J. C. (2019). Human development: A life-span view (8th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES

A general course in developmental psychology covering the entire life span. Included are a description of growth stages, theories of development, and research methods of development. **Colonnade E-SB** (3 hours).

COLONNADE PROGRAM

Fulfills 3 out of 9 hours of course credit from the Connections category of the WKU Colonnade (General Education) Program, specifically in the *Social and Behavioral Sciences* area. The following are the learning outcomes for the category of the Colonnade Program as well as the learning objectives that will be introduced in this course to meet these outcomes.

Provides an understanding of society and human behavior that:

- describes research methods and related ethical issues for the scientific study of societal institutions and human behavior
- examines patterns of interaction pertaining to race, gender, ethnic identity, class, community, and other forms of social grouping
- evaluates the impact of heredity and environment on human development and individual behavior
- applies theories and research on human development to issues of personal concern and public interest

The general education goals will be assessed with extra credit multiple choice questions on the final exam.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR & STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

ATTENDANCE: As an online course, attendance is based on active participation. It is vital to pay attention to all coursework and deadlines to be successful in this class. In order to pass the class successfully, you must remain an active participant and complete all work on time. Grades of Incomplete (X) are only given in extreme emergencies where students have finished more than 50% of the class but can no longer attend class or participate in coursework.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Enrollment at Western Kentucky University requires adherence to the University's standards of academic integrity. Student work will be checked by plagiarism detection software! All infractions of academic integrity are serious offenses and are grounds for disciplinary action, including a failing grade, withdrawal from the course, and/or recommendation of suspension from the University. See the university's student handbook for definitions of academic dishonesty,

including: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, obtaining an unfair advantage, aiding/abetting academic dishonesty, falsification of records/documents, and unauthorized access.

<https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-dishonesty.php/> ANY INFRACTIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY IN THIS CLASS MAY RESULT IN A GRADE OF “F” FOR THE COURSE.

ADA STATEMENT: In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, room 1074 of the Student Success Center. The phone number is 270.745.5004. or email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Any information about this class that you need to know will be posted in the announcements section of the Blackboard page and/or through university email. Please check both regularly.

TITLE IX/DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT: Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy

(#0.2070) <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf>

Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040)

https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

PROTOCOL FOR STUDENTS WITH COMPLAINTS: If the student has a problem or complaint concerning this course should contact me first. If this does not resolve the problem or complaint, then the following protocol should be followed: *Instructor → Department Head → Dean → Provost /VPAA*

CONTACTING INSTRUCTOR: Please use my WKU email to contact me. If you have not heard from me within 24 hours, please contact me again! If you need to speak with me, send me an email and we will set up a time to do a telephone meeting.

COURSE STRUCTURE: This course is structured on a week-to-week basis. The week begins at 12:00 AM on Monday and ends at 11:59 PM on Sunday. Each week will cover one or part of one chapter. Each week I will be posting a lecture video that is 1 hour and 15 minutes long. Additionally, you will be expected to read the chapter and complete the appropriate assignments. Online courses are required to have the same amount of time put into them as a traditional course. A traditional 3-hour course meets 3 hours a week. Instead, you will have a lecture that takes up half the time. The remaining 1 hour and 15 minutes will be used to complete the weekly graded work.

In addition to the video for the lecture, there will also be an audio file. If you would like a transcript, please let me know. I will be using the posted PowerPoints to go over information, but I will not have time to cover everything. Assignments, quizzes, and tests may cover any information in the chapter, whether I cover it or not.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

DUE DATES: Course work for the week will become available at 12:00 am on Monday and will be due by 11:59 pm on Sunday. Please keep this in mind and plan when you will be doing the coursework accordingly. Please note, the paper due date is not until the end of the semester, do not wait until the last minute to complete it! Plan accordingly!

VERIFICATION ASSIGNMENT: During the first week of class, you are required to complete a verification assignment to verify your attendance. This will be a quiz on the syllabus. This must be completed by 11:59 pm on Sunday, August 30th. This is worth 50 points.

EXAMS: There will be 2 exams over the course of the semester, a mid-term and a final. Material will come from the weekly quizzes. Each exam will be worth 100 points, for a total of 200 points.

QUIZZES: There will be a quiz each week on every chapter of the text we cover in class. Each quiz is worth 10 points, for a total of 130 points. There will be NO quizzes on exam weeks. All quizzes will be due by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: Every week there will be a discussion question related to that week's lecture and reading. You are required to provide a response to the week's discussion question.

Responses should be 2-3 paragraphs long, with each paragraph being a minimum of 4 sentences. A post that is only a few sentences long will not receive credit. Each week's may DQ has multiple questions. **If you do not respond to all questions in each DQ, you will not receive credit.** Posts will open at 12:00 am on Monday and is due by 11:59 pm the following Sunday.

PAPER: There will be 1 paper required during this course. This paper will explore topics related to death and grieving. A detailed explanation can be found at the end of the syllabus and on Blackboard. The paper is worth 100 points.

GRADE TABULATION:

Verification Assignment: 50 points total

Exams: 100 points each, 200 points total

Quizzes: 13 points each, 130 points total

Weekly DQ: 40 points each, 520 points total

Paper: 100 points

A = 900 – 1000 points

B = 800– 899 points

C = 700 – 799 points

D = 600 – 699 points

F = 599 or fewer points

LATE WORK

Late assignments will not be accepted barring extreme extenuating circumstances that will require documentation.

SYLLABUS DISCLAIMER

I reserve the right to change format of, add or remove assignments, quizzes and exams throughout the semester as deemed necessary.

If at ANY time you feel confused, overwhelmed, lost, or just need some reassurance, please let me know! We can email or plan a virtual meeting. My job is to help you understand the course material. I cannot help you if I do not know you need it! I want you to learn and enjoy this class! Remember, you only get out of a course what you put into it. While this is true for any class, it is especially true in an online course. I will give you the tools you need to be successful, it is up to you to use those tools.

SCHEDULE

DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	READING	WORK DUE	DUE DATE,
8/24	Study of Human Development	CH 1	Quiz 1 DQ 1 Syllabus Verification Quiz	8/30, 11:59 PM
8/31	Biological Foundations	CH 2	Quiz 2 DQ 2	9/6, 11:59 PM
9/7	Physical, Perceptual, Motor Development	CH 3	Quiz 3 DQ 3	9/13, 11:59 PM
9/14	Cognitive Development in Infancy and Early Childhood	CH 4	Quiz 4 DQ 4	9/20, 11:59 PM
9/21	Socioemotional Development in Infancy and Early Childhood	CH 5	Quiz 5 DQ 5	9/27, 11:59 PM
9/28	Cognitive, Physical Development in Middle Childhood	CH 6	Quiz 6 DQ 6	10/4, 11:59 PM
10/5	Socioemotional Development in Middle Childhood	CH 7	Quiz 7 DQ 7	10/18, 11:59 PM
10/12	MIDTERM	CHs 1-7		10/11 11:59 pm
10/19	Physical, Cognitive Development in Adolescence	CH 8	Quiz 8 DQ 8	10/25, 11:59 PM

10/26	Socioemotional Development in Adolescence	CH 9	Quiz 9 DQ 9	11/1, 11:59 PM
11/2	Physical, Cognitive, Personality Development in Young Adulthood	CH 10	Quiz 10 DQ 10	11/8, 11:59 PM
11/9	Relationships in Young Adulthood, Middle Adulthood	CH 11	Quiz 11 DQ 11	11/15, 11:59 PM
11/16	Working and Relaxing; Challenges in Middle Adulthood	CH 12, 13	Quiz 12 DQ 12	11/22, 11:59 PM
11/23	NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING BREAK			
11/30	Physical, Cognitive, Mental Health Issues; Social Aspects of Late Adulthood	CH 14, 15	Quiz 13 DQ 13 Paper Due	12/6, 11:59 PM
12/7	FINAL			12/11 11:59 pm

PAPER: For your paper, you will be considering information you have learned about development and aging to address several questions. You only need to use your book as a reference, but do NOT copy straight from your book. That is plagiarism! Read through the topic in your book, then discuss the points in your own words.

The following are the questions you should address in your paper. You will be including your opinion, but you need to support your opinion with developmental facts and information.

- Do you think people who are going to die should be told? Does your response depend on the person's age?
- How do people exercise some control over the place and manner in which they die?
- Do you think assisted suicide should be permissible? Other forms of euthanasia? Why or why not?

The paper should be 2-3 pages, typed and double spaced. Use Times New Roman, 12 pt font, 1" margins. No title page is necessary, but a reference page is required. Remember that you should have opening and concluding paragraphs, as well as transitions. This paper will be graded on content as well as structure and grammar.

The paper is due Sunday, December 6th by 11:59 pm on Blackboard. Please email me with any questions you may have.