

**Syllabus**  
**Three Rivers Community College**  
**PSY K201 Life Span Development**

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**Office Hours:** After class

**Class Meetings:** Spring, 2010, January 27 – May 12, Wednesdays: 6:00 pm – 8:45 pm

## **Required Reading**

Papalia, Olds, & Feldman, Human Development, 11th ed., New York, NY: McGraw-Hill, 2009.

## **Course Description**

This upper level course provides an overview of the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development of humans from birth through late adulthood and death. There is an emphasis on distinct periods such as infancy, childhood, adolescence, and the phases of adulthood.

## **Learning Objectives**

The course investigates the numerous factors which contribute to an integrated, whole person as well as the developmental problems faced by individuals moving toward maturity and through adulthood. We will explore the manner in which classic theories and contemporary research inform our knowledge of human development. You will discover the manner in which physical, cognitive, and social factors interact to affect growth. We will take a research-based approach to all aspects of development and examine societal influences and cross-cultural perspectives. You may find this course relevant to your personal growth and helpful in understanding your family, friends, and those with whom you work. You are encouraged to ask questions about what you are learning, relate it to past experiences, and apply it to your daily lives.

## **Evaluation Procedures**

Midterm and final examinations will include multiple choice questions and be based on the textbook and lectures. Course grade will be the sum of the two examinations (50 points each, no cumulative final). Class attendance is mandatory and class participation is encouraged.

## **Attendance and Participation**

Your attendance is expected. This class will be shaped by your presence and participation. Sharing one's own ideas and responding to others' reactions improves thinking and deepens understanding. Absences adversely affect your grade. If you miss more than 6 hours of class, regardless of the reason, you risk failure or withdrawal from the course. If you miss a class, **you** are responsible for contacting a fellow student to obtain the information discussed in that class (notes, changes in exam dates, etc.) By next week or so, consider introducing yourself to two classmates and note their e-mail or telephone number on this syllabus. Please let me know if you have any problems which cause an extended absence.

Punctuality is imperative. Important information often is disseminated at the beginning of class. Arriving on time and staying to the end of class shows respect for your fellow learners. If you repeatedly come to class late, you will be marked absent. Absences affect your grade.

## Special Needs

If you have difficulty with the course material, please see me during office hours or call for an appointment outside of office hours. I am happy to clarify any questions you may have.

If you have special needs (such as a learning disability, physical condition, etc.) and require accommodations to enhance your participation in the class, please contact the Learning Specialist or Student Development Office. In order to provide you with accommodations, I must receive documentation pertaining to your needs. Effort will be made to support everyone's learning.

## Integrity, Civility, and Communication

You will be treated as honorable individuals and with respect. In turn, you are expected to show respect and courtesy to the instructor and fellow students. It is expected that you truly listen (and not talk) while someone else is speaking. Please rebut another's viewpoint in a civil, non-personalized manner. No one enjoys a class where one or two individuals attempt to take over; self monitor your participation. Disrespect of your classmates and disruptive behaviors will not be tolerated.

While the instructor encourages students to work together frequently, honesty in all academic work is expected of every student. This means answers on examinations will be determined without help from auxiliary sources. Academic dishonesty erodes the integrity of the College and devalues every degree granted. If the instructor has any reason to question your conduct, the college's Academic Dishonesty policy will be executed swiftly.

## Course Schedule and Assigned Readings

January 27	Introduction to the course
February 3	Chapters 1 and 2
February 10	Chapter 5
February 17	Chapter 7
February 24	Chapter 9
March 3	Chapter 11
March 10	Spring Holiday – Classes not in session
March 17	<b>Midterm Examination</b>
March 24	Chapters 12 and 13
March 31	Chapter 14
April 7	Chapter 15
April 14	Chapter 16
April 21	Chapter 17
April 28	Chapter 18
May 5	Chapter 19
May 12	<b>Final Examination</b>