PSYC-2130: Life Span Psychology (Online | Spring 2020)

Instructor Information

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Course Information

Course Description
Principles and processes of human growth and development from conception to death are explored. Students examine physical, mental, and social development from a life span perspective.

Student Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this course, the student will:

- Have an awareness of the physical, cognitive, psychological, cultural, and social developmental stages of humans from conception to death. (Acquire Knowledge) *Recognize the influence of heredity and environment on human development. (Appreciate Diversity)
- Examine various theories from current research on human development, and develop the ability to make application of those theories in both personal and professional settings. (Critical Thinking)
• Write essays, self-assessments, and formal papers. (Communication)
• Establish deadlines, follow the course calendar for assignments and complete course requirements. (Responsibility)

**Prerequisites**
ENGL 0810 and READ 0810 or equivalent

**Corequisites**
Complete the Distance Education Orientation if it is available for the semester.

**Instructional / Learning Methods**
This course will include assessments with written assignments (discussion postings, a research paper and a reflection paper.) As a student in this class you are required to participate in the discussions and interact with classmates. This online course requires a concentrated effort and good self-discipline different from a regular classroom experience. You should log into PAWS every day for any course announcements, email, and calendar assignments. If you do not have this type of self-discipline it will hinder your progress as well as your success as an online student in this class. Missing a module reading or discussion posting will result in a zero for the assignment. (No exceptions.) Please remember that module reading deadlines and discussion deadlines may not be the same.

**Specific Course Requirements**
You are required to respond to the instructor's "Welcome" email and provide the information requested in the Getting Started module. In addition, you must return the "Student Acknowledgement Form" located in "Assignments" to the instructor within the first week of class. Your failure to respond to the Instructor's welcome or to return the "SAF" does not relieve you of the responsibility to understand what is required in this class. Once you begin class assignments, it is assumed you have read this syllabus and understand the requirements for the course. There are policies and procedures within different modules that are considered to be a part of this syllabus.

**Textbooks, Supplementary Materials, Hardware, and Software Requirements**

**Required Text**

Additional Text
None

Hardware Requirements
If this course requires the use of a computer, these are general recommendations for accessing any of the services that Southwest offers on the Web (e.g. My.Southwest, etc.).

- minimum Pentium IV or higher processor (recommended)
- SVGA monitor, minimum resolution 800x600 (1024x768 strongly recommended)
- CD-ROM or DVD drive
- floppy drive, zip drive, or CD-RW drive
- Mouse or compatible pointing device
- at least 512 MB of RAM (recommended)
- (optional) printer

Software Requirements
All written assignments for this course must be completed in Microsoft Word. Please do not submit any assignments in Word Perfect, Microsoft Works, or Notepad as they are not compatible with our requirements. It is your responsibility to have a PC with the required software. Assignments submitted in any format other than MS Word will not be graded. There is no exception to this requirement.

The software listed below is recommended for any student accessing Southwest services through the Internet. Your course may have specific software requirements.

- Windows 10 or 7
- Mac OS X (up to 10.12) (OS 10.14 recommended)
- Firefox (latest)
- Microsoft Edge
- Chrome (latest)
- Internet Explorer: DO NOT USE WITH PAWS
• Current Anti-Virus protection
• Reliable Internet connection (broadband recommended but not required)

Many instructors may require assignments to be submitted using Microsoft Excel or Microsoft Word. To learn how to obtain discounted software from Microsoft, visit http://southwest.tn.onthehub.com.

Assessment and Grading

Method of Evaluation
• Discussion Posting = 300 points
• Research Paper = 165 points
• Reflection Paper = 100 points
• Module Participation = 132 points

Grading Scale
• 697 - 627 = A (100-90%)
• 626 - 558 = B ( 89-80%)
• 557 - 448 = C ( 79-70%)
• 447 - 418 = D ( 69-60%)
• 417 - 0 = F ( 59-0%)

Testing Procedure / Policy
The discussion topics, research paper, and reflection paper represent 81% of your final grade. It is for this reason I do not give a mid-term exam or a final exam in this class.

Major Assignments
There are two major writing assignments for this course--a research paper and a final reflection paper. These papers will be written in APA style and will be submitted in the "Assignments" folder. Instructions for writing an APA paper as well as the individual requirements for the research paper will be available in Module 6 when it becomes available. Instructions for writing the final reflection paper will be available at a specified time later in the semester. The format for the Title page, Abstract page, and Reference page will also be in Module 6 and both of these major papers must follow the format as given. These papers must follow the APA style throughout, be typed, and double spaced on standard size paper (8.5x11 inches) with margins of one inch on all sides. The research paper must have a minimum of 2500 words (usually 8-10 pages), excluding the title page, abstract
page, and the reference page. The final reflection paper must have a minimum of 1500 words (usually 5 pages), excluding the title page, abstract page and reference page (if outside sources are used in the paper). Under no circumstances will these papers be accepted as an e-mail attachment. The papers must be submitted through the Assignments folder on the due date. It is your responsibility to make sure the correct paper has been successfully uploaded and transmitted to the Assignments folder. If either paper is not submitted by the due time, you will receive a zero for the assignment. The instructor monitors the submissions folder on the due date until expiration time. Submission dates are on the class calendar and an extension of time will not be granted. You should not wait until the "last hour" to submit either of these assignments, being aware that problems can arise resulting in missing the submission time on the clock. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer/internet service is working properly. (No exceptions). A list of topics for the research paper will be available for you to choose a 'first' and 'second' topic. The instructor will send a feedback approval to you. You should submit your choices early as there is a topic limit. If you do not submit your choices, the instructor will assign one to you. Please check the calendar for the selection availability.

**Participation / Attendance Policy**

You are required to participate in all class discussion postings and respond to two classmate posts in order to receive the maximum points for the discussion. You will need to post your reply to the discussion topic before you are able to respond to classmates. Requirements for the discussion postings are in the "Getting Started" section of the class site and must be met for all fifteen postings. In addition, while you are not attending class in a traditional classroom, the individual class modules each contain six (6) sections of study. You will receive two (2) points for reading each section for a total of twelve (12) points for each module. Your "visit" to each section of the module will constitute your attendance for the module during the specified date range. This means you must view the each module content when it opens and before the next module begins. Once the time period is over for viewing and reading, the module will no longer be available for you to read and you will receive zero points. Your module participation points will be awarded on this basis. I am able to see your log in visits, therefore I will be able to observe any "skipped" reading of the module. Please remember, it is your responsibility at all times to have access to a reliable computer and internet service in order to complete all assignments in the required time, regardless of traveling, vacationing, or any other circumstance during the semester.

**Policy on Student Professional Conduct**

"Turn-It-In" will be used to detect similarities of resources used in your research paper. Your paper is assessed for originality and receives a score as such. The lower your similarity score, the more original your paper is judged to be. This tool is used to detect exact wording from books, journals, internet
sources, and other student papers that are found in your paper. In addition, your paper will receive a grade on the basis of the assessment rubric provided in Module 6.

**Additional Policies**

The "Getting Started" module in the course contains complete instructions for discussion assignments, e-mail procedures, assessment guidelines, as well as other important information and is to be considered a part of this syllabus. As mentioned elsewhere in this syllabus, you should check for any Course Announcements on a regular interval.

There are no "extra credit" assignments for this class, so please don't make this request.

Discussion posts and module readings are available for two or more days, so students have ample opportunity to complete assignments. Please refer to the class calendar daily in order to remain current with all assignments.

As a responsible student, you should submit assignments on a timely basis. Missed assignments in this class will impact your desired grade. It is important to log in daily for announcements, email, and calendar events. Do not wait until the last minute to submit the graded assignments. Submit them as early as possible to avoid any unexpected technological mishaps. Assignments lock up automatically--so even seconds are too late. It is your responsibility to have access to a reliable computer, whether at home, at work, or on campus. "My computer crashed" or "my internet was down" is not a legitimate reason for not submitting graded material on time. Adjustments will be made only if the college server has an interruption of service. An announcement will be made should this happen. Emphasizing again, it is your responsibility to have access to MS WORD, a reliable computer and internet service.

A final word - An online course such as this offers a convenience over a regular classroom, but you, as a student, should assess work responsibilities, family responsibilities, and other issues that might impact your ability to complete the class requirements. As an online student you have greater freedom and flexibility to study according to your own schedule. Advantages of an online course include convenience and economy in time and travel. Greater freedom also requires greater responsibility. You will have to exercise self-discipline and work independently. This course demands the same amount of work, if not more, than regular courses. If you believe you do not have the discipline to participate in online learning perhaps you should consider the traditional classroom environment.

**Guidelines for Communications**
Email Guidelines

You should always use the email feature in PAWS for this course. Please use a correct subject line relating to your email message. **Do not use a previous subject line.** Please use a proper topic in the subject line. **If you fail to use a proper subject line, I will send a reply asking you to resubmit your mail using a proper content subject line.** You should not send mail to my Southwest address as it will not be answered. I maintain a record of all inquiries within the PAWS course mail.

Each student has been provided a Southwest email account. Please do not email your classmates unless the topic relates specifically to this course. Emails that contain advertisements, solicitations, personal interests, etc. are strictly forbidden. Below are a few guidelines that you should keep in mind when sending email:

- Always include a subject line.
- Typing in all CAPS is considered SHOUTING in Cyberspace. So please use upper and lower case characters when sending emails.
- Remember, without facial expressions some comments may be taken the wrong way. Be careful in wording your emails and use good [Netiquette](#).
- Use standard fonts.
- Do not send large attachments without permission.
- Respect the privacy of other class members.

**Online instructors will respond to all emails within 48 hours.**

Discussion Guidelines

Below are a few guidelines that should be adhered to when using the Discussion forum. Messages that contain advertisements, solicitations, personal interests, etc. are strictly forbidden.

- Review the discussion threads thoroughly before entering the discussion.
- Please try to maintain threads by using the "Reply" button rather starting a new topic.
- Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements to other members of the class. Be respectful of others’ ideas.
- Be patient and read the comments of other group members thoroughly before entering your remarks.
- Be positive and constructive in group discussions.
- Respond in a thoughtful and timely manner.
Technical Support

**My.Southwest:** Submit a [Student Technical Support Request](#). Please provide a full detailed explanation of the problem.

**PAWS:** For course related questions, contact your instructor. For technical issues with the PAWS website, contact the College Helpdesk at (901) 333-4357 or Digital Learning at (901) 333-4612.

Course Topics

**Tentative Schedule**

Module 1: The Study of Human Development

Module 2: Theory and Research

Module 3: Forming a New Life

Module 4: Cognitive Development during the First Three Years

Module 5: Physical/Cognitive Development in Early Childhood

Module 6: Psychosocial Development in Early Childhood

Module 7: Physical/Cognitive Development in Middle Childhood

Module 8: Psychosocial Development in Adolescence

Module 9: Physical/Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood

Module 10: Physical/Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood

Module 11: Psychosocial Development in Late Adulthood

Student Services
Embedded Librarian Service

This service may be found inside PAWS courses.

Two Southwest Librarians are assigned to work with you and your instructor throughout the course for the entire semester. The Librarians will suggest library resources and answer questions sent to "Ask A Librarian."

To contact a Librarian by email, go to the Classlist and select "Ask A, Librarian."

Student Services Links

- Academic Support Centers / Tutoring
- Advising
- Campuses, Centers, and Site
- Student Disability Services Southwestern Tennessee Community College is committed to serving all students, including students with disabilities, and adheres to the guidelines set forth in Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Additional Links: Student Information & Services

Academic Support

The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides free services and resources to help Southwest students successfully reach their academic and career goals. These services include tutoring by peer and master tutors, computer labs, success workshops, academic coaching, early alerts from your instructors and areas for individual or group study at numerous locations. The ASC also provides Supplemental Instruction in some of our general education classes and the Center is also responsible for Academic Progress Reporting so that you will be aware of your academic standing during the 5th-6th week of the semester. Online tutoring services are offered through Smarthinking 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Simply login to your PAWS to access this online tutoring resource.

Additional Information

Drop/Withdrawal Dates

See the current official college academic catalog for the withdrawal policies. Important semester drop and withdrawal dates can be found on the Cashier's Office Important Dates page.

Academic Misconduct
Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. A student guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, is immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. The instructor has the authority to assign an "F" grade or a zero for the exercise or examination, or to assign an "F" for the course. College sanctions for academic misconduct may include suspension or dismissal from the College. Please see the section in the current Catalog on Academic Misconduct.

Classroom Behavior: Any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct violating the general rules or regulations of the College may be ordered to temporarily leave the classroom. Extended or permanent exclusion from the classroom can be achieved only through appropriate procedures of the College.

Open Labs
Macon Cove Campus

- Bert Bornblum Library: Available during library hours
- Farris Building, Room 2131: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Union Avenue Campus

- Jess Parrish Library - Available during library hours
- M Building, Room 105, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Gill Center

- Computer Lab, Room 101 (Please note this room is available when classes are not scheduled. Schedule fluctuates each semester.)
- Library - Available during library hours

Maxine A. Smith Center

- Open Lab, Room 101
- Library - Available during library hours

Whitehaven Center

- Open Lab, Building 6, Room 127
- Library - Available during library hours

Syllabus Updates
The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary to this syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the instructor will immediately notify students of such changes.