

Course Syllabus

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Human Growth and Development

Approved By: **Date:**

Instructor: Gerard Tremblay

Course Description

PSYC112W Human Growth and Development (3 Credits)

Human development is explored from the psychological point of view. The developmental stages of the lifespan are emphasized along with cognitive growth patterns.

Prerequisites

None, but ENG120 College Composition (or equivalent) is suggested

Required Texts and Resources

Textbooks: Lifespan Development, A Psychological Perspective

Lally and Valentine-French, 2nd edition

LADPac number: WMB0003

See the [CCSNH IT Requirements](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology>)

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify, evaluate &/or compare and contrast the main theories of lifespan development.

2. Discuss and provide examples of how different theoretical concepts of lifespan development are applied in everyday life.
3. Evaluate and articulate the core neurobiological processes involved in human development across the lifespan.
4. Identify and describe the core physical changes that occur across the lifespan and analyze the impact these changes have on course of human development over the lifespan.
5. Evaluate and communicate an understanding of cognitive development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence cognitive development across the lifespan.
6. Explain the process of social-emotional development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence social-emotional development across the lifespan.
7. Identify, describe &/or compare and contrast the age-related changes in how people conceptualize and cope with death, dying and bereavement, and identify and discuss the factors that can cause individual variations in this process.

Methods of Instruction/ Learning Activities

Required Assessment Method 1: Current Event(s)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Identify, evaluate &/or compare and contrast the main theories of lifespan development.
2. Discuss and provide examples of how different theoretical concepts of lifespan development are applied in everyday life.
3. Evaluate and articulate the core neurobiological processes involved in human development across the lifespan.
4. Identify and describe the core physical changes that occur across the lifespan and analyze the impact these changes have on course of human development over the lifespan.
5. Evaluate and communicate an understanding of cognitive development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence cognitive development across the lifespan.
6. Explain the process of social-emotional development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence social-emotional development across the lifespan.
7. Identify, describe &/or compare and contrast the age-related changes in how people conceptualize and cope with death, dying and bereavement, and identify and discuss the factors that can cause individual variations in this process.

Required Assessment Method 2: Project(s)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Identify, evaluate &/or compare and contrast the main theories of lifespan development.
2. Discuss and provide examples of how different theoretical concepts of lifespan development are applied in everyday life.
3. Evaluate and articulate the core neurobiological processes involved in human development

across the lifespan.

4. Identify and describe the core physical changes that occur across the lifespan and analyze the impact these changes have on course of human development over the lifespan.
5. Evaluate and communicate an understanding of cognitive development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence cognitive development across the lifespan.
6. Explain the process of social-emotional development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence social-emotional development across the lifespan.
7. Identify, describe &/or compare and contrast the age-related changes in how people conceptualize and cope with death, dying and bereavement, and identify and discuss the factors that can cause individual variations in this process.

Other Optional Methods of Assessment:

Other Optional Assessment Method 1: Report—oral or written

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Identify, evaluate &/or compare and contrast the main theories of lifespan development.
2. Discuss and provide examples of how different theoretical concepts of lifespan development are applied in everyday life.
3. Evaluate and articulate the core neurobiological processes involved in human development across the lifespan.
4. Identify and describe the core physical changes that occur across the lifespan and analyze the impact these changes have on course of human development over the lifespan.
5. Evaluate and communicate an understanding of cognitive development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence cognitive development across the lifespan.
6. Explain the process of social-emotional development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence social-emotional development across the lifespan.
7. Identify, describe &/or compare and contrast the age-related changes in how people conceptualize and cope with death, dying and bereavement, and identify and discuss the factors that can cause individual variations in this process.

Other Optional Assessment Method 2: Discussion Board (Required for an online course) Course

Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Identify, evaluate &/or compare and contrast the main theories of lifespan development.
2. Discuss and provide examples of how different theoretical concepts of lifespan development are applied in everyday life.
3. Evaluate and articulate the core neurobiological processes involved in human development across the lifespan.
4. Identify and describe the core physical changes that occur across the lifespan and analyze the impact these changes have on course of human development over the lifespan.
5. Evaluate and communicate an understanding of cognitive development across the lifespan and

- identify and describe factors that can influence cognitive development across the lifespan.
6. Explain the process of social-emotional development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence social-emotional development across the lifespan.
 7. Identify, describe &/or compare and contrast the age-related changes in how people conceptualize and cope with death, dying and bereavement, and identify and discuss the factors that can cause individual variations in this process.

Other Optional Assessment Method 3: Quizzes and /or Exam(s)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Identify, evaluate &/or compare and contrast the main theories of lifespan development.
2. Discuss and provide examples of how different theoretical concepts of lifespan development are applied in everyday life.
3. Evaluate and articulate the core neurobiological processes involved in human development across the lifespan.
4. Identify and describe the core physical changes that occur across the lifespan and analyze the impact these changes have on course of human development over the lifespan.
5. Evaluate and communicate an understanding of cognitive development across the lifespan and identify and describe factors that can influence cognitive development across the lifespan.
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Methods of Assessment

Graded objects:	Points:
Discussion boards	2 @ 50 points each = 100
Current events/Projects	2 @ 100 points each = 200
Exams on assigned readings	4 @ 100 points each = 400
Total	700 points

See the [WMCC Grading Scale](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/grading)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/grading>)

Course Expectations






As an on-line course, students enjoy some flexibility in determining when to submit assigned research papers and take tests. But as detailed in the section of this syllabus that addresses late work, it is obligatory that these graded objects be completed by their respective deadlines. For that reason, it is critically important that students read the course syllabus, all relevant posted announcements, and emails of each weekly unit to avoid the compromise of grade and learning that occurs from succumbing to a “just in time” strategy for submitting course work

- Please see WMCC's [Classroom Etiquette Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#classroometiquette)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#classroometiquette>) and [Appropriate Online Behavior Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#onlinestudentbehavior)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#onlinestudentbehavior>)

In college-level courses, instructors have common expectations of their students: for example, that students have a degree of self-motivation, that students have interest in learning, that students are responsible and respectful, that students possess basic competence in digital technology. The following list includes other common expectations: that students:

- Have access to a computer
- Have access to the internet
- Know how to search for credible information online
- Can compose, send, receive, & reply to emails related to their courses
- Know how to attach files
- Know how to download files
- Can use word processing software
- Participate in in-class activities face to face to receive full credit OR
- Synchronously via Zoom only under special circumstances and only when planned for at least two hours in advance. If you have not received a confirmation before the class from the instructor, do not assume you can participate via Zoom.

Policies

- Please see WMCC's [Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty>)
- Please see WMCC's [Course Drop and Withdrawal Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#coursedrop)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#coursedrop>)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty>)
- Please see WMCC's [Discrimination Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/notice-of-nondiscrimination)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/notice-of-nondiscrimination>) and [Title IX Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#title-ix)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#title-ix>)

Participation and Attendance Policy

- Please see WMCC's [Participation and Attendance Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance) [↗\(https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance\)](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance)
- Please see WMCC's [Cancellation/Delayed Start Classes Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start) [↗\(https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start\)](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start)

Communication Policy

Modules will identify assigned research assignments and upcoming tests. They will indicate the due dates for assignments and tests. Students should read those descriptions very carefully, since they contain critically valuable information for successfully addressing each unit's graded objects.

There will be additional announcements posted regularly throughout the term. These announcements will address topics to assist students with other course-related issues or identify "exceptional" events in the courses' progression.

Course distribution-list emails will be sent out, usually once a week, to remind students of unit obligations, and/or issues unique to that week's works.

Emails to individual students will be sent on an as-needed basis.

If a student has issues that cannot be resolved effectively by email, they will be invited to provide a phone number for a follow-up phone conversation.

Grading Policy and Timeframe

Research papers are due by the end of the period in which they are assigned, though they may be submitted earlier within that period. Instructor will explain the grade and provide additional constructive feedback for all submitted papers.

Tests are due within the period for which they are assigned, they will be auto-graded, and scores will appear in the Canvas Gradebook, usually within an hour of submitting a unit test (or its re-take.)

Late Work, Revisions, and Extra Credit Policy

Research papers and tests must be submitted by their latest due date. Students will be reminded to take advantage of the module window for each to minimize the risk of missing the deadlines.

- See WMCC's [Policy for Incomplete Grades](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades) [↗\(https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades\)](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades)
- See WMCC's [Grade Reporting Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting) [↗\(https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting\)](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting)

Support

See WMCC's [Accessibility Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#accessibility)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#accessibility>)

See WMCC's [Counseling Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#counseling)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#counseling>)

See WMCC's [Services for Student Basic Needs](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#basicneeds)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#basicneeds>)

Course Timetable

Weekly Timetable

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment	Outcome
1	1/16/2024 to 1/21/2024	examine theories of human development and critique the methodologies upon which they are based	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 1: Introduction to Lifespan Development</i>	1,2
2	1/22/2024 to 1/28/2024	consider how both genetic as well as environmental factors contribute to prenatal	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 2: Heredity, Prenatal Development and</i>	3

			<i>Birth</i>	
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		development	Discussion board 1: Introduce yourself and describe your course expectations	
3	1/29/2024 to 2/04/2024	investigate how genetic and environmental factors influence learning in infancy and toddlerhood	Test 1: material from chapters 1 and 2	4
4	2/05/2024 to 2/11/2024	research social influences on development in early childhood	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 3: Infancy and Toddlerhood</i>	5,6
5	2/12/2024 to 2/18/2024	assess parenting styles impact in early childhood	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 4: Early Childhood</i>	6

6	2/19/2024 to 2/25/2024	learning and behavioral issues of middle childhood	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>5: Middle and</i> <i>Late Childhood</i> Research Paper #1: "Genetic and <i>Environmental</i> <i>Foundations of</i> <i>Human</i>	5,6
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			<i>Development"</i>	
7	2/26/2024 to 3/03/2024	social influences on behavior during adolescence	Test 2: material from chapters 3-5	6
8	3/04/2024 to 3/10/2024	physical, emotional and intellectual changes associated with early adulthood	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 6:</i> <i>Adolescence</i>	4
9	3/11/2024 to 3/17/2024	how health issues may impact psychological phenomena in middle adulthood	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>7: Emerging and</i> <i>Early Adulthood</i>	4

10	3/18/2024 to 3/24/2024	how cultural influences and expectations may shape the perception of "midlife"	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 8: Middle Adulthood</i> Research paper #2: Can Life Be Extended Indefinitely?	6
11	3/25/2024 to 3/31/2024	examine how medical and scientific advances contribute to both longevity and quality of	Test 3: material from chapters 6-8	3,7

		life in late adulthood		
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12	4/01/2024 to 4/07/2024	investigate how extending life is re-defining what people choose to do after reaching traditional retirement ages; consider cultural differences in this regard	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 9: Late Adulthood</i>	6,7
13	4/08/2024 to 4/14/2024	consider both psychological theories as well as social traditions in dealing with end-of-life issues	Required Reading: Text <i>Chapter 10: Death and Dying</i> Discussion board 2: What are your most important course take-aways	7
14	4/15/2024 to 4/21/2024	within the context of medical, genetic, and bioengineering developments, how long might it be possible to extend a human life	Test 4: material from chapters 9-10	4,7

15	4/22/2024 to 4/28/2024	critically examine how we view the concept of time within the context of stages of human development	online reading and video to critically assess the significance of the construct of time to life development stages	1,2
16	4/29/2024 to 5/04/2024	considering the possibility of longer life expectancies, revisit the theories introduced in this course and consider if the stages of human development might be changed	Course wrap-up, final course communications End-of-course survey completion is required	2,6