**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**PSY215 – Introduction to Developmental Psychology**

**Fall 2023**

**CRN #21145 Tu & Thu 1-2:20pm in RCH-216**

**Instructor:** Michael Christie

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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12-12:50pm

Other times by appointment (email me to arrange a mutually agreeable time)

**Required Materials**

Berk, L.E. (2017). *Exploring Lifespan Development* (Fourth Edition) Boston: Pearson

* The eBook is delivered via DDA, through the Moodle course shell beginning Day 1 of the term. You were charged for the book via the tuition fee.
* If you’d prefer to buy a paper copy on your own, you are given the opportunity to ‘opt out’ of the eBook before the add/drop deadline (2nd Monday of the term).
* Access to the eBook will continue beyond the term through VitalSource bookshelf. You must use this (4th) edition to be successful in this class.
* *Note that I do not teach directly from the textbook, while there is overlap between class material and the textbook, I see the 2 sources of material as complimentary, not redundant. As such you WILL need access to the textbook to do well in the course (renting is fine).*

Moodle; You MUST have access to Moodle to complete this course.

* The course is administered and run through Moodle. Use it for the day-to-day needs of the course (submitting/completing assignments, notices etc.).

**Prerequisites**

There are no required prerequisites for this course. However, this course does require college-level writing and reading skills. Student placement at or above the following courses are ***strongly recommended***​:

* Reading 120 & Writing 115
* PSY 201 General Psychology

**Course Description**

PSY215 – This course explores physical, psychological, emotional, and social development from birth to death. Topics include: historical foundations; research methodology; and prominent theories/research of each developmental sequence across the lifespan.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

As a result of successfully completing this course, you should be able to:

* Describe major facts and theories from the domain of developmental psychology.
* Apply relevant psychological phenomena to everyday relationships and situations.
* Combine and synthesize developmental concepts and theories to draw reasonable conclusions, develop intelligent skepticism, and critically analyze information.
* Develop insight into the self and others' behavior and mental processes as applicable throughout the lifespan.

**Course Assessment**

Note that ALL assignments/assessments for this course MUST be completed online and submitted via Moodle. Email submissions will NOT be accepted. All assignments are due at 11:59pm on the date specified.

**Assignment Breakdown**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** |
| **Mandatory plagiarism tutorial** | **50** |
| **Class Participation**  **Discussion summary presentation (DSP)**  **Weekly quizzes x7**  All weeks except #, 5 & 10  40pts x 7 quizzes minus the lowest quiz score | 60  240  **300** |
| **Developmental Article Review (DAR)**  Part 1: identifying an article to review  Part 2: mandatory draft copy  Part 3: peer review of drafts  Part 4: final submission | 50  50  50  200  **350** |
| **Exams**  Two In-Class exams; each worth 150 points  (Optional) Final exam; worth 150 points,  The lowest exam score is automatically dropped | **300** |
| **Total:** | **1000 (100%)** |

*MANDATORY Plagiarism Tutorial:* In order to pass this course, you must complete a mandatory online tutorial about plagiarism. We will go over, and attempt to start, this in the first class. I will not mark any of your In-Class exams until the certificate is submitted (but you are still required to complete and submit them on time). Completing the tutorial earns you 50 marks (5%). However, if you do not complete it by the last day of class then you will automatically fail the course with a score of ‘F’. For the purposes of this requirement ‘completed’ means having passed the certification test and uploaded the confirmation certificate via Moodle (do NOT email it to me). Note that by uploading the certificate you are agreeing to be bound by the clause “**I understand that there will be no acceptable excuse for plagiarism if it is discovered in my work**“

The tutorial is at <https://plagiarism.iu.edu/>

*Discussion Summary Presentations:* Once during the semester, you are required to present (to the rest of the class) a summary of your group’s discussion in the breakout sessions. Each summary should take ~5min and is worth 60 points (6%) for doing it (i.e., is not graded). Initially I will ask for volunteers to present, but if none are forthcoming I will simply (randomly) select somebody who has not yet presented. All students are required to present before somebody can present again.

*Weekly Quizzes:* There will be a quiz every week EXCEPT week #’s 1, 5 & 10. Note that there IS a quiz the week of the Thanksgiving break. Questions will cover the material that has just been taught that week. Each quiz is worth 40 points, with a total of 7 quizzes worth 240 points. The lowest quiz score will be dropped automatically when calculating final grades (missed quizzes cannot/will not be dropped). **Quizzes will be taken on Moodle** and you will have 3 days (72h) after the end of the class to do it. The quiz will close and submit itself at the end of this time if you haven’t submitted it already. Missed quizzes CANNOT be made up.

*Developmental Article Review:* During the semester you are required to write a review of a developmentally focused scientific article (NOT a media organization, webpage etc.). This assignment is designed to broaden your knowledge of developmental psychology and provide practice reading scientific articles and writing scientific reports. The assignment requires you to locate, read and write a report (NOT an essay) on a research article that is published in a peer-reviewed developmental journal (broadly defined) that is relevant to your topic. You may choose your preferred: topic, (peer-reviewed) journal and article. Failure to locate an appropriate article is not an acceptable reason for failing to complete the assignment. By the end of the second week of class, you must submit the titles and abstracts (only) of three articles for consideration (on Moodle, NOT email). These must be in the form of pasted text or uploaded document and NOT links, as Moodle does not allow me to follow links from student submissions. I will then advise you on which (if any) of them would be the best choice for the assignment.

<https://ezproxy.libweb.linnbenton.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&profile=ehost&defaultdb=a9h>

Remember there is absolutely NO requirement for the article to be complicated or complex. In fact, the simpler the article the better/easier it will be to review.

The article review project is worth 350 points (i.e., 35% of the final grade) in total. This is divided into fifty points for the submission of 3 possible article abstracts by the end of the 2nd week, fifty points for the (mandatory) draft copy halfway through the term, fifty points for participating in the peer-review session of draft copies toward the end of the term, and two-hundred points for the final submission.

The abstract/title submission, the draft copy and the peer-review exercise will all automatically earn full marks so long as they fulfill all the requirements of the assignment and/or are undertaken/participated in, in good faith. However, the final submission WILL be graded on quality.

**It will be difficult to do well in the course overall without doing well in this assignment.**

**Exams**

There are 3 exams throughout the term (2 in-class and 1 optional final). Assuming you submit all three exams the lowest exam score will be dropped automatically at the end of the term. Overall, they are worth 30% of your final grade. If you are happy with your final grade at the end of term you may elect not to take the optional finale exam.

All exams will require you to write short essays answering questions chosen by you from a large list. The in-class exams will cover topics from the preceding 3-4 weeks. The optional final exam will ask questions from throughout the term. The optional final exam will be taken in class during finals week at the scheduled time (Tue 12/5**,** 2:30-4:20pm in our regular classroom).

Points Earned Grade

90% or above A

80% - 89% B

70% - 79% C

60% - 69% D

59% or less F

All final grade totals with a 0.5 or higher decimal place will be rounded up to the next highest whole figure.

**Class Policies**

*Moodle:* All students who are on the class roster will be enrolled in the Moodle site for this course during the 1st week of classes. This is where you will take all your quizzes, exams, find notifications and your grades etc.

*Preparedness:* Please come to class having already read the appropriate section(s) of the textbook. In addition, if you have missed class, you should check the Moodle site for assignments that may be due. Missing class is not an acceptable reason for not knowing about assignments, changes to the course etc.

*Attendance Policy:* This is a large class and therefore, I do not require you to notify me when you miss class. However, missing this class more than 3 times during the term will have an impact on your grade (in the form of losing points on In-Class quizzes and missing vital information). I post class notes & slides online after the topic is finished. Another student is your best​resource for notes and class information other than Moodle. If you will be gone for an extended period, **please**​ make an appointment with me so we can discuss your options.

*Courtesy and Classroom Decorum:* Please be mindful that everyone is here to learn. Turn your cell phone to silent, arrive on time for class, and avoid being disruptive. You are not to use your cell phones during class except for the In-Class quiz. I reserve the right to ask anyone using a cell phone for non class related reasons during class to leave the classroom. Differences of opinion are encouraged in class as long as they are presented in a constructive and courteous way. Please listen, read and follow all directions carefully.

*Cheating/Plagiarism*: Students at Linn-Benton Community College are responsible for pursuing their studies with honesty and fairness, and in a manner that respects the rights and dignity of others.  All of us are expected to uphold the value of academic integrity, refraining from acts of dishonesty or cheating.  Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, forgery, changing or misuse of college documents and records of identification, cheating, plagiarism, aiding or abetting cheating or plagiarism, knowingly furnishing false information to the college, or copying college software.  For a student who violates academic integrity, disciplinary action may first be taken by me, which includes a failing grade on an assignment/exam or the course.  I will also report the matter to the Manager for Student Conduct and Retention, and the College may take further disciplinary action under the [Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct Code](https://www.linnbenton.edu/about-lbcc/administration/policies/board-policies-and-administrative-rules/7000-series-student-services/ar-7030-01.php).

ChatGPT and other AI solutions will often give you answers that are incorrect. If it is discovered that AI has been used, your assignment score will be reduced to 0. Repeated instances of AI use may result in your course grade being permanently reduced to ‘F’ regardless of your other grades.

**College Policies**

*Students with Disabilities:* Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor during the first week of class. If you have not accessed services and think you may need them, please contact the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR), 541-917-4789. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must complete a Request for Accommodations form every term in order to receive accommodations.

*Non-Discrimination Policy*: LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws (for further information http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/ Board Policy P1015).

*Drop Policy*: If you wish to drop this course for a full refund and without it appearing on your transcript, you must do so by **Monday, Oct. 2nd, 2023.** ​The last day to officially withdraw from this course (a ‘W’ appears on the transcript) is **November 12th, 2023.**

*Incomplete Grades:* You **may**​ be eligible for an ‘Incomplete’ grade if you have finished **90%**​ of the class work. If you have an ‘Incomplete,’ all coursework must be finished by the end of the next term. I can only award an ‘A’, ‘B’, ‘C’, ‘D’, or ‘F’ grade at the end of the term. **You must contact me before the end of the term with proper documentation to receive an Incomplete.**

*Make Up, Extra-Credit Assessments & Genuine Emergencies:* Late assignments are NOT accepted in this course except in cases of genuine emergency. Also, there are NO make-up opportunities provided in this course.

Note that ‘genuine emergency’ typically refers to a serious illness/injury (including psychiatric illness) in yourself or immediate family members (including parents, grandparents, siblings, your children, and a cohabiting partner/spouse) but does NOT extend to cousins, Aunts, Uncles, friends, pets or your partner’s/spouse’s family. However, you can, and should, ask if your circumstance might warrant consideration as a genuine emergency if it’s seriously affecting your ability to complete course work.

If you miss submitting a piece of assessment due to a genuine emergency, please contact me ASAP to explain why and make arrangements to make-up the missed assignment (but deal with the emergency first, even if that takes days/weeks). Each case of genuine emergency will be judged individually by me on its merits. In such cases I can be VERY flexible about due-dates, make-ups etc. Some examples that do NOT constitute a genuine emergency include (but are not limited to): oversleeping, not studying sufficiently well, studying the wrong material, your overall workload for the semester, assignments due for other classes, being overwhelmed by the pace of the course, working full/part-time etc.

**Tentative class schedule on next page**

**PSY215 – Fall ’23 – Tentative Class Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Class**  **Dates** | **Topic\*** | **Readings** | **Assignments\*\*** |
| 1 | 9/26  & 9/28 | Introduction to Class  Theory & History 1  No weekly quiz | Syllabus & Chapter 1 | **Mandatory Plagiarism Tutorial** |
| 2 | 10/3 & 10/5 | Theory & History 2  Genetics & Prenatal | Chapters  2 & 3 | **DaR: Submit 3 possible titles & abstracts for the prof’s review; due X/X @11:59pm** |
| 3 | 10/10 & 10/12 | Infancy & Toddlerhood 1 & 2 | Chapters 4, & 5 |  |
| 4 | 10/17 & 10/19 | Infancy & Toddlerhood 3  Early Childhood 1 | Chapters  6 & 7 |  |
| 5 | 10/24 & 10/26 | Early Childhood 2  1st in-class exam  No weekly quiz | Chapter 8 | **FIRST In-Class Exam (Thu)**, topic weeks 1-5 |
| 6 | 10/31 & 11/2 | Middle Childhood 1 & 2 | Chapters  9 & 10 | **DaR draft copy due 11/5 @11:59pm** |
| 7 | 11/7 & 11/9 | Adolescence 1 & 2 | Chapters 11 & 12 |  |
| 8 | 11/14 & 11/16 | Early Adulthood 1 & 2 | Chapters 13 & 14 | **Thu: DAR peer-review session** |
| 9 | 11/21 | Middle & Late Adulthood  **THANKSGIVING BREAK** | Chapters 15, 16, 17 & 18 |  |
| 10 | 11/28 & 11/30 | Death, Dying and Bereavement 2nd in-class exam  No weekly quiz | Chapter 19 | **SECOND In-Class Exam (Thu)**, topic weeks 6-10  **Final DaR submission due 12/3 @11:59pm** |
| 11 | 12/5 | **OPTIONAL Final Exam - In Class on Tue 12/5 from 2:30 – 4:20** ALL topic weeks | | |

Note: I reserve the right to adjust the schedule for pedagogical reasons. I also reserve the right to change assessment procedures and formats as needed.

\* ALL weeks EXCEPT #’s 1, 5 & 10 include a weekly quiz

\*\* ALL assignments are due @11:59pm on the Sunday that ends the week