

Welcome to Lifespan Psychology, formerly known as Developmental Psychology. You have made an excellent choice by selecting this fascinating course. In addition to being a valuable course for several different fields of study, this class can be a wonderful resource for those of you who are or will be.....PARENTS (that's about 85% of you).

We will be studying human development from a variety of perspectives which taken together are known as the psychobiosocial approach. These perspectives comprise biological, social, cognitive, and psychological factors.

Lots of info is in this syllabus. Think of it as a contract. Please take the time to thoroughly read it before next class.

Although there are no prerequisites for this course, eligibility for English 101 is recommended. Your consistent attendance is expected. Excessive absences or tardiness may result in a loss of points which could lower your grade or even being dropped from the course. To me, more than two absences are excessive.

Your grade is determined by the following elements (percentages are approximate):

Quizzes (ten at 20 points each)	70%
Final Exam (35 pts.)	12%
Term Paper (50pts.)	18%

Everything you do is converted to points. Your letter grade is based on various percentages of 285 total points.

A=87% (248 pts) B=77% (220 pts) C=67% (191 pts) D=57% (163 pts) F=<57% (162 pts)

If you haven't already got it, please buy your textbook today: Development Through Life 9<sup>th</sup> Ed., by Barbara and Philip Newman. If you delay in getting your text, there is a copy on reserve in the library. See below for additional text info. It is strongly suggested that you read the material before we discuss it in class. You should allow about six hours per week from your busy schedule for studying and assignments. Our schedule is in the table below. (#)= Chapter #

Week	Topic / Activity	Week	Topic / Activity
1	Introduction Perspectives (1) Guidelines for papers	9	Early School Age (8) Quiz(7)
2	Research (2) Practice Quiz (1)	10	Middle School Age (9) <b>Term Papers Due on Tuesday</b>
3	Psychosocial Theory (3) Quiz (2)	11	Early Adolescence (10) Quiz(9)
4&5	Major Theories (4) Quiz(3)	12	Later Adolescence (11) Quiz(10)
6	Pregnancy & Prenatal (5) Quiz(4)	13	Early Adulthood (12) Quiz(11)
7	Infancy (6) Quiz(5)	14	Middle Adulthood (13) Quiz(12)
8	Toddlerhood (7) Quiz(6)	15	Later Adulthood (14) Quiz (13)
Note: the # of ea. Quiz= Ch. # minus 1		16	Final Exam

As you can see, usually we will be covering a chapter each week. Although our class time mostly will be devoted to material in the chapters, we will be focusing on major issues surrounding each chapter topic. Details and minor topics will be left to you outside of class. This is your class! Feel free to participate. You will get more out of it if you do.

Multiple choice or combo essay quizzes will be given weekly for each chapter, usually on Tuesday. That's good! It will be easier for you to keep current in your studies and you will have many chances to maximize your grades. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. This is in addition to any excused absences you may have. Although you are responsible for each chapter, you will find that most quiz topics will be covered in class.

There are no make-up quizzes. However, I realize that something could prevent you from coming to class such as transportation problems, illness, or a family emergency. If that should happen on a quiz day, you should call or email me in advance and leave a message. If that is not possible, you will need to speak with me on the first day of your return. You may obtain an excused absence (that quiz will not be counted on your grade) for that quiz. Excused absences are not automatic. You need a valid reason to receive one and you may be required to provide documentation. A maximum of two excused quiz absences can be given to any student.

Your term paper is a library research paper which must be on one of the general topics listed below. Your paper must be typed and double spaced, with a minimum of three references. Only one reference can be from the internet (optional). Your paper must contain internal reference citations, which are the second most important part of your paper. You must use MLA format to cite your references. Minimum length is three full pages, excluding title page, and 'works cited'. Maximum length is four pages. Don't do a table of contents. Your scholarship is an important part of your grade. You are required to attach one photocopied page that you cited from two of your primary reference sources and also include a works cited page. Late papers will not be accepted. Your topic choices are:

- Child Abuse
- Corporal Punishment
- Eating Disorders
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Nature or Nurture?
- the Single Parent
- Cultural Differences in Child Rearing
- Dealing with Death (be careful on this one)

(Remember that there are many dozens of more specific topics within these general topics)

### Class conduct

-When class begins, cell phones must be turned off or put on silent. If your ringtone goes off during class, you will be required to leave for the day. There are no exceptions to this policy for either cell phones or the next item below.

-When class begins, students may not converse with one another. If I have to stop the class to deal with your talking, you may have points deducted from your next quiz. Both of these items are highly disruptive to students and your professor.

A note on your textbook. Six years ago I adopted a custom version of the textbook. The content is identical to the so-called "national edition" which is in hardcover. If you happen to have the "national edition", it will be just fine as long as it is the 9<sup>th</sup> ed. Consider renting your text; it has advantages.

I look forward to a rewarding and challenging semester with you. Here are some other items that are important:

- I really want you to succeed in this class. If you are having any problem of any kind that you think is affecting your work or your attendance, do talk to me. Communication is extremely important and I support your efforts.
- Take advantage of my office hours. You can come by to discuss psychology, your progress in class, or just about anything else that concerns you. Office hours are posted on my door (CE 236) and are listed below. My office telephone number is 310 287-4229. Feel free to leave a message. I'll be happy to return your call if necessary, but if a message will suffice, please leave one. My email address is leejeff@wlaac.edu. You must include your class day(s) and times with any message that you leave. Email is better and I'll reply so you know I got it.
- Please consider your classmates and your professor by not distracting us with conversations or cell phones. Remember that talking to other students during a lecture or while I or another student is speaking is rude and may result in point deductions on your next exam.
- **Ringling Cell Phones have absolutely no place in our classroom. If yours rings in class, you will be asked to leave for the day.**
- Your professor has the right to change your seat in class if he deems it necessary.
- Anyone can be late on occasion. However, habitual tardiness is not acceptable and can reduce your grade.
- **Do not come to class if you are sick with a cold or the flu especially if you are contagious.** Your professor may remove you from class if you appear to be contagious. Do contact me via email about your situation.
- In a block class (one meeting per week) leaving at the break will be considered an absence. To avoid that, if you do have to leave early, please let me know.
- A maximum of two excused quiz absences can be granted.
- All written work submitted must be typed. Multiple pages must be numbered and stapled.
- Printer or computer problems do not constitute a valid excuse for late papers.
- Assignments may not be submitted electronically without making specific arrangements in advance.
- Final grades can not be given out through my office telephone or by email. Grade issues must be discussed in person.
- **If you should decide to stop attending class, it is your responsibility to drop yourself at Admissions.** If you just stop attending and do not file a drop card with admissions or drop yourself on-line, you may receive an F.
- Sorry, no extra credit or participation points but participation is encouraged .

### Academic Dishonesty Policy

College study is the process of learning to be an independent scholar. All students are expected to do their own work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are absolutely forbidden. This is the official policy of this class. Students found cheating will have their assignments marked 0 for failure and may receive a failing grade for this course.

Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

- using unauthorized materials such as notes or crib sheets on exams
- copying other student exams
- submitting any assigned work that is not the student's own
- copying other written materials without proper credit to the original author
- downloading from computer networks without citation

Any incidents of cheating will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Vice-President of Student Services.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Analyze human life stages from birth to death.

### Office Hours (best to make an appt.)

CE 236  
MW 1-2:30  
TT 2:50-3:50