

**LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**  
**Psychology 364.02**  
**Fall 2016**  
**M/W/F 8:00 to 8:50 pm – Location: Au Sable Hall 2130**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Tessa Jordan, Ph.D.

**Office Hours:** Monday 12pm to 1:30pm, Wednesday 12pm to 2:00pm, or by appointment

**Office:** Au Sable Hall 2127

**Office Phone:** 331-9236

**Email:** [jordant@gvsu.edu](mailto:jordant@gvsu.edu)

Please put “Psych 364” in the subject line of your email. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours if they are received Monday-Friday. See me in person (e.g., during office hours) if you have any questions/concerns that may require a lengthy response.

\*This syllabus is subject to change. Changes (if any) will be announced in class.

**Course Homepage:** BlackBoard; <http://mybb.gvsu.edu>

**Text:** Berger, K. S (2014). *Invitation to the Life Span, 2nd Edition*. NY: Worth Publishers.

**Prerequisite:** An introductory psychology course (Psych 101 or the equivalent), or HNR 234.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

This course provides an overview of physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development across the human lifespan. We begin with an introduction to the study of human development, followed by discussion of the theoretical foundations of developmental psychology and then proceed to cover the developmental periods of infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence, adulthood and late adulthood. An appreciation for cultural diversity is an integral part of this course and will be addressed in the lectures and video segments. The class format is predominantly lecture-based, but questions/comments are encouraged. You are responsible for text material in addition to lecture material, but lecture material will be the primary focus in each of your exams.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To describe the developing person from birth through late adulthood.
2. To provide perspective on the changes that take place during an individual's life.
3. To describe methods and techniques for observing and measuring human development.
4. To demonstrate how different theoretical perspectives affect or determine the research and applications that arise from them.

## COURSE REQUIERMENTS

**Exams:** Four exams will be given covering material presented in the lectures and text. Be advised that you are responsible for material that will be presented **ONLY** in class and **ONLY** in the text. Lecture material will make up approximately 85% of each exam and textbook material make up approximately 15% of each exam. All of the exams are *noncumulative*. Exams will consist of objective questions in multiple choice format.

**Make up exams:** Occasionally there are legitimate reasons for missing an exam. I will, however, allow you to take a make-up exam **ONLY** if you inform me 48 hours in advance that you will have to miss the exam. If you become extremely sick or encounter some other emergency on the day of the exam, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled exam time and you will need to show some verification (e.g., a note from your physician, an accident report, etc.). Missed exams or failure to comply with these policies will result in a zero on the exam.

**In-class writing assignments:** You will have the opportunity to complete 6 in-class writing assignments throughout the semester, each worth 5 points. These will be “pop” writing assignments—advanced notice will not be provided. To receive credit, you must be in class and turn in your writing assignment at the end of class. To maintain fairness to all, make-up opportunities for in-class writing assignments cannot be granted.

**Homework:** You will have the opportunity to complete 3 homework assignments throughout the semester, each worth 10 points. These assignments will require you to apply principles that have been covered in class. For each assignment, you will be given an essay topic and will write a brief paper in response (*at least* one double-spaced, typed page). More information about these assignments will be provided later in the semester.

**Late Homework:** If a homework deadline is missed due to illness or some other emergency, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled due date and you will need to show some verification (e.g., a note from your physician, an accident report, etc.). Assignments that are not turned in, or are turned in late and fail to meet these regulations will result in a zero.

**Grading:** Each exam is worth 50 points ( $4 \times 50 = 200$ ), each in-class writing assignment is worth 5 points ( $6 \times 5 = 30$ ), and each homework assignment is worth 10 points ( $3 \times 10 = 30$ ). Thus, the total number of points for the class is **260**. Make-up exams will also be worth 50 points. ***Grades will not be curved.*** Your final grade, therefore, will consist of your four exam scores, your scores from in-class writing assignments and homework assignments.

### Grading Scale:

<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
247-260	A	200-207	C+
234-246	A-	190-199	C
226-233	B+	182-189	C-
216-225	B	174-181	D+
208-215	B-	156-173	D
		155 and below	F

## COURSE POLICIES

**Accommodation of Learning Disabilities/Special Needs: Disability:** If you have a learning, physical or other disability that would impact your ability to master the material in this course and/or take the exams as described above, please contact GVSU's Disability Support Services (DSS) at 616-331-2490 or <http://www.gvsu.edu/dsr/> to arrange for special accommodations. Furthermore, if you have a physical disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please make me aware so we can develop a plan to assist you.

**Withdrawal:** In accordance with University regulations, students withdrawing by the ninth week (October 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm) will be assigned a grade of W (withdrawal). Students withdrawing after the deadline to withdraw will be assigned a letter grade based on their performance in the class. *Note: It is your responsibility to drop yourself from this class.*

**Incomplete:** Under special circumstances, a grade of Incomplete (I) can be granted. See me as soon as possible to arrange this, and provide me with written documentation of why the course could not be completed. Note that an Incomplete grade must be completed by the end of the next academic semester, or is automatically converted to an F. An Incomplete will not be given for falling behind in the course or wanting to repeat the course for a better grade.

**Integrity of Scholarship and Grades:** All academic work will be done by the student to whom it was assigned. Anyone caught cheating (e.g., procuring, providing or accepting any materials which contain questions or answers to any exam or assignment, submitting work that has been previously graded) or plagiarizing (taking ideas or material from another source for either written or oral presentation without acknowledging the original source) will be dropped from the course, given an F, and referred to the University for further action. Cheating is a serious violation of academic integrity. For more information on academic honesty please see the GVSU student code.

**In-Class Behavior:** It is very important to minimize disruptions and to show respect and consideration for other students as well as the academic process. For this reason, please get to class on time, and once the lecture starts, please refrain from talking, texting, reading, or sleeping. When you come to class, please be prepared to actively listen and take notes. If you need to leave class early, please sit near an exit and leave quietly.

**Meijer Writing Center:** To assist you with any writing project, at any stage of your writing process. The center's well-trained peer consultants can help you to brainstorm ideas, organize content, integrate research, polish a draft, and correctly document sources. Make an appointment or visit during drop-in hours. Visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/wc/> or Call 331-2922.

**SASC Tutoring Center:** Need help understanding your course content or writing a paper? Want to learn more efficient study strategies? SASC Tutoring Center can assist with most courses and academic writing assignments. Visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/tc/> for the most current information on services, hours, and locations.

### **Fire:**

In the event of a fire, immediately proceed to the nearest exit during a fire alarm. Do not use elevators.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

The following is a tentative schedule for the information that we will cover and exam dates. **THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!** Keep in mind that you are responsible for all material covered in the assigned chapters for tests regardless of whether or not it is covered in class.

<u>Week/Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1. August 29, 31 September 2,	Review Syllabus Chapter 1: The study of human development
2. <i>September 5</i> 7, 9	<i>LABOR DAY – NO CLASS</i> Chapter 1: Theories of development
3. September 12, 14, 16	Chapter 2: Heredity and Environment Video: Great Expectations Chapter 2: Prenatal Development <b>Homework Assignment #1 due on 16th</b>
4. September 19, 21, 23	Chapter 3: Action and perception development in infancy Chapter 3: Cognitive development in infancy
5. <b>September 26th</b> September 28, 30	<b>EXAM 1: CHAPTERS 1, 2 &amp; 3</b> Video: Love's Labors Chapter 4: Socioemotional development in infancy
6. October 3, 5, 7	Chapter 4: Socioemotional dev in infancy Continued Chapter 5: Cognitive development in early childhood
7. October 10, 12, 14	Video: In the Land of Giants Chapter 6: Socioemotional dev in early childhood
8. <b>October 17</b> October 19, 21	<b>EXAM 2: CHAPTERS 4, 5 &amp; 6</b> Chapter 7: Cognitive development in middle childhood Video: Life's lessons
9. October 24, <b>26</b> , 28	Chapter 8: Socioemotional dev. in middle childhood <b>Homework Assignment #2 due on the 26th</b> Video: Among Equals
10. October 31, November 2, 4	Chapter 9: Physical development in adolescence Chapter 10: Socioemotional development in adolescence <b>Homework Assignment #3 due on the 4th</b>
11. <b>November 7</b> November 9, 11	<b>EXAM 3: CHAPTERS 7, 8, 9 and 10</b> Chapters 11: Biosocial development in emerging adulthood Chapters 11: Socioemotional dev in emerging adulthood

12. November 14, 16, 18	Chapters 12: Biosocial development in adulthood Chapters 13: Socioemotional development in adulthood
13. November 21 <i>November 25, 27</i>	Chapter 14: Biosocial development in late adulthood <i>THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS</i>
14. November 28, 30 December 2	Chapter 14: Biosocial development in late adulthood Film: The Passage of Time
15. December 5, 7, 9	Chapter 15: Socioemotional dev. in late adulthood Review Session and Student Evaluations
16. <b>December 12</b> <b>Monday from 8-9:50am</b>	<b>EXAM 4: CHAPTERS 11, 12, 13, 14 &amp; 15</b>

#### **HOW TO SUCCEED IN PSYCH 364:**

- Read textbook Chapter(s) associated with each lecture *before* the lecture is given.
- Access Lecture Outlines on BlackBoard and bring them to class.
- Attend each class. Actively listen and fill out Lecture Outlines, making note of examples given in class.
- If you miss class, come to office hours (or make an appointment to meet with me) or get the notes from a classmate.
- Come to office hours (or make an appointment to meet with me) if you need to discuss anything pertaining to this course.