

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Social Science Department
Life Span Development – CRN #31569; Psy K201
Spring, 2012, Wednesday 6:30 – 9:15
Room D105

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

Office hours by appointment or ½ hour before class

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Course description

This upper-level course provides an overview of the physical, psychosocial and cognitive development of humans from birth to death. There will be an emphasis on distinct time periods such as development of the fetus, infancy, childhood, adolescence, and phases of adulthood. We will focus on **healthy** development of the human within each time period.

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

Human Development, Eleventh Edition, Papalia, D., Wendkos Olds, S. and Duskin Feldman, R. (McGraw-Hill, 2009)

Choose one book which focuses on a specific stage or aspect of human development. Please see me for approval of your choice.

Further reading as assigned

Grading:

4 exams - take home (1 st worth 10 points, others worth 15)	55%
Writing assignments pertinent to class group work	10%
Attendance	10%
Book report	15%
Book presentation	10%

Attendance

Your attendance is expected and your absence will impact your understanding of course material. 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. There are no exceptions.

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 contact a Learning Specialist. 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.

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

Each week, you will be responsible for reading assigned materials and answering homework questions. You are expected to bring your answers to class and hand them in **at the end** of class. This is part of your class grade. You may wish to make a copy of your answers just in

case I do not get them back to you in time for an exam. Please do not come to class unprepared—it will impact you and your classmates. You are encouraged to take practice tests as they will help you with your exam. There will be **no credit** given for homework handed in after the class in which it is due.

Book report & class project

Book report: You are required to choose and get approval on a book that discusses a particular stage or issue in life development. Keep in mind, we are studying **healthy** development. Your report should include basic information (title of book, author and date of publication) as well as a summary of the material read. Relate the book to a classroom stage that we have reviewed and discuss how the material has expanded your classroom knowledge. Also discuss whether you thought the book to be relevant and helpful. Who would benefit by reading this book? Please make the book report at least three pages.

Class project: Using the book you have read, share with the class the most pertinent and relevant information. Your presentation will be 10 to 15 minutes **at most**. You can use a PowerPoint, handouts, poster or some other relevant medium to share your knowledge with the class. You will be randomly assigned to one of three days of presentations. Please be creative and engage your class in some way. Keep in mind that your attendance is expected at each class session, regardless if you are presenting or not. Each presentation day is worth 2 points toward your total attendance grade.

GENERAL WEEKLY GUIDE

01/25/12	INTRODUCTION TO COURSE	
02/01/12	Chapter 3	Formation of life. Genetics, Prenatal Development and Birth
02/08/12	Chapters 4 Chapter 5	Birth to 3, Birth and physical development Cognitive development
02/15/12	Chapter 6 Take home exam 1	Birth to 3, Psychosocial development
02/22/12	Chapter 7 Chapter 8 Exam 1 due	Early childhood, physical and cognitive development Psychosocial development

02/29/12 **Chapter 9** Middle childhood, physical and cognitive development
Chapter 10 Psychosocial development
Take home exam 2

03/07/12 **Chapter 11** Adolescence, physical and cognitive development
Chapter 12 Psychosocial development
Exam 2 due

03/14/12 **Chapter 13** Young adulthood, physical and cognitive development
Chapter 14 Psychosocial development
Take home exam 3

03/21/12 **No class**

03/28/12 **Chapter 15** Middle adulthood, physical and cognitive development
Chapter 16 Psychosocial development
Exam 3 due

04/04/12 **Chapter 17** Late adulthood, physical and cognitive development
Chapter 18 Psychosocial development

04/11/12 **Chapter 19** Dealing with death and bereavement
Take home exam 4

04/18/12 Guess speakers representing adolescence, young adult, middle adult, and elder
Exam 4 due

04/25/12 **Project reports**
ALL BOOK REPORTS DUE

05/02/12 **Project reports**

05/09/12 **Project reports**