

# LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY COURSE SYLLABUS

Psychology 364.08; Fall 2019

Tuesday / Thursday 8:30 to 9:45 am – Location: Au Sable Hall 1310

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

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursdays, 7:30 to 8:20am; 9:45-10:35am 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.
- This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>
- **Prerequisite:** An introductory psychology course (Psych 101 or the equivalent), or HNR 234.
- **Course Homepage:** BlackBoard; <http://mybb.gvsu.edu>
- **E-Text:** In this course we will use Santrock, J. W. (2018). *A Topical Approach to Life-Span Development, 9th Edition*. McGraw Hill Publishers but not in the form of a printed textbook. Instead, you will purchase access to a digital version of the book on the McGraw-Hill Education Connect® online platform. Connect uses technology that adapts content to your skill level to make more-efficient use of your study time and create a more-effective reading experience.
- **Connect Web Address:** <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/t-jordan-fall-2019-tr>
- Purchase a Connect code at the bookstore (either standalone or packaged with a textbook, your choice) and register with the provided Connect Web Address link (above). During the registration process, you will be prompted to create a new account or login with an existing Connect account, username, and password.  
At that time, you will need to do one of the following:
  - Enter your access code
  - Purchase access online
  - Begin your 14-day Courtesy Access period

Please note: After you register, you will have the option to purchase a low-cost print-version of the text through Connect. This is optional. If you choose to purchase a copy, a full-color, loose-leaf version will be shipped to you.

See page 5 of this syllabus for Connect Technical Support contact info

## 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 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

- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts and theoretical paradigms that direct the field of Life-Span Developmental Psychology.
- Describe, and think critically about, changes within the developing person through the life-span.
- Compare both traditional and current explanations for trends in the human's physical, cognitive, and social/emotional growth.
- Understand the scientific method and apply it to the understanding of human behavior and development through the life-span.
- Apply knowledge of lifespan development to one's experiences in life; work/careers, home/family, self and others.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**1. Exams:** Two Exams (50 questions each, 50 points each) and one Final Exam (100 questions, 100 points) 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. The two exams are noncumulative. The Final Exam is cumulative. All 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.**

**2. Connect Reading Assignments (35 total points):** You will have the opportunity to complete Connect Reading Assignments throughout the semester, each is worth 1 or 2 points. You will need to register with Connect first (see info under e-text on the first page of this syllabus). Each week you will complete one to three Connect Reading Assignments that you can access through Blackboard. You will have 7 days to complete each assignment.

***Assignments will open each Thursday at 5:00pm and will close the following Thursday at 5:00pm. There are no make-up opportunities for Connect Reading Assignments. Late Assignments are not accepted and will receive a zero.***

**3. In-class assignments (5 points each, 25 total points):** 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 assignment 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 at the end of class. **There are no make-up opportunities for in-class assignments regardless of reason for missing the assignment.**

**4. Homework (10 points each, 50 total points):** You will have the opportunity to complete 5 homework assignments throughout the semester, each worth 10 points. These assignments will require you to apply principles that have been covered in class. You will be given the details of the assignments and will write a brief paper for each homework assignment.

**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:** Exams 1 and 2 are worth 50 points ( $2 \times 50 = 100$ ), The Final Exam is worth 100 points, each in-class writing assignment is worth 5 points ( $5 \times 5 = 25$ ), all 20 Connect Reading Assignments are worth 35 points (1 or 2 points each) and each homework assignment is worth 10 points ( $5 \times 10 = 50$ ). Thus, the total number of points for the class is 310. **Grades will not be curved.** Your final grade, therefore, will consist of your 2 exam scores, your final exam score, your scores from in-class writing assignments, connect reading assignments, and homework assignments.

#### Grading Scale:

<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
291-310	A	235-247	C+
279-290	A-	226-234	C
266-278	B+	217-225	C-
257-265	B	204-216	D+
248-256	B-	186-203	D
		Less than 186	F

**\*\*If your grade is at the .5 mark, I will round up (e.g., 233.5 will be rounded up to 234). I will not adjust your grade in any other way. Please do not ask at the end of the semester.**

\*\*\*\*\* 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.*
- **Turn in all homework** assignments on time.
- **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.

## 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 26<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.

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

\*\*\*\*\***ADDITIONAL 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 locations.

**Employment Options for Psych Majors:** Learn more about careers in psychology at <https://www.gvsu.edu/psychology/employment-options-for-psychology-majors-228.htm>

**Guardian Mobile Safety App:** Creates a two-way connection between you and the campus police anywhere on campus. Find out more at [www.gvsu.edu/gvpd/guardain](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvpd/guardain).

**GVSU Counseling Center:** Short-term individual and long-term group therapy are provided at no cost to currently registered GVSU students. Seminars and events, online self-help tools, and consultation/referral are just a few of the additional services we provide to the GVSU community. <https://www.gvsu.edu/counsel/>

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**CONNECT TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

If you are having trouble registering for or accessing Connect, please contact McGraw-Hill Education's Customer Support. Live chat, email, and phone support are available 7 days a week.

**Website:** [www.mhhe.com/support](http://www.mhhe.com/support) | **Phone:** (800) 331-5094 **Hours (EST)**

Sunday: 12 PM - 12 AM

Monday - Thursday: 24 hours

Friday: 12 AM - 9 PM Saturday: 10 AM - 8 PM

Ensure your computer meets system requirements by going to this link:

<http://connect.mheducation.com/connect/troubleshoot.do>

## Course Schedule:

The following is a tentative schedule for the information that we will cover and exam dates.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture #</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>
Week 1	Syllabus	Review Syllabus / Discuss Connect
Week 1	Lecture 1a	Introduction to Developmental Science
Week 2	Lecture 1b	Developmental Theories
<b>Sept. 10th by 8:00am</b>		<b>Homework #1 due</b>
Week 3	Lecture 1c	Research Methods
Week 4	Lecture 2	Prenatal Development
<b>Sept. 19th by 8:00am</b>		<b>Homework #2 due</b>
Week 4	Lecture 3a	Infant Brain and Motor Development
Week 5	Lecture 3b	Infant Perceptual Development
<b>Sept. 26th by 8:00am</b>		<b>Exam 1</b>
Week 6	Lecture 3c	Infant Cognitive Development
Week 6	Lecture 4a	Infant Socioemotional Development
Week 7	Lecture 4b	Attachment Theory
<b>Oct 10th by 8:00am</b>		<b>Homework #3 due</b>
Week 7	Lecture 5a	Early Childhood Cognitive Development
Week 7	Lecture 5b	Theory of Mind
Week 8	Lecture 6a	Self-Concept & Gender Development
<b>Oct 18th by 8:00am</b>		<b>Homework #4 due</b>
<b>Tuesday, Oct 22nd</b>		<b>Fall Break - No class</b>
Week 9	Lecture 6b	Parenting Styles
Week 10	Lecture 7	Middle Childhood Cognitive Development
Week 10	Lecture 8	Developmental Psychopathologies
Week 11	Lecture 9	Moral Reasoning
<b>Thursday, November 7th</b>		<b>Exam 2</b>
Week 12	Lecture 10	Adolescent Development
Week 13	Lecture 11	Emerging Adult Development
<b>Nov 19th by 8:00am</b>		<b>Homework #5 due</b>
Week 13	Lecture 12	Adult & Late Adult Biosocial Development
Week 14	Lecture 13	Late Adult Cognitive Development
<b>Thursday, November 28th</b>		<b>Thanksgiving - No Class</b>
Week 15	Lecture 14	Neurocognitive Disorders
Week 15	Lecture 15	Late Adult Socioemotional Development
<b>Thursday, Dec 12th</b>		<b>Final Exam 8-9:50 am</b>