

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Social Science Department  
Life Span Development – CRN #10806, Psy K201, T1  
Spring, 2016  
Wednesday: 6:30 – 9:15, Room D105

**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, 12th Edition, Papalia, D. & Duskin Feldman, R. (McGraw-Hill, 2012)

Reading to complete research paper

### **Grading:**

4 exams	40%
Journal	15%
Small group work participation	15%
Quizzes	15%
Research paper	15%

### **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 in order 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.

### **Homework - Journal**

You will be responsible for reading assigned materials and answering journal questions before you come to each class and discuss that chapter. You are expected to bring your journal to class to use as a focal point of group discussion. I will check to make sure you have your journal in class. This is part of your class grade; please come to class prepared so you can be an active participant in group discussion. There will be **no credit** given for journals that are not completed and ready for class discussion on the date due. In the event of an absence, please forward your journal through email before the time of class in which it is due. I will check to make sure you start each entry with the following: One thing you learned from the chapter and one question you still have. Bring your journal to each class so you can ask the question that is pending or share one thing you learned. It is always amazing how these shared things help others.

**Research paper:** You are required to choose and get approval on a topic that discusses a particular stage or issue in life development. Keep in mind, we are studying **healthy** development. You may find, however, that you are interested in a particular topic that negatively effects healthy development. I will be happy to discuss this choice with you for suitability to our class. You are required to provide an outline of this research paper for review. Please make sure you use valid sources, scholarly sources to inform your research paper. 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. The report should be double-spaced using Times New Roman 12. Please don't quadruple space between paragraphs. ☹

The college requires the following statement be placed in all syllabi: "All students are required to maintain a learning portfolio in Digication that uses the (Three Rivers) College Template."

## GENERAL WEEKLY GUIDE

- 01/27/16 Introductions and discussion of expectations  
Chapter 1: The study of human development
- 02/03/16 Chapter 3: Beginnings – Child Assignment
- 02/10/16 Chapter 4: Birth and Physical Development during the first three years
- 02/17/16 **No Class: work on research paper topic and outline for same**
- 02/24/16 Chapter 5: Cognitive development during the first three years  
Chapter 6: Psychosocial development during the first three years  
**Take home exam**
- 03/02/16 **Exam due**  
Chapter 7: Physical and cognitive development in early childhood  
**Bring outline of paper to class for discussion**
- 03/09/16 **No class: continue work on research paper**
- 03/16/16 Chapter 8: Psychosocial development in early childhood  
Chapter 9: Physical and cognitive development in middle childhood
- 03/23/16 Spring break
- 03/30/16 Chapter 10: Psychosocial development in middle childhood  
**Research paper due**  
**Take home exam on chapters 7 through 10**
- 04/06/16 **Take home exam due**  
Chapter 11: Physical and cognitive development in adolescence  
Chapter 12: Psychosocial development in adolescence
- 04/13/16 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**

- 04/20/16     **Take home exam due**  
Chapter 15: Physical and cognitive development in middle adulthood  
Chapter 16: Psychosocial development in middle adulthood
- 04/27/16     Chapter 17: Physical and cognitive development in late adulthood  
Chapter 18: Psychosocial development in late adulthood
- 05/04/16     Chapter 19: Dealing with death and bereavement  
**Take home exam on chapters 14 through 19**
- 05/11/16     **Take home exam due**  
**Panel Q&A**