

## Common Course Syllabus

### Course-Specific Information

**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** Psychology

**Course Number:** PSYC 2314

**Course Name:** Lifespan Growth and Development

**Credit:** 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

**Satisfies a core curriculum requirement?** Yes, Behavioral or Social Science

**Prerequisites:** TSI reading compliance for INET

**Available Formats:** conventional; INET

**Campuses:** Levelland, Reese, Lubbock Center, Plainview, INET

**Textbook:** *Human Development: A Cultural Approach*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Arnett, J. J., Pearson, 2016. (Some instructors require REVEL access code; See Instructor's Course Information)

**Course Description:** Life-Span Growth and Development is a study of social, emotional, cognitive and physical factors and influences of a developing human from conception to death.

**Course Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major theories and concepts in life span development including the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that occur from conception till death.

**Course Requirements:** To maximize the potential to successfully complete this course, the student should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments in a timely manner, and complete all examinations including the final exam. Internet courses require the work to be completed in specific time periods.

**Course Evaluation:** Please see the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluation student performance.

**Course Specific Instructions:** go to Blackboard Learn 9 for INET classes

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students who have successfully completed this course will be expected to:

1. Describe the stages of the developing person at different periods of the life span from birth to death.
2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect the development process of the individual.

3. Identify factors of responsible personal behavior with regard to issues such as sexual activity, substance abuse, marriage and parenting.
4. Explain the biosocial, cognitive and psychological influences throughout the lifespan as an ongoing set of processes, involving both continuity and change.
5. Describe the different developmental perspectives of the major theories of development (i.e. cognitive, learning, humanistic and psychodynamic).
6. Identify examples of some of the cultural and ethnic differences that influence development throughout the lifespan.
7. Discuss the various causes or reasons for disturbances in the developmental process.

**Core Objectives addressed:**

- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Empirical and Quantitative skills-** to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

**Coordinating Board Approval Number (CIP) 42.2703.51 25**

**Relevant SPC Policies & Procedures**

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment. See Instructor’s Course Information for additions to the attendance policy. (See Catalog)

**Academic Integrity:** The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. This policy relates to all forms of cheating and plagiarism. See Instructor’s Course Information for additions to the academic integrity policy.

**Student Conduct:** A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw. Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course (See Catalog/Student Guide for full policy). See Instructor’s Course Information for additional policies related to student conduct.

**Campus Concealed Carry syllabus statement:** Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: ([http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php))

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**Academic Appeals:** The Vice President for Student Affairs is the South Plains College Title IX Coordinator and is designated to formally investigate student grievances, address inquiries and coordinate the College's compliance efforts regarding student complaints and grievances. Whenever possible and safe, the problem or complaint should first be discussed with the individual involved in the complaint. If satisfactory resolution is not reached after discussion with the individual, the student should contact the individual's direct supervisor to attempt to resolve the complaint. If these efforts are unsuccessful, the formal grievance process may be initiated. The College does not require a student to contact the person involved or that person's supervisor if doing so is impracticable, or if the student believes that the conduct cannot be effectively addressed through informal means (See Catalog/Student Guide for full definitions and policy).

**Disability Services:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) and Lubbock Center 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Diversity & Equal Rights:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President of Student Affairs.

All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. (See Catalog/Student Guide for full definitions and policies)

## Instructor's Course Information: Mrs. Miller

**Course Information:** PSYC 2314 – Fall 2017 – Internet Course

**Course Website:** Blackboard ([southplainscollege.blackboard.com](http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com))

**Preferred Email Contact:** 'Mail' within Blackboard Course

**Alternative Email Contact:** [mamiller@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:mamiller@southplainscollege.edu)

**Instructor Office Hours:** SS117 (Levelland Campus) Mon 10am-11am, Tues 10am-11am  
& 2:30pm-4pm, Wed 10am-11am, Thurs 2:30pm-3pm, Fri 9am-12am

**Instructor Office Phone:** 806-716-2967 (always leave a message if I miss your call)

### Instructor's Course Policies:

**Attendance & Drop Policy:** Since this course is a virtual classroom, attendance will be taken based on coursework submission (i.e., discussions, exams, written assignments, LearnSmart). A student who fails to submit any 5 items during the semester may be dropped with a grade of 'X' or 'F' for the course.

**Technology Policy:** Blackboard is the learning management system used to deliver this course (<http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>). *It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet, appropriate devices/software, and a working knowledge of Blackboard.* You should always have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer problems. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. More information on online courses is available at [southplainscollege.blackboard.com](http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com) by accessing the On Demand Help & Learning Center. Should you encounter technical difficulties contact the instructor immediately as well as the SPC technical support at [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu) or call (806) 894-9611, ext. 2180. Be sure to include your full name, course number, section number and a number where you can be reached when contacting technical support. Not knowing how something works or having personal computer difficulties will not suffice as an excuse for missed deadlines.

**Student Conduct & Online Behavior:** In conjunction with the policy stated in the Common Course Syllabus, one must uphold proper and respectful communication with the instructor and fellow classmates at all times. All interactions will remain civil just as they would in a traditional classroom. Repeated violations of this policy may result in the student being dropped from the course.

**Written Work:** All written work should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. This will relate to **any** written work done in the course.

**Late work:** Late work is not accepted in this course. All coursework must be submitted by the deadlines on the calendar to receive full credit. It is best to plan ahead and not wait until the last minute to submit any coursework. Most coursework can be submitted early, so take advantage and don't get stuck. However, in the event that you miss deadlines there are two options available:

1. On a Discussion you may use what I call a “Freebie,” which means you will automatically receive full credit on that specific assignment. **You can only do this once during the session**, so use it wisely. To use this option, you will email your instructor in Blackboard within one week after that assignment deadline occurs, state that you would like to use your Freebie, and specifically state the assignment to which you would like it applied. This doesn’t happen automatically; no email, no credit, it’s all on you. Remember, if it’s later than one week after the deadline, then it’s too late to use this option. This option cannot be used on an exam or discussion reflection essay.
2. If you miss a deadline on an exam, keep in mind that there will be an optional comprehensive final exam at the end of the course. If you take this exam, the score can replace your lowest exam score.

**Academic Integrity:** In addition to the policy in the Common Course Syllabus, it should be understood that students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will earn a zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an ‘F’ should a second offense occur. For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide or refer to [www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org)

**Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:**

It is possible to earn up to 710 points in this course. Your grade will be calculated on a cumulative point total based on the following grades:

	Amount to be completed	Total Points Possible	Points earned by you this semester
Unit 0 Assignments	2 @ 5 points each	10	
Discussions	4 @ 25 points each	100	
Discussion Reflection Essays	2 @ 50 points each	100	
Exams	4 @ 125 points each	500	
Total	-----	710	

At the end of the semester, all points earned by you this semester will be added up for a Grand Point Total. Your Point Total will determine your final letter grade by using the following scale/point ranges:

- A= 636 - 710 points
- B= 565 - 635 points
- C= 494 - 564 points
- D= 423 - 493 points
- F= 0 - 422 points

**Discussions (25 points each):** At times you will be required to engage in a discussion related to course material. You will be given a prompt with a topic and specific instructions for how the discussion should be conducted. For each discussion, you will first post a **thread**, which will contain an original response to the prompt (you will not be able to see the posts of other students until you post a thread). Once you have posted your thread, you are to **reply** to a minimum of 2 threads on the discussion board. See the Course Calendar for specific posting deadlines; keep in mind that threads and replies will have different deadlines.

The primary goal for this portion of the course is to discuss what you are learning and how it applies to various situations. Treat this as you would any other written assignment; it is an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand the information. Therefore, you will be evaluated based on your ability to post useful, meaningful, and valuable information that demonstrates your understanding of the course material. Some discussion no-no's to keep in mind include:

- Showing little originality or thought in your posts. Remember that these should demonstrate that you understand what you're learning in class. Each post should add a new idea, perspective, example, or explanation of the content.
- Repeating yourself or someone else. If you repeat yourself or others in postings you will not receive full credit.
- Agreeing with and praising others. Stating "I agree" or "I love the way you said that" (or any similar comment) is not detailed or complex enough to earn points.
- Using poor spelling/grammar. Keep in mind that a discussion is a written assignment, which means that spelling, grammar, and proper writing will be factored in to your score.

**Discussion Reflection Essays (2 essays, 50 points each):** On two occasions you will compose a discussion reflection essay. Using a discussion from the course you will describe, reflect upon, and analyze the experience in order to show what you have come to understand from that assignment. You will present this composition in traditional essay format (i.e., an introductory paragraph, roughly 3 body paragraphs, a conclusion, complete sentences, proper grammar/spelling/capitalization). More specific instructions will be given and deadlines can be found on the Course Calendar.

**Exams (4 exams, 125 points each):** This session you will take 4 exams (1 exam per Unit). The exams will be taken in Blackboard and will contain 50 multiple choice questions and 1 essay question over the assigned chapters. You will be provided with materials to help you prepare for each exam and it is in your best interest to read all related chapters and spend time preparing. The exams are timed (1 hour and 30 minutes), so be sure you are ready to complete the exam in one sitting before you begin an exam. I advise you to complete all coursework in a given unit and review any feedback given before attempting to complete an exam.

- **Optional Comprehensive Final Exam:** At the end of the term you will have the option to take a comprehensive final exam. This exam will contain 125 multiple choice questions over every chapter covered in the course. This exam grade can replace your lowest score on any previous unit exam. If your lowest score is on the comprehensive exam, your previous 4 exam scores will remain the same and the Optional Comprehensive Final Exam will not factor into your final grade. Therefore, if you do not take this exam, the zero will not factor into your final grade; again, it's optional.

Tentative schedule (see course calendar in Blackboard for all specific deadlines)

Unit	Dates	Topics or Chapters Covered
Unit 0	Aug 28 – Sept 1	Getting Familiar With The Class
Unit 1	Sept 2 – Sept 22	Chapters 1-3
Unit 2	Sept 23 – Oct 13	Chapters 4-6
Unit 3	Oct 14 – Nov 10	Chapters 7-9
Unit 4	Nov 11 – Dec 6	Chapters 10-13
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