

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Social Science Department
Life Span Development – CRN #31569, Psy K201, T1
Fall, 2017, Thursday - 6:30 – 9:15, Room E206

Instructor: Pam Kerouack-Warner, M.S., LPC

Office hours: By appointment

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Course description

This 200-level course will study the physical, psychosocial and cognitive development of humans from birth to death. There will be an emphasis on distinct time periods such as conception and development of the fetus, infancy, childhood, puberty and adolescence, young, middle, and late adulthood, and gerontology. We will focus on **healthy** development of the human within each time period, though will discuss environmental, behavioral and genetic factors which effect healthy development.

Learning objectives

The course investigates the numerous facets of growth which contribute to an integrated, whole person. In addition, we will consider the developmental challenges faced by individuals moving toward maturity and through adulthood. You will learn the manner in which physical, cognitive and social factors interact to affect growth. It is expected that you will integrate your personal experiences with course materials to enrich your understanding of health. The course requires thoughtful understanding of the material presented and interaction amongst your classmates as we discuss varying viewpoints.

Class time will be used in combinations of didactic lecture, small group work, film clips and experiential moments. Participation and attendance is expected as it enriches your experience and enhances understanding of the material.

Required reading

Experience Human Development, 13th Edition, Papalia, D. & Duskin Feldman, R. (McGraw-Hill, 2012)

Reading to complete research paper

Grading:

4 exams (10 points each)	40%
Group work participation	10%
Research project	20%
“It’s a new life” journal	25%
Birthing paper	5%

Letter grades are given accordingly: A: 95+; A-: 90-94; B+: 87-89; B: 84-86; B- 80-83; C+ 77-79; C: 74-76; C-: 70-73; D+: 67-69; D: 64-66; D-: 60-63; F: below 60

Attendance

Your attendance is expected and your absence will impact your understanding of course material. Please arrive to class on-time! It is quite distracting to myself and others when you arrive late. In addition, due to discussion groups in class, you risk missing important information that may not be in your readings. If you miss more than 2 classes, you risk failure and may want to consider withdrawal from this course. Exams are due on the dates indicated. You **will not** be able to hand in an exam or homework assignment after its due date. If you are not going to be in class, you can put the exam or homework assignment in my mailbox before the end of the class in which it is due. You have my phone number and email should you need to discuss this further. Please don’t ask me to make exceptions as this is unfair to all your classmates who are getting their work in on time.

Disabilities Statement: If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 215-9017. Contact the counselor as soon as possible to avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Special needs

If you have difficulty with the course material, please see me. I would rather you take a few moments to talk with me than fall behind. If you have any learning difficulties, please refer to the above “Disabilities Statement.” If you need any class or exam accommodations, please make sure you talk with the counseling department and obtain the appropriate accommodation request form and share that with me prior to the first exam.

Communication in class

Because we will be doing small group work, it is very important that we all follow basic communication etiquette. This requires you to listen respectfully when someone else is

talking and request clarification should you not understand. You are encouraged to state your own thoughts and ideas. Please understand that you offer one perspective -- there are others. If you take the time to listen, you may discover a new way of thinking about an issue. Please allow and encourage all classmates to share their thoughts. Be careful not to take over an entire discussion.

Journals

During this class, you'll consider major components of the conception and development of a human life. Questions posed in class will direct the entry you are to bring to your next class. For instance, you may need to write about attachment theory. This journal is a way to consider life stages as we take this person from conception to death. We'll use this journal for class discussion which means **take your journal to each class**. You will be responsible for reading assigned materials **and** answering journal questions before each class. We'll do peer review and discussion each class and be prepared to hand them in upon request. This is 25% of your class grade. There will be **no credit** given for late journal entries as the point is to inform your class discussion **not** be a summation of our class discussion.

Birthing paper

Please view two births (there are many to choose from on YouTube) and write a paper comparing the benefits and drawbacks as well as physical, emotional and literal costs of each type of birth. Indicate which type of birth you would choose for yourself or your partner and include why.

Research paper: You are required to choose and get approval on a topic that discusses a stage or issue in life development. Keep in mind, we are studying **healthy** development. You may find, however, that you are interested in a topic that negatively effects healthy development. I will be happy to discuss this choice with you for suitability to our class. I will break this down into steps each of which will contribute to your research paper grade. You are required to provide an outline of this research paper for review. Please make sure you use valid, scholarly sources to inform your research paper. Explore our library; there are many journals available to help you pick a topic for review. This is not a Google assignment. Your report should be at least 7 pages in length (not including title, abstract, or reference pages.) You should use APA formatting which requires a title page, abstract, body and reference page (not included in the 7 page count.) The report should be double-spaced using Times New Roman 12. Please don't quadruple space between paragraphs. ☹

GENERAL WEEKLY GUIDE

- 08/31/17 Introductions and discussion of expectations
Chapter 1: The study of human development
- 09/07/17 Chapter 3: Beginnings – Child Assignment
- 09/14/17 Chapter 4: Birth and Physical Development during the first three years
Birthing paper due
Research topic due
- 09/21/17 Chapter 5: Cognitive development during the first three years
Chapter 6: Psychosocial development during the first three years
Take home exam
- 09/28/17 **Exam due**
Chapter 7: Physical and cognitive development in early childhood
Chapter 8: Psychosocial development in early childhood
- 10/05/17 Chapter 9: Physical and cognitive development in middle childhood
Chapter 10: Psychosocial development in middle childhood
Take home exam on chapters 7 through 10
- 10/12/17 **Take home exam due**
Bring outline of paper to class for discussion
- 10/19/17 **NO CLASS, work on research project**
- 10/26/17 Chapter 11: Physical and cognitive development in adolescence
Chapter 12: Psychosocial development in adolescence
- 11/2/17 Chapter 13: Physical and cognitive development in emerging and young adulthood
Chapter 14: Psychosocial development in emerging and young adulthood
Take home exam on chapters 11 through 14
- 11/9/17 **Take home exam due**
Chapter 15: Physical and cognitive development in middle adulthood

Chapter 16: Psychosocial development in middle adulthood

11/16/17 Chapter 17: Physical and cognitive development in late adulthood
Chapter 18: Psychosocial development in late adulthood
Research paper due

11/23/17 NO CLASS. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

12/1/17 Chapter 19: Dealing with death and bereavement
Take home exam on chapters 14 through 19

12/14/17 **Take home exam due**
Panel Q&A