

# **LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Psychology 364.07; Winter 2018  
M/W/F 9:00 to 9:50 am – Location: Au Sable Hall 2310  
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Tessa Jordan, Ph.D.

Office Hours: M/W/F 8:00 to 8:50am & 11:00 to 11:30am or by appointment  
Office: Au Sable Hall 2127  
Office Phone: 331-9236  
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**\*\*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 then proceed to cover the developmental periods of prenatal, infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence, adulthood and late adulthood. Classes will consist of lectures, multimedia presentations, and in-class assignments. Questions and comments are encouraged!

## **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 appreciate how different theoretical perspectives affect or determine the research and applications that arise from them.

## **COURSE REQUIERMENTS**

**Three Exams** (90 points each, 270 points total): Three 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. 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.**

**Six In-class Assignments** (5 points each, 25 points total): You will have the opportunity to complete 6 in-class assignments throughout the semester, each worth 5 points. Your score from your lowest in-class assignments will be dropped from your final grade. You will not be given advanced notice regarding the date or time of in-class assignments. You must be in class and turn in your assignment to receive credit. **Make-up opportunities for in-class assignments will not be granted regardless of reason for missing the assignment.**

**Four Homework Assignments** (5 points each, 20 points total): You will have the opportunity to complete 4 homework assignments throughout the semester, each worth 5 points. These assignments will require you to apply principles that we have covered in class. You will be given the details of the assignment and will write a brief paper for each homework assignment. Homework assignments will be submitted through BlackBoard, by midnight of the date due. 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 to comply with these policies will result in a zero.**

**Grading:** Grades are based on points earned in the class. The total number of points possible for the class is **315**. Grades will not be curved. Your final grade will consist of your three exam scores, your scores from your best 5 in-class assignments (out of 6), and your scores on the four Homework Assignments.

### Grading Scale:

<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
296-315	A	241-250	C+
282-295	A-	229-240	C
273-281	B+	219-228	C-
261-272	B	210-218	D+
251-260	B-	188-209	D
		187 and below	F

**\*\*If your grade is at the .5 mark, I will round up (i.e., 250.5 will be rounded up to 251).** I will not adjust your grade in any other way. Please do not ask at the end of the semester.

## COURSE POLICIES

**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 texting or reading. 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.

**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 Resources (DSR)** 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 fourth week (see Registrar for exact date) 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 (total points earned/345 points). **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.

## RESOURCES

**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 location.

**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!**

<u>Week/Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1. January 8, 10, 12	Review Syllabus Lecture 1: The Study of Human Development
2. January 15 17, 19	<i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day – NO CLASS</i> Lecture 1: Research Methods
3. January 22, 24, <b>26</b>	Lecture 2: Prenatal Development Lecture 2: Gene and Environment <b>Homework Assignment #1 Due on January 26<sup>th</sup> by midnight</b>
4. January 29, 31 February 2	Lecture 3: Brain and Motor Development in Infancy Lecture 3: Perceptual development in infancy Lecture 3: Cognitive development in infancy
5. February 5, 7, 9	Lecture 3: Cognitive development in infancy Lecture 4: Socioemotional development in infancy <b>Homework Assignment #2 Due on February 10<sup>th</sup> by midnight</b>
6. February 12, 14, 16	Lecture 4: Socioemotional development in infancy continued <b>EXAM 1: Lectures 1- 4. February 14<sup>th</sup></b> Lecture 5: Cognitive development in early childhood
7. February 19, 21, 23	Lecture 5: Cognitive development in early childhood Lecture 6: Socioemotional dev in early childhood
8. February 26, 28 March 2	Lecture 7: Cognitive development in middle childhood Lecture 8: Socioemotional dev. in middle childhood
9. March 5-9	<b>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES</b>
10. March 12, 14, 16	Lecture 8: Socioemotional dev. in middle childhood continued <b>Homework Assignment #3 Due on March 14<sup>th</sup> by midnight</b>
11. March 19, 21, 23	Lecture 9: Physical development in adolescence Lecture 10: Socioemotional development in adolescence

12. March 26, 28, 30	Lecture 10: Socioemotional development in adolescence <b>Exam 2: March 28<sup>th</sup> Lectures 5 -10</b> Lecture 11a: Biosocial development in emerging adulthood
13. April 2, 4, 6	Lecture 11b: Socioemotional dev in emerging adulthood Lecture 12: Biosocial development in adulthood Lecture 13: Socioemotional development in adulthood <b>Homework Assignment #4 Due on the 6th</b>
14. April 9, 11, 13	Lecture 14a: Biosocial development in late adulthood Lecture 14b: Cognitive development in late adulthood continued
15. April 16, 18, 20	Lecture 14c: Neurocognitive Disorders late adulthood continued Lecture 15: Socioemotional dev. in late adulthood
<b>16. Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 8:00</b>	<b>EXAM 4: LECTURES 11-15.</b>

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• **HOW TO SUCCEED IN PSYCH 364:**

- **Read!** Read the chapter associated with each lecture *before* the lecture is given. This will provide you with a broader context for understanding the material presented in class.
- **Attend Each Class!** Missing class will substantially lower your grade in the course.
- **Take Good Notes:** Fill-out your Lecture Outline, take additional notes and make note of examples given in class. The Lecture Outlines are intended as a guide only. *Filled-in Lecture Outlines alone will not provide you with all the necessary material to succeed in this course. Additional lecture notes will be essential when you study for the exams.*
- **Prepare for Exams** well in advance. You should re-read your lecture notes each day after class and review material often. If you wait until the last minute to begin preparing for an exam, you are unlikely to perform as well.
- **Come to Office Hours** (or make an appointment to meet with me) if you need to discuss anything pertaining to this course.