PSY 220: Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology
Online Course

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Course Description
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. Equivalent to PSYS 220. Old GEN ED C | SB; Colonnade II SB

Psychology 220 is a course in lifespan developmental psychology. It traces the course of human development from conception through infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, the later years, up though death. It deals with human development from both theoretical and applied points of view, with consideration of "normal" development, as well as individual differences. The course traces physical, cognitive, social, moral, emotional, and language aspects of development. Human development considers the way we change, grow, and become, as a physical being, intellectual being, moral being and social being. It studies how these various influences, biological and environmental, interact to produce the person we were, the person we are, and the person we will be. Most importantly, then, human development is the study of ourselves and the people around us. The course balances theoretical and research-based information with practical application of this knowledge. You will probably be able to benefit best from this course if you try to make it personally meaningful. As you read different sections of the book, think of people you know well in that age group (yourself, family, friends, and neighbors) and see how their lives relate to what you are learning. Be aware of issues/news relating to human development that you come across in everyday life –on TV, in magazines, newspapers. The field of human development, like us, is continually growing and changing.

Course Texts
Listed here is the required course text for PSY 220:

Feldman, R. S. (2017). *Discovering the life span* (4th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

ISBN: 0134577655

ISBN-13: 9780134577654

You have a variety of options to choose from, with differing prices you may want to look into:
Loose Leaf   ISBN-13:   9780134556949
Bound   ISBN-13:   9780134577654
REVEL   ISBN-13:   9780134641393

Additional readings and resources can be found in Blackboard.

Course Objectives
At the end of the semester, you should be able to:

1. Describe the developing person at different periods in the lifespan, from conception to death.

2. Describe development – including biosocial, cognitive, and psychosocial – as an ongoing set of processes, which involve continuity and change.

3. Explain different theoretical perspectives of development, and how they are used for research and application purposes.

4. Explain how research contributes to the understanding of development.

5. Describe objective techniques and skills for understanding human behavior.

6. Recall important developmental concepts and be able to recognize and apply these concepts in varying situations.

7. Utilize technology to enhance access to resources, class information, and interaction.

Colonnade and General Education Information
Psychology 220 is a three-credit hour course which counts for Colonnade credit in the Explorations: Social and Behavioral Studies category. It also counts for credit in Category C of the old General Education Program.

Contact Information

In general, email is the best way to contact me. I will inform you of any changes to my schedule at least 24 hours in advance and will promptly respond to your emails (within 24 hours). I am happy to assist and help navigate you through the course, so please let me know what questions or concerns you may have.

Blackboard Help/WKU IT Help Desk

Blackboard can sometimes experience issues. If you encounter any problems, contact the WKU IT Help Desk at 270-745-7000.

Understanding Blackboard

If this is your first time using Blackboard, or if this is your first online class, I highly encourage you to complete the Blackboard Student User Training.

To sign up, go to Blackboard and sign in, and click IT TRAINING. Browse for IT Blackboard Student User Training. The training is not a requirement for the class, but you may find it to be helpful and aid in your success for online courses.

You are also welcome to review the Blackboard Overview in the Welcome section of our course. If you are a distance learner, you may want to visit the WKU Student Resource Center: http://wku.edu/its

COVID Information

All students are strongly encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Out of respect for the health and safety of the WKU community and in adherence with CDC guidelines and practices of all public universities and colleges in Kentucky, the University requires that a cloth face covering (reusable or disposable) that covers both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times when in public areas within all buildings. Students must properly wear face coverings while in class regardless of the room size or the nature of the classroom activities. Students who fail to wear a face covering as required will be in violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct and will be asked to comply or will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the University. Accommodations can be requested in special cases through the Student Accessibility and Resource Center (SARC): 270-745-5004 (voice), 270-745-3030 (TTY), or 270-288-0597 (video).

All students must immediately report a positive Covid-19 test result or close contact with a person who has tested positive to the Covid-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019. The assistance line is available to answer questions regarding any Covid-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by

public health agencies or the office of the governor. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information. www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill

Technology Requirements
You are taking an online class where all required work needs to be submitted online through Blackboard using the Internet. Therefore, having a reliable internet source will help you be successful in the course. If you have never taken an online class before using Blackboard, I encourage you to review the tutorials available online. Microsoft Office, particularly Word and Power Point, is another software program you should have installed on your computer as the majority of assignments will require one of these formats.

Attendance Policy
Even though there is no formal attendance policy for online classes, you are expected to complete assignments on time according to the course schedule.

Email and Blackboard Announcements
Blackboard is our primary way of communicating throughout the semester, with email as a secondary route. Any messages sent through Blackboard will also arrive to your email. It is important to check your email and Blackboard on a regular basis as I will frequently send out announcements to the class.

Evaluation
Your course grade is based on the assignments and exams found in the schedule of assignments section. You are encouraged to check your grades frequently, which are available on Blackboard (My Grades).

Grading Time and Feedback
You can expect an assigned grade, which includes feedback, within a week after submitting an assignment.

Late Work
As expected for any course, all work should be turned in on time and in full per the assignment instructions outlined on the course page. For any circumstances that arise beyond your control, please contact me so that we can work out a plan for you to submit late or missing work.

Work Submission

All assignments must be submitted to the designated area in Blackboard on the course page, using Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) or Power Point (.ppt/pptx) files. Other file formats are not accepted.

ADA Notice: Disability and Accommodations

Distance Learning supports the previsions of General Standard 8, Accessibility and Usability in the QM Rubric. Distance Learning strongly supports reasonable accommodation for all participants. 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. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

This course is offered through Blackboard which is a conformance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Priority AA, issues December 2012 by Deque Systems. For more information on Blackboard and its development, please visit the Blackboard Accessibility webpage (http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx).

Title IX

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (#0.070) and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040). 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, Deborah Wilkins, 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.

<u>Respectful and Professional Behavior</u>
When communicating online, please be sure to follow the rules of *netiquette*. You do not have the benefit of visual cues (e.g., body language, facial expressions) or auditory cues (e.g., voice inflection) when communicating online, so it is possible to inadvertently offend a fellow student or instructor with written words. Differences of opinion will and should occur in classroom discussions; however, students can disagree with one another's viewpoints while demonstrating kindness and respect.

Expectations for Your Instructor

- To be available to you as needed, whether in a real or online environment.
- To have work graded and posted with feedback within a week after due dates.
- To answer your questions within 24 hours during normal business hours (Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 4:30pm, or by Monday afternoon when asked after Friday at 4:30pm.
- To facilitate your learning, along with assisting in the development and improvement of your skills in an online course environment.

Assignment Descriptions

- All due dates are Central Standard times.
- All quizzes, discussion boards, and assignments are due on Sunday night by 11:59pm, unless otherwise noted in the course.
- New modules open on Friday mornings to give you a head start on the next week of activities.

<u>Quizzes/Exams</u>
- 13 weekly quizzes (each worth 30 points)
- Two exams (a midterm and a final, with the midterm worth 100 points and the final worth 150 points).

<u>Discussion Boards</u>
- Six discussion forums (each worth 45 points)

Schedule of Assignments

Week 1: Chapter 1 (January 18-January 23)

<u>To Do</u>:

Welcome and Introduction

- Read the syllabus
- Read Chapter 1: Introduction to Lifespan Development
- Take Quiz 1
- Post to Discussion Board 1

Week 2: Chapter 2 (January 21-January 30)

<u>To Do</u>:

- Read Chapter 2: The Start of Life
- Take Quiz 2

Week 3: Chapter 3, Module 3.1 (January 28-February 6)

<u>To Do</u>:

- Read Chapter 3, Module 3.1 only: Physical Development in Infancy
- Take Quiz 3

Week 4: Chapter 3, Modules 3.2 & 3.3 (February 4-February 13)

<u>To Do</u>:

- Read Chapter 3, Modules 3.2 & 3.3 only: Cognitive Development in Infancy; Social and Personality Development in Infancy
- Take Quiz 4
- Post to Discussion Board 2

Week 5: Chapter 4 (February 11-February 20)

<u>To Do</u>:

- Read Chapter 4: The Preschool Years
- Take Quiz 5

Week 6: Chapter 5 (February 18-February 27)

<u>To Do</u>:

- Read Chapter 5: Middle Childhood
- Take Quiz 6

Week 7: Chapter 6, Module 6.1 (February 25-March 6)

To Do:

- Read Chapter 6, Module 6.1 only: Physical Development in Adolescence
- Midterm Exam

Week 8: Chapter 6, Modules 6.2 & 6.3 (March 4-March 13)

To Do:

- Read Chapter 6, Modules 6.2 & 6.3: Cognitive Development in Adolescence; Social and Personality Development in Adolescence
- Take Quiz 7
- Post to Discussion Board 3

Week 9: Chapter 7 (March 14-18: Spring Break)

To Do:

- None

Week 10: Chapter 8 (March 18-March 27)

- Read Chapter 7: Early Adulthood
- Take Quiz 8

Week 11: Chapter 8.2 & 8.3 (March 25-April 3)

To Do:

- Read Chapter 8: Modules 8.1: Physical Development in Middle Adulthood
- Take Quiz 9
- Post to Discussion Board 4

Week 12: Chapter 9, Module 9.1 (April 1-April 10)

To Do:

- Read Chapter 8, Modules 8.2 & 8.3: Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood; Social and Personality Development in Middle Adulthood
- Take Quiz 10

Week 13: (April 8-April 17)

To Do:

- Read Chapter 9, Module 9.1 only: Physical Development in Late Adulthood
- Take Quiz 11
- Post to Discussion Board 5

Week 14: (April 15-April 24)
To Do:
- Read Chapter 9, Modules 9.2 & 9.3 only: Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood; Social and Personality Development in Late Adulthood
- Take Quiz 12

Week 15: Chapter 10 (April 22-May 1)
To Do:
- Read Chapter 10: Death and Dying
- Take Quiz 13
- Post to Discussion Board 6

Week 16: Final Exam (May 2-May 5)
To Do:
- Take Final Exam

Your course grade is based on a point accumulation system:

Exams
- Quizzes (13 quizzes at 30 points) = 390 points
- Midterm exam (50 questions x 2 points) = 100 points
- Final exam (75 questions x 2 points) =   150 points

Discussion Boards
- Six discussion forums (each worth 45 points) = 270 points

Total possible for course 910 points:

A = 819 - 910
B = 728 - 818
C = 637 - 727
D = 546 - 636
F = 545 or below