Syllabus

PSYC 2070, version 1.2
Updated: June 15, 2015

PSYC 2070—Developmental Psychology of the Life Span

Course Description: Prereq.: PSYC 2000 or equivalent. Survey of developmental processes across the life span.

Textbooks and Other Materials

ODL is not responsible for student purchases that result in the receipt of the wrong materials. It is the responsibility of the student to order the correct textbook materials. Courses are written to specific textbook editions; edition substitutions are not allowed.

Textbook

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING TEXTBOOK

This course requires access to the traditional textbook or e-Book listed for this course.

It is optional (but highly recommended) that you purchase an access code for the companion website for the textbook in order to complete additional review activities.

Please pay special attention to the information provided below and verify the ISBNs provided when placing your order. Be sure to specify the Online Distance Learning version of the course when ordering from our recommended bookstores.

You have several options for purchasing your textbook or e-Book and access code.

- Option 1: Traditional Textbook (new or used)
You may purchase a new or used textbook through Neebo CONNECT or any of the recommended bookstores using the textbook’s ISBN number:


*When using this option, you may also purchase the McGraw-Hill Connect access code separately for access to the companion website materials. (See Option 4 below).*

- **Option 2: Traditional Textbook (new), e-Book, and Access Code** (special bundle)

  This is a unique “bundle” for students who want to purchase a new traditional textbook, and also have access to McGraw-Hill ConnectPlus. ConnectPlus provides access to the e-Book and access code required for the companion website and optional course activities. This bundle is available at Neebo CONNECT online bookstore only.


  *This bundle cannot be purchased from McGraw-Hill Connect website.*

- **Option 3: McGraw-Hill Connect Plus** (e-Book and access code bundle)

  Once you register, you can purchase the e-Book and access card bundle (called “McGraw-Hill Connect Plus”) directly from the McGraw-Hill Connect website using the McGraw-Hill Connect link in your course material.

  *A traditional textbook is not included in this option.*

- **Option 4: McGraw-Hill Connect** (access code only)

  Once registered, you can purchase McGraw-Hill Connect directly from the McGraw-Hill Connect website using the McGraw-Hill Connect link in your course material.

  *The traditional textbook and e-Book is not included in this option.*
Ordering Information

Please review the following tips for ordering your course materials:

1. Do not purchase your textbooks until your enrollment is approved. During the processing period, a new section may be opened that could require a different textbook or edition.
2. *Always order by the ISBN.* Publishers and vendors often offer the same textbook title under different ISBNs. You must have the correct ISBN to access your online website.
3. Neebo Connect (http://specialty.thecampushub.com/lsuext/) is the official bookstore for our Distance Learning Program’s courses, and it carries most of the required textbooks.
4. If you are having problems locating a textbook, contact us at Answers@outreach.lsu.edu for assistance.

Other Materials and Resources

The module review includes additional suggested activities and requires access to the companion website via McGraw-Hill ConnectPlus or McGraw-Hill Connect. See the textbook information for ordering information.

**Software:** MS Word, PowerPoint, Web Browser, Adobe Flash Player, Adobe Shockwave Player, Adobe Acrobat Reader

Students will use MS Word to complete module assignments and PowerPoint to complete the module reviews.

It is recommended that you use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your web browser. Internet Explorer is not compatible with your Moodle course site.

Adobe Flash and Adobe Shockwave player are required for online testing. Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view PDF document files.

**Hardware:** *Web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet*

Exams are completed online and require the hardware listed above. Students are encouraged to review the technical requirements provided on the ProctorU website and to perform a test on their equipment prior to enrolling in this course to make sure they have the necessary resources available.

**Technical Requirements:** http://www.proctoru.com/tech.php
Equipment Test:  http://www.proctoru.com/testitout/

Nature and Purpose of the Course

Course Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Understand the physical changes in the body and brain from birth to death
2. Understand the cognitive changes that occur across the lifespan
3. Understand the social and emotional changes that occur across the lifespan
4. Understand the special emotional and cognitive issues associated with adolescence
5. Understand the special social, emotional, and cognitive issues associated with late adulthood and death

Welcome to the study of Life-Span Development! We will begin this introductory session by outlining the major components this course will cover. Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behavior. It includes how thinking and behavior develop and what processes are involved. These processes are sometimes within an individual and sometimes within the environment in which the person lives. Life-span developmental psychology is concerned with the study of human development from conception to death. It includes the areas of social, emotional, personality, perceptual, and cognitive development. From a life-span developmental perspective, development is viewed as life-long.

Life-span developmental psychology is the most relevant psychology course you will ever take. It will provide insights into your own development and potential changes, good and bad, that you will face as you travel life’s path. It will give you insights about your relationships and how to maintain them over time. It will help you gain insight into good parenting and provide helpful ideas about raising your own children. This course also has much to offer students in professions engaged with people, such as medicine, nursing, counseling, and education.

Working with the Course Materials

Remember, this course covers an entire semester of work or the equivalent of a classroom course lasting 15 weeks. That means that each module in this course equals nearly a week of course work and will require the same time and effort on your part. Do not expect to complete each module in a single study session. Understand, too, that if you choose to submit assignments at a very high pace, your instructor may not be able to grade your work at the same rate.
Each module contains information, activities, and assignments organized under a consistent series of headings. Get familiar with how the module is organized. Each module in this course is organized into the following sections: the Module Learning Objectives, the Reading Assignment, a Review, and the graded Module Assignment. You should work through these parts of the module in order. Specific recommendations are provided in a link to the course module instructions, which you should review before beginning the first module.

You should begin each module by reading the introductory overview, then carefully read the designated chapters or assigned readings.

Next, you should go through the PowerPoint review. This will help you identify the important points you need to know to pass the exams and provide an opportunity for “retrieval practice” of important findings and definitions. Many of the PowerPoint slides have missing information replaced by ??? marks. This is your cue to try to remember the correct information to fill in the slide. Then proceed to the next slide and the correct information will be displayed. Whenever you are unable to retrieve the correct information, you should go back to that section of the text and review the material.

After the PowerPoint review, if you have purchased McGraw-Hill ConnectPlus or McGraw-Hill Connect, you should login to McGraw-Hill Connect and complete the online review assignment in LearnSmart. This portion of the module requires you to have a Connect registration code (see above). The LearnSmart assignment will test your knowledge of lesson material in a variety of formats to assess how well you understand the material. Additionally, it will ask you to rate your confidence. Your confidence rating will affect your score and will also assist you in learning to recognize when you “know” the material. We will not be checking or grading your performance on the LearnSmart tests. This is just for you, to help you learn the material and do well on the exams. If you choose not to do this part of each assignment, your grade will likely suffer because you will not do well on the exams.

After all your study and review is complete, you should complete and submit the module assignment. Once you have completed the Reading Material, Review activities, and Module Assignment, you are ready to move on to the next module.

**Suggested Study Techniques**

1. Carefully review the module objectives to help you focus on the information that will be covered on the exams.
2. Concentrate on the reading assignments, the module lecture material, and any additional resources provided. This review should include a detailed examination of any illustrative problems and examples. After an
assignment has been completed, a rapid re-reading of the related text and other materials is strongly recommended.

3. Put yourself on a definite schedule. Set aside a certain block of hours per day or week for this course and work in a place where distractions are minimal.

4. Try to submit one assignment each week or at least every two weeks. Delays in submitting assignments usually result in lagging interest and the inability to complete the course.

5. Review your module assignments after they have been graded, paying special attention to any instructor feedback provided. (We suggest that you wait for assignment feedback before you submit subsequent assignments.)

6. Regardless of how you complete your graded assignments, keep in mind that module completion should not be your sole preparation for your exams. As with any college course, you should study for your exams.

Reading Assignments

To do well in this course, it is essential that you read and study all the course materials that precede the module assignment. Do not begin the module assignment until you have done so. For each type of document you prepare for this course, follow carefully the guidelines provided in the textbook, syllabus, and course website.

You will read an average of 32 pages per module. Specific reading assignments will be given in each module.

Topic Outline

This course covers the following specific topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>The Life-Span Developmental Perspective: An Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Physical Development in Infancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Cognitive Development in Infancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Socioemotional Development in Infancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Childhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle and Late Childhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Socioemotional Development in Middle and Late Childhood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Mid-Course Examination**

08  Physical and Cognitive Development in Adolescence  
09  Physical and Cognitive Development in Early Adulthood  
10  Socioemotional Development in Early Adulthood  
11  Physical and Cognitive Development in Middle Adulthood  
12  Socioemotional Development in Middle Adulthood  
13  Physical Development in Late Adulthood  
14  Cognitive Development in Late Adulthood  
15  Socioemotional Development in Late Adulthood

**Final Examination**

**Module Assignments**

The Module Assignment requires that you write and submit short essay answers to the four idea exchange essay questions. These questions are designed to demonstrate the relevance of the material to your life and to help you think critically about relevant real world issues. *The essays must be your own work; any evidence of copying answers from others will result in plagiarism charges sent to the Dean of Students.*

You should submit each module assignment as soon as it is completed. Some courses have restrictions that require that a grade be received before you can submit additional assignments. Specific information on assignment submission is included in the Module Instructions. Please be sure to follow these instructions.

You must have a *grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the Module 15 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam.* Please allow at least 7 days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook. Once you submit an assignment, you cannot revise it, so be sure to check your work. Your instructor will normally post a grade for your assignment within *seven calendar days.* Understand that occasional delays will occur, such as during holidays and semester breaks or if you submit several module assignments within the same week. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least eight weeks,* regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.

Do not rely too heavily on your textbook or other resource material when preparing your assignments. If you do, you may not realize until exam time that the perfect response you prepared for an assignment was only possible because you referred to resource material without really learning or
understanding the material and concepts. Therefore, you should attempt each assignment without referring to the resource material, and if you find it necessary to look up an answer, be sure you have actually learned the concept and material rather than merely reflecting it in the answer.

**Academic Integrity**

Students in Online Distance Learning (ODL) courses must comply with the *LSU Code of Student Conduct*. Suspected violations of the academic integrity policy may be referred to LSU Student Advocacy & Accountability (SAA), a unit of the Dean of Students. If found responsible of a violation, you will then be subject to whatever penalty SAA determines and will forfeit all course tuition and fees.

**Plagiarism**

Students are responsible for completing and submitting their own course work and preparing their own modules. All work submitted in the course modules must be the student’s own work unless outside work is appropriate to the assignment; all outside material must be properly acknowledged. It is also unacceptable to copy directly from your textbook or to use published answer keys or the teacher’s edition of a textbook.

**Collaboration**

Unauthorized collaboration constitutes plagiarism. Collaborative efforts that extend beyond the limits approved by the instructor are violations of the academic integrity policy. Students who study together are expected to prepare and write their own individual work for submission and grading.

For more information and links to the *LSU Code of Student Conduct* and the SAA website, go to the ODL Academic Integrity policy on our website.

**Examinations and Grading Policy**

The assignment grades are based solely on your answers to the essay questions at the end of each module. Each module has four questions worth 25 points each. Your answers do not need to be long, but should cover all aspects of each question. You are also expected to cite relevant information from your text whenever appropriate.

Your average on the 15 assignments will constitute 1/3 of your grade. The midterm and final exam each count 1/3 of your grade. The midterm and final each consist of 50 multiple choice questions. The midterm covers Modules 01–07 and the final covers Modules 08–15.
Course grade = average of lesson assignments + exam scores.

You will have a maximum of *three* hours to complete the exam.

The following grading scale applies for students who complete the course on or after October 15, 2015. Prior to that date, the scale will be the same, except that pluses and minuses will be dropped from the grade posted in the student’s permanent record and transcript.

97%–100% = A+
93%–96% = A
90%–92% = A-
87%–89% = B+
83%–86% = B
80%–82% = B-
77%–79% = C+
73%–76% = C
70%–72% = C-
67%–69% = D+
63%–66% = D
60%–62% = D-
0%–59% = F

**YOU MUST PASS THE FINAL EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

**IMPORTANT:** The final exam cannot be taken until you meet the following requirements. Under no circumstances may the final exam be taken earlier.

1. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least eight weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.

2. You must have a grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the *Module 15 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam*. Please allow at least 7 days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook.

To read the full exam policy and other policy statements, visit [http://www.outreach.lsu.edu/Extended-Campus/Online-Distance-Learning/Guidelines-Policies/Policies](http://www.outreach.lsu.edu/Extended-Campus/Online-Distance-Learning/Guidelines-Policies/Policies). Go to Continuing Education’s homepage. Click on *Extended Campus*, select *Online Distance Learning*, and then click the link for *Guidelines and Policies*. 
Taking Your Examinations

You are required to create a Louisiana State University ODL ProctorU account and to take your examinations through ProctorU, a remote proctoring service that allows you to take exams anywhere with internet access. Information on creating your ProctorU account can be found in the Getting Started module. You cannot use an account created through another university, so if you already have an account, you will still need to create an account associated with LSU Online Distance Learning (ODL).

The ProctorU website provides links you can use to find out how ProctorU works and to check your computer to see that it meets the technical requirements. In addition, to test using ProctorU, you need access to a web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet to use this service. A complete list of technical requirements is available from the ProctorU website.

You should schedule your exams about a week before you are ready to take them in order to avoid any additional charges.

Transcript Information

After you have completed this course, your grade will be filed with the Office of the University Registrar. If a transcript is needed, it is your responsibility to make a request to the registrar. If you would like to order a transcript, visit the Office of the University Registrar Transcript Requests page to view your options (http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/registraroffice/student-services/transcript-request/).

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