

Course Outline for: PSYC 2210 Developmental Psychology: Lifespan

A. Course Description:

1. Number of credits: 4
2. Lecture hours per week: 4
3. Prerequisites: PSYC 1110 Introduction to Psychology
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal #5 – History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

Developmental Psychology is the exploration of child, adolescent, and adult development beginning with conception and continuing through death. Emphasis is placed on the theoretical, experimental and applied aspects of development. Physical, cognitive, and psychosocial realms of development are investigated for each age range. Particular attention is given to the application of research and theory to current issues.

B. Date last revised: May 2025

C. Outline of Major Content Area:

1. Introduction to Developmental Psychology
 - a) Developmental science defined
 - b) Tenets of developmental science
2. Research Methods in Developmental Psychology
 - a) The scientific method
 - b) Experimental and non-experimental research
 - c) Cross-sectional, longitudinal and cross-sequential designs
 - d) Research ethics
3. Theoretical Perspectives
 - a) Major theories of development
 - b) Newer theories of development
4. Nature and Nurture
 - a) Mechanisms of heredity
 - b) Genetic and chromosomal disorders
 - c) Interplay of heredity and environment
5. Prenatal Development
 - a) Major developmental changes
 - b) Hazards to prenatal development
 - c) Birth and the newborn
6. Physical, Cognitive, and Socioemotional Development in
 - a) Infancy
 - b) Early Childhood
 - c) Middle Childhood
 - d) Adolescence
 - e) Emerging Adulthood

- f) Early Adulthood
- g) Middle Adulthood, and
- h) Late Adulthood
- 7. Death and Dying
 - a) Developmental perspectives on death
 - b) Facing death
 - c) Care for the dying
 - d) Grief and mourning

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the main theories and issues of human lifespan development: learning, cognitive, contextual, and sociobiological. (Goal 2a, 5a, 5c)
2. Identify biological, neurological, cognitive, cultural, and socio-emotional processes associated with developmental periods. (Goal 2a, 5a, 5b)
3. Analyze how biological, neurological, cognitive, cultural and socio-emotional interact with each other in a developmental context. (Goal 2a, 2b, 5a, 5b, 5c)
4. Demonstrate familiarity with the scientific method and research methodology used by developmental psychologists. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2d, 5a, 5c)
5. Evaluate the quality of developmental psychology information from multiple sources. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2d, 5a, 5c)
6. Describe the developmental challenges and psychopathologies that may occur throughout the lifespan. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2d, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d)
7. Illustrate how developmental psychological principles apply to daily life. (Goal 2b, 2d, 5a, 5b, 5c)
8. Analyze ethical perspectives related to legal, social, and scientific issues in human development. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2c, 5a, 5c)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Unit exams, midterms, and/or comprehensive final exam
2. Class assignments
3. Discussion
4. Projects

F. Special Information:

None