PSYC-2314-011IN
Lifespan Growth and Development
Fall 2022
ONLINE

Instructor Information

Name: Douglas A. Alvarez, M.A.
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Phone: (409) 933-8435

Student hours and location

Monday:	10:00am – 11:00am
Tuesday:	7:45am – 8:00am 10:00am – 11:00am
Wednesday:	9:00am – 11:00am
Thursday:	7:45am – 8:00am 10:00am – 11:00am
Friday:	Online by appointment or email
Weekends:	By email

Office Location

Social and Behavioral Sciences Department, LRC Bldg., Suite A Room 228

Required Textbook:

The Invitation to the Lifespan, 5th edition: by Kathleen S. Berger

Course Description:

Life-Span Growth and Development is a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of a developing human from conception to death. Prerequisites: TSIA2 945-990 ELAR/CRC test AND 5 or higher on Essay OR 910-944 on CRC with 5-6 on Diagnostic Test + 5 or higher on Essay, or IRW 0320 with a grade of "C" or better. This is an academic transfer course.

Course requirements

Communication:
Communication will take place primarily through COM email, so be sure to check your email regularly.

I prefer for students to contact me directly through my COM email address. Please put "Online LIFESPAN Student" in the subject area.

It is my policy to respond to discussion posts, messages, and emails within 48 hours, weekends and holidays excepted. I do hold my students to this same policy, so be sure to check your COM email regularly.

Quiz and Exam grades will be posted immediately to your Grade Center, and grades for Journal Posts and Discussion Forums will generally be updated twice a week on Wednesday and Saturday.

Participation:
You are expected to log into the course a **minimum of two times per week** and you should expect to spend at least 2 ½ hours a week in the course reviewing lessons and other course material.

The discussion component of the course requires you to engage your fellow students in "conversation," which requires you to regularly read and respond to posts. Due to the online nature of this course, it is up to the student to provide thoughtful and elaborate responses to discussion posts in order for the instructor to measure the students' understanding of the material. In addition, any aggressive, rude, degrading, etc., posts may be deleted without notice to the student. All such responses will receive a grade of 0 for the deleted thread.

Please understand that minimal participation will result in minimal points.

More information about expectations in regards to your postings and replies is provided below in the Grading Rubrics.

Method of Instruction:
This course primarily consists of online lessons and discussions provided by the instructor. Additionally, videos and other supplementary articles may be used to emphasize key issues. The online lessons parallel and reinforce assigned readings; therefore it is essential that students keep up to date with their online work. The online lessons will be open for one week, giving you plenty of time to complete the required materials.

Coursework Policy:
All coursework will be assigned and opened online on a weekly basis. For this course, weeks begin at **12:00am** on the **MONDAY** of the assigned week and end at 11:59pm on the SUNDAY of the assigned week.

> **EXCEPTION:** Due to it being the last week of classes, **Week 16** will be short week. Accommodations have been made and Week 16 assignments will open at 12:00am on Saturday of Week 15 and close at 5:00pm on **WEDNESDAY** of Week 16.

Late Work/Make-Up Policy:
There are **NO** make-up quizzes, assignments, discussions or exams! With **NO** exception! I leave them all open for a wide period of time to give you every opportunity to complete them within the required period. The dates and times that the graded materials are available will be clearly visible in our course. The due dates will also be posted on the course schedule.

Failure to complete an assignment: All assignments will be due by the date assigned by the professor. NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Chapter Quizzes:
There will be a total of 16 Chapter Quizzes and 1 Syllabus Quiz, with each quiz having a **maximum of 20 points**. Quizzes will be assigned for each chapter and each quiz will have a total of 20 questions. Chapter Quizzes may include a combination of true/false, multiple choice, and/or matching questions. Each Chapter Quiz will be timed and you will have a total of 40 minutes to complete each quiz.

*Your Lowest Quiz Grade will be dropped

All students must complete the online quizzes by the scheduled date**.** There are **NO Make-up Quizzes**.

NOTE: Please be aware that although you have one full week to take the quizzes, once the quiz has started it must be completed in one timed session.

Discussion Forum Posts:
Each student will be required to complete 1 Introduction Forum and 8 Discussion Forum posts throughout the semester. These posts will allow you to discuss a topic related to the assigned chapter in greater depth.

In the Introduction Forum, each student will be required to complete an Introduction Post during the first week of classes. This post will allow you to introduce yourself to the class with a short biography. In this biography, you can include any details about yourself that will allow your fellow students to "put a person to the name". The Introductions Forum Post will be worth a **maximum of 35 points.**

Each Discussion Forum Post has the following instructions:

1. Review the assigned article(s) or video(s)
2. Post a brief description of the topic and discuss what they have learned
3. Post a brief summary of their thoughts are on the topic
4. Reply to a minimum of one other student's posts and rate it

Each Discussion Forum Post will be worth a **maximum of 35 points**.
You will earn up to 10 points for your description of the topic and what you have learned, up to 10 points for your thoughts on the topic, and up to 15 points for your reply to another student.

NOTE: Responses can be deleted at the discretion of the instructor. Responses will only be deleted if the instructor determines them to be aggressive, rude, degrading, etc., and they may be deleted without notice to the student. All such responses will receive a grade of 0 for the deleted thread. Please refer to the syllabus for more information regarding student conduct and expectations.

I will DROP your lowest Discussion Forum Post

Presentation Post:
Each student will be required to complete 1 Presentation Post at the end of the semester. This Presentation Post will help students examine some of the ethical issues within psychology and identify how these impact our society on the community, state and national level. Further, this presentation will allow students to examine the importance of being knowledgeable of their own personal biases and/or stereotypes, and how they can be more informed in their future interactions.

Each Presentation Post has the following instructions:

1. Review the assigned Discussion Forum topic(s)
2. Develop and record a **10 minute** minimum presentation two related topics of your choice. Specific instructions will be provided in Blackboard.
3. Write a brief summary of your presentation (2 page minimum).
4. Share your presentation with the instructor through YouTube, Screen-Cast-O-Matic, etc.. Specific instructions will be provided.

Each Presentation Post will be worth a **maximum of 100 points**. You will earn up to 25 points for Quality of Information and Organization, up to 25 points for Quality of Verbal Communication, up to 25 points for Quality of Non-Verbal Communication and up to 25 points for the Written Summary.

ALL PRESENTATIONS LESS THAN 10 MINUTES WILL NOT BE GRADED!

Journals:
There will be a total of 16 Journals, with each exam having a maximum of 20 points. Journals will be more personal in nature and allow you to apply topics from the text, lectures, and course material to your personal life. Journals are meant to be more introspective and will cover some topics that some believe to be personal.

All students must complete the online journals by the scheduled date**.** There are **NO Make-up Journals**.

*Your Lowest Journal Grade will be dropped

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS EACH	TOTAL POINTS
Chapter Quizzes (16)*	20	**320***
Introduction Forum (1)	35	**35**
Discussion Forum (7)**	35	**245****
Journals (16)***	20	**300*****
Presentation Post	100	**100**
GRAND TOTAL		**1000**

*Your Lowest Quiz Grade will be dropped
**Your Lowest Discussion Grade will be dropped
***Your Lowest Journal Grade will be dropped

Grading Scale

EARNED POINTS	LETTER GRADE
900 – 1000	**A**
800 – 899	**B**
700 – 799	**C**
600 – 699	**D**
0 – 599	**F**

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy

Late Work/Make-Up Policy: It is advised that you submit **ALL** assignments **BEFORE THE DUE DATE.**

There are **NO** make-up quizzes, assignments, discussions or exams! **With NO exception**! I leave them all open for a wide period of time to give you every opportunity to complete them within the required period. The dates and times that the graded materials are available will be clearly visible in Blackboard. The due dates will also be posted on the course schedule.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes and accommodations regarding late work, but will only do so if accommodations are discussed prior to the due date. AFTER THE DUE DATE, NO ACCOMDATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED OR LATE WORK.

Extra Credit Opportunities: There will be numerous ways to earn extra credit. All extra credit opportunities will be posted with directions and due dates using ANNOUNCEMENTS in Blackboard.

Be sure to closely monitor your email and Blackboard ANNOUNCEMENTS for these opportunities. If you miss the due date there will be NO MAKE-UP EXTRA CREDIT.

Attendance Policy:
If you want to pass, come to class. In an online environment, this means that you are expected to log into the course a minimum of two times per week and you should expect to spend at least 2 ½ hours a week in the course reviewing lessons and other course material. The online material goes beyond the material presented in the text, and you will be held accountable for this material on the exams and course assignments. The discussion component of the course also requires you to engage your fellow students in "conversation," which requires you to regularly read and respond to posts. **For each week that you do not log in twice this semester, 15 points (per week) will be deducted from your overall points total.**

Communicating with your instructor:
ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Brightspace or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Describe the stages of the developing person at different periods of the lifespan from birth to death.	Critical Thinking	Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes and Journals
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual	Empirical and Quantitative	Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes and Journals
3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting	Critical Thinking	Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes and Journals
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive, and psychological influences throughout the lifespan	Critical Thinking	

as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.		Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes, Journals, and Presentation
5. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development	Critical Thinking	Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes and Journals
6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.	Critical Thinking	Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes, Presentation and Journals
7. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the develop process	Empirical and Quantitative	Discussion Board Questions, Quizzes, Presentation and Journals
8. (CS1) Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Discussion Board Questions, Presentation, Journals
9. (CS2) Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication	Communication Skills (Oral)	Presentation
10. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Discussion Board Questions, Presentation and Journals

Academic Dishonesty:
Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else's words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else's words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized

material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Link(s) to resource(s) about avoiding plagiarism:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/
http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact [insert name and title of direct supervisor] at [phone number/email address].

Tentative Course Outline - Students are responsible for any and all schedule changes

DATE	CHAPTER & TOPIC	Quiz	Assignment
Week 1 **8/22**	Syllabus and Getting Started 1. The Beginning: The Science of Human Development	Syllabus Ch. 1	Introduction Post Journal 1
Week 2 **8/29**	2. The Beginning: From Conception to Birth	Ch. 2	Journal 2 Discussion Forum 1
Week 3 **9/5**	3. The First Two Years: Body and Mind	Ch. 3	Journal 3
Week 4 **9/12**	4. The First Two Years: The Social World	Ch. 4	Journal 4 Discussion Forum 2
Week 5 **9/19**	5. Early Childhood: Body and Mind	Ch. 5	Journal 5
Week 6 **9/26**	6. Early Childhood: The Social World	Ch. 6	Journal 6 Discussion Forum 3
Week 7 **10/3**	7. Middle Childhood: Body and Mind	Ch. 7	Journal 7
Week 8 **10/10**	8. Middle Childhood: The Social World	Ch. 8	Journal 8 Discussion Forum 4
Week 9 **10/17**	9. Adolescence: Body and Mind	Ch. 9	Journal 9
Week 10 **10/24**	10. Adolescence: The Social World	Ch. 10	Journal 10 Discussion Forum 5
Week 11* **TWO CHAPTERS** **10/31**	11. Adulthood: Emerging Adulthood 12. Adulthood: Body and Mind	Ch. 11 Ch.12	Journal 11 Journal 12
Week 12 **11/7**	13. Adulthood: The Social World	Ch. 13	Journal 13 Discussion Forum 6
Week 13 **11/14**	14. Late Adulthood: Body and Mind	Ch. 14	Journal 14
Week 14 **11/21**	15. Late Adulthood: The Social World	Ch. 15	Journal 15 Discussion Forum 7
Week 15 **11/28**	Epilogue: Death and Dying	Ch. 16	Journal 16 Discussion Forum 8
Week 16** **12/5**	**Final Presentation**		

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Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook.<https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Michelle Brezina at 409-933-8124 or mvaldes1@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 5. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 18. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 1.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:
If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.